



## **First Presbyterian Church of Defiance**

**August 27, 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**.

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

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,  
use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

### **PRELUDE**

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

L: The church of Christ is every age beset by change but Spirit led,

**P: Must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.**

L: Then let the servant church arise,

**P: A caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice,**

L: Clothed in Christ's humanity. Serving Christ, our Savior and Lord!

#### **\*HYMN ~ 81**

#### **GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN**

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

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

Merciful God, we confess our failure to keep your people on our hearts:  
across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry for  
shelter and for bread to eat; and never really live before they die.  
We ignore their cries, and pass by on the other side. Forgive us.  
We hold fast to this faith: "For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,

can cure the fever in our blood and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.” We trust your grace to bring us mercy and renewed spirits: show us anew how to serve your people here and around the world.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

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

L: Remember that in Christ Jesus we are a new creation altogether. Forgiven and freed by the grace of Jesus Christ, we can begin again to serve God in grateful obedience:

**P: We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord: to care for all, without reserve, and spread God’s liberating word.  
Thanks be to God!**

### **\*THE PEACE**

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

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

L: Please share signs of peace with one another.

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

#### **HEAR**

**WeKIRK WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**MATTHEW 16:13-28**

**SERMON**

**PRIMACY AS SERVICE**

#### **RESPOND**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**“LORD OF THE DANCE”**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

## OFFERING NOTE

Thank you for your gifts to the church. We continue to receive our offering at the doors to the chapel.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Take our hearts, our hands, our gifts, Holy God. Mold us, shape us, send us so that we might be your body in the world you so love.  
Amen.

## SCATTER TO SERVE

**\*HYMN ~ 724**

**O JESUS I HAVE PROMISED, stanzas 1,3,4**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

## POSTLUDE

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

*Liturgy today was adapted from a hymn by Fred Pratt Green, 1969  
(# 320 in Glory to God)*

Cover photo is a statue from the Franciscan church Mensa (Table) Christi in Galilee, also known as the Church of the Primacy of St. Peter, which is today's text. The statue depicts the John 21 dialogue of the risen Christ with Peter. Mensa Christi refers to the large flat limestone rock at the altar which tradition holds was the meal site of the breakfast the risen Lord cooked for the disciples who had been fishing.

**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).