

What to expect on Sunday morning

Profile Our congregation ranges from young to old. Our Sunday attendance is about 100 so there is a good chance you will be noticed. Dress trends toward business-casual, though you can find anything from khakis to gray suits, flip flops to pumps. People are friendly, although I would encourage you to be bold and introduce yourself.

Beginning On Sunday morning at 9:15am we come together for an hour for our *Sunday School* programs, in which we learn about God's Word and its application to all areas of life. Following that, we begin our Sunday morning service around 10:30am. As we filter in, we sing songs to prepare our hearts for the service.

Music The music we sing at Poolesville seeks to be a blend of old and new. We love the doctrinally rich hymns of the sixteenth century and we find blessing in the choruses of the twenty-first. Most of us who are comfortable with one particular style have discovered, while at Poolesville, that we have come to enjoy other genres of music we had not previously encountered. We strongly prefer congregational singing, which emphasizes the gathered body singing praise to God with one voice, over performed music, which tends to spotlight the abilities of some while encouraging passivity in the rest.

Body of Service Our service then formally begins at 10:30am, led most often by an elder or pastoral staff member. During this time, we sing several songs, offer prayers of praise and confession to God, hear Scripture read, and give our offerings and tithes.

Sermons Preaching at PBC is expositional, meaning that it seeks to declare the point of a particular Biblical passage. Sermons are usually 30 minutes (although they have been known to go longer and once or twice shorter) and are packed with material for reflection. On a regular basis, our sermon series alternate between the Old and New Testaments. All preaching is gospel-driven.

Post Sermon We sing a hymn encapsulating the theme of the sermon as a response to the preached word and then receive a benediction. A typical service is finished by Noon.