



## **First Presbyterian Church of Defiance**

**August 20, 2023 ~ Ordinary Time**

**501 Washington Ave.**

**Defiance, OH 43512**

**419-782-2781**

**[www.1presby.com](http://www.1presby.com)**

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Defiance.  
As you enter this holy space, please enter with reverence,  
respecting those who are preparing for worship.*

## **GATHER**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Plan to stay to tend the garden.**

**Session meets Tuesday at 7 pm.**

### **PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

### **PRELUDE**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Turn us, O God,

**P:** away from the world's temptations and distractions.

**L:** Return us, O God,

**P:** to the quiet calm of your presence.

**L:** Restore us, O God,

**P:** to the path you call us to follow.

**L:** Orient us, O God,

**P:** to the hope of all that is possible through you.

**L:** We praise you, O God,

**P:** For all that you give to us in Jesus Christ!

#### **\*HYMN - 327**

**FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES**

#### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we, who benefit from your grace, do not emulate you and your ways. We are quick to condemn, exaggerate, critique and act mercilessly; or we celebrate those who do so. We confess the ways we demean and dehumanize others. We pray for your forgiveness. Amen.

### **\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Claim your forgiveness. Rejoice in God's grace. Respond with love. Amen.

### **\*THE PEACE**

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also, with you.**

L: Please share Christ's peace with one another.

**\*HYMN ~ 582 GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME ~ 1x**

### **HEAR**

**WeKIRK WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**MATTHEW 15:10-28**

**SERMON**

**"SO MUCH MORE THAN WE CAN ASK OR IMAGINE"**

**\*HYMN ~ 317**

**IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST**

### **RESPOND**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*We will continue to receive our offering at the entrance/exits of the sanctuary. On communion Sundays, 1/2 of the loose offering is received for the Deacons. We are still receiving the Pentecost offering.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION**

**L:** The Lord be with you.

**P:** And also, with you.

**L:** Lift up your hearts.

**P:** We lift them to the Lord.

**L:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION:** *come forward. If you wish to be served, please alert someone and we will bring communion to you.*

### **SCATTER TO SERVE**

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN ~ 765**

**SONG OF HOPE**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ~** Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Wilma Sponsler, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Karen Solether, Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Bill Kerr (Norm Wasson), Nancy Black, Jacob Black, Floyd Culver, Karen Barber, Jennifer Bates' father, Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Nick Mannering, Vern Kindinger, Alan Heinrichs (Wasson cousin).