

We are a gospel-centered community seeking to glorify God by making, maturing, and multiplying disciples

The Lord's Day Service
November 8, 2026

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a gospel-centered community seeking to glorify God by making, maturing, and multiplying disciples.

First Presbyterian is a granddaughter church of the First Protestant Church of Detroit, later to be known as First Presbyterian Detroit, which was organized and planted by John Monteith in 1818.

On February 24, 1903, Pastor F.G. Ellet of First Presbyterian Church of Wyandotte (the Wyandotte church started in 1856 and reorganzied in 1866) met with a few members who wished to start a mission to Trenton. Mr. A. W. Ford, who initiated the meeting, acted as a secretary. By June 1st of that same year, a petition was signed by 72 individuals and was presented to the Detroit Presbytery requesting that a Trenton Church be organized. The Original Petition read…

> "We, the undersigned members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church, respectively petition the Presbytery of Detroit to organize a church in our midst. The town of Trenton has 1,200 inhabitants and is in the midst of a good farming community; has every prospect of growth as a manufacturing town, being already a delight and much sought summer resort on the bank of the Detroit River. There is only one other Protestant church, except a small Episcopal body. There is every indication of a successful work by our church and a much needed organization."

On July 2, 1903, First Presbyterian Church of Trenton was organized with 39 charter members. The infant congregation began by meeting at the schoolhouse on the corner of Elm and Washington (now West Jefferson.) The first installed Pastor was George B. Crawford who served from 1903-1905.

Over 120 years later, First Presbyterian continues the faithful legacy of doctrinal integrity and evangelical mission.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us. We pray that the service and ministries may be a blessing to you.

In Christ,
Pastor Aaron Carr

~ ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ~

Our liturgy of worship is built around a dialogue between God and His people. God speaks through His word and His people respond.

YOU WILL NOTICE OUR LITURGY IS BUILT AROUND 4 G'S

GOD'S GREATNESS

OUR GUILT

GOD'S GRACE

OUR GRATITUDE

WHY WE DO THAT:

4 G's - You may have noticed that our Sunday morning liturgy contains headings which can be summarized as: Greatness, Guilt, Grace, & Gratitude. The Bible tells us which elements must be present in our worship (i.e. preaching, singing, prayer, etc.), yet it does not prescribe a specific order in which these must be done. We are, however, given principles such as, "all things should be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40). When we gather to worship as God's people, it should be done in a way that makes sense and in which the form and order of worship helps make the message clear. One may call this "gospel-formed worship" and that is our goal at First Pres.

The "4 G's" idea comes from the Heidelberg catechism question which tells us three general things which Christians must know: our sinfulness (guilt), how we are set free from that sin (grace), and how we are to thank God for that freedom (gratitude). We believe that a fourth "G" is also appropriate because it is when we recognize how great God is, we truly understand our own guilt. As you worship with us today and in the coming weeks, watch and listen for these movements in our services as we acknowledge and praise God for His greatness and might, confess our sins before the holy and awesome God, hear of the grace that is provided for us in the Lord Jesus Christ, and respond in gratitude to that grace which is so abundantly given.

REFLECTION BEFORE WORSHIP:

"We worship God because God created us to worship him. Worship is at the center of our existence, at the heart of our reason for being....the Westminster Shorter Catechism teaches us, "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever." ~Hughes Oliphant Old

SUNDAY MORNING

Order of Worship

~RECOGNITION OF GOD'S GREATNESS~

***Call to Worship** **Psalm 103:1,20-22**

[1] Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! [20] Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! [21] Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! [22] Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

***Prayer of Invocation**

Hymn (TPH 216)** ***Praise To The Lord

Declaring our Faith **The Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic † and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn ***Gloria Patri***

~ADMISSION OF OUR GUILT~

Prayer of Confession **1 John 2:15-17**

[15] Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Assurance of Pardon **Romans 5:8-10**

[8] but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [9] Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. [10] For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

CH = Celebration Hymnal **SH= Sing Hymnal** **TPH = Trinity Psalter Hymnal**

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

† **catholic meaning the "whole or universal church"**

There will be a volunteer in the hallway to direct the kids to their classes.

The children are welcome to worship with us for the remainder of the service if parents so desire.

~ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE~

Hymn (SH 598)** ***He Will Hold Me Fast

Old Testament Reading **Numbers 14:21-24**

21 But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD, 22 none of the men
who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me
to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, 23 shall see the land that I swore to give to
their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. 24 But my servant Caleb, because he has
a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his de-
scendants shall possess it.

New Testament Reading **2 Timothy 3:1-13**

1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2 For people will be lov-
ers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unho-
ly, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous,
reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance
of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. 6 For among them are those who creep into
households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7 always
learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed
Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the
faith. 9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.
10 You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my
love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium,
and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 12 Indeed, all
who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil people and impostors will
go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of God's Word **2 Timothy 3:1-13**

~RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE~

Hymn (SH 281)** ***Take My Life And Let It Be

Song (11am)** ***O Church Of Christ Invicible

***Benediction** **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

10 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul
and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; He
will surely do it.

***Doxology**

EVENING SERVICE

Conclude the Lord's Day with us this evening at 6pm

***Call to Worship** **Psalm 103:1,20-22**

[1] Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! [20] Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! [21] Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! [22] Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Song** ***Who Is Like The Lord (Psalm 113)

Confessing our Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism (WSC) is a tool that helps us learn and commit to memory what the Bible teaches in question and answer form.

Q51. **What is forbidden in the second commandment?**
A. The second commandment forbiddeth the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Song** ***O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

Scripture Reading **Revelation 2:8-11**

[8] "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life. [9] "'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. [11] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by cthe second death.'

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Exhortation of God's Word **Revelation 2:8-11**

Song** ***Rejoice

The Lord's Supper

***Benediction** **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

[10] Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [24] He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18 at 7pm. Dinner will be provided at 6pm prior to the meeting. Please mark your calendars!

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE mark your calendars and join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm.

GIVE N' GO will be on Saturday, **December 19**. This is an event for our youth group to help local families in need at Christmas. We are in need of monetary donations to purchase gifts for these families. Just mark '*Give N Go*' on your envelope or online donation. Contact Sam Payne spayne@fpchurch.com for more details.

HOSTESSES NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S ADVENT TEA! Ladies, please prayerfully consider hostessing a table for this year's Advent by Candlelight event on Monday, December 7 from 6:30-8:30PM. This long-standing First Pres tradition is a beautiful evening intended to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ and to prepare our hearts and minds for a Christmas season focused on HIM. Hostessing a table is truly a blessing to you as the hostess and the ladies at your table! To sign up as a hostess or to ask any questions about the hostessing process, please contact Jen McConnell at jenmcconnell@magicaltravel.com OR call (734) 308-0603. This year's Advent Tea guest speaker will be Karen Rozanski and our special music guests will be Tammy French, Mary Scullion, and Fran Webster.

CHOIR PRACTICE meets on Sunday night following the evening service.

DEEP APPRECIATION Jerry and Lois VanderKooi wish to express their heartfelt gratitude for the many prayers, cards, flowers, and meals lovingly provided by Lydia's Circle during the illness and recent passing of their beloved son, Brian VanderKooi. Your kindness, thoughtfulness, and support during this difficult time have been a great comfort and blessing to their family.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our events or ministries, please visit our website at **fpchurch.com** or download the **Church Center App** on your phone. You can also call us at **(734) 676-1510** or email the office at **office@fpchurch.com.**

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday

Morning Worship - 9:00am & 11:00am - Sanctuary
Sunday School - 10:00am
New Members Class - 10:00am - Chapel
Evening Service - 6:00pm - Sanctuary
Sr. High Youth Group - 7:00pm -Room 302
Jr. High Boys Small Group - 7:00pm - Room 304
Jr. High Girls Small Group - 7:00pm - Cry Room
Choir Practice - 7:15pm - Sanctuary

Monday

Faith and Fellowship - 9:30am - Room 305
Ministry Minded - 5:00pm - Virtual Classroom

Tuesday

Compassionate Care Mtg - 1:00pm - Room 305
Men's Bible Study - 6:00pm - Room 305
Sr. High Boys Small Group - 7:00pm - The Payne's Home

Wednesday

Communicants Class - 5:30pm - Room 305
Prayer Meeting - 6:30pm - Room 305
Jr. High Youth Group - 7:00pm - Room 301
Kingdom Kids - 7:00pm - Room 101,102 & Fellowship Hall
Women's Bible Study - 7:00pm - Room 302
Men's Bible Study - 7:00pm - Virtual Classroom
Young Adult Ministry - 9:00pm - The Merkey's Home

Thursday

Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:00pm - Sanctuary
Sr. High Girl Small Group - 7:00pm - The Payne's Home

Saturday

Goal Sports Flag Football - 10:00am - Elizabeth Park
Women's Bible Study - 10:15am - Room 305
The Amazing Race (Sr./Jr. High Event) - 1:00pm - Room 302

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18 at 7pm.
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Please mark your calendars!

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

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mark your calendars and join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm.

GIVING

Giving is an important part of worshiping God as we obediently and joyfully give from what has been generously provided to us. The faithful stewardship of God's people enables us to sustain our church-based ministries and programs, assist in the planting of new churches, and the sending of missionaries around the world. Options for giving:

- **Online giving** is available at fpchurch.com
- **Text giving** is available at (734) 672-3675
- **The Black Box** near the sanctuary exit is available for contributions by check or cash

SERMON NOTES

FP KIDS

If your children will be with us for the sermon, we hope they can use these prompts to help them listen and learn.

What is the BIG idea (main point of the sermon)?

Verses the preacher mentioned:

What I learned today:

Draw a picture of something the preacher talked about.

Words I didn't understand:

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Elders oversee the spiritual care of the church through shepherding as well as oversight of various committees within the church.

Aaron Carr - Senior Pastor

Sam Payne - Assistant Pastor

Jerry Barwikowski- Administration

Jerry Bringard- Administration

Mark Merkey- Missions

Tom Montie- Family Life

Mark Prim- Missions

Mike Rozanski- Shepherding

Jim Scullion- Worship & Administration

Gary Westerbeek - Stated Clerk & C.P. Residency

DEACONS

Deacons help steward the needs of the congregation by overseeing a variety of committees within the church.

Matt Berk- Welcome & Frontline Greeters

Eric Keel- Communion

Mike Overwater- Facilities/Security

Alex Piasecki- Congregational Care

Gary Siemers- Compassionate Care

Lee Shirley- Meal Ministry

Joe Strozeski- Mercy Ministry & Physical Needs

Mike Thisse- Congregational Care

Our Elders & Deacons are assisted by Care Team Members in caring for our families.

Please direct your questions related to ministry times and rooms to:
Administrative Assistant - Desiree Merkey - dmerkey@fpchurch.com

Please direct your questions related to financial giving to:
Financial Administrator - Tracey Riley - triley@fpchurch.com

Worship Times: 9am, 11am, & 6pm
Sunday School: 10am
Website: fpchurch.com
Facebook: First Presbyterian Church of Trenton

A congregation of the
Presbyterian Church in America
First Presbyterian Church
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