



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DEFIANCE
February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday
501 Washington Avenue, Defiance, OH 43512
419-782-2781 www.1presby.com

***As you enter this holy space, please enter with reverence,
respecting those who are preparing for worship.***

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

P: But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

P: We brood on wrongs and will not let bitterness depart.

P: What trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

P: Then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

SCRIPTURE READINGS **ISAIAH 58:1-12 AND MATTHEW 6: 1-18**

HOMILY ENTERING THE FOURFOLD PATH OF FORGIVENESS

THE INVITATION TO LENTEN PRACTICE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (ADAPTED FROM PSALM 51)

SILENT MEDITATION

On the forgiveness you need and/or the forgiveness you need to give.

CHORUS #471

LORD HEAR MY PRAYER **(Both stanzas)**

L: You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

P: You are the Christ, giver of mercy.

L: You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (from II Corinthians 5 & 6)

RECEIVING THE ASHES

As you come forward to receive ashes, please also have in mind your Lenten intention. Upon receiving the ashes, light a votive, place it on the table and take a journal and a stone for the Four-Fold Path of Forgiveness journey.

CLOSING PRAYER

CHORUS #205

UBI CARITAS **(Please sing the English and Latin stanzas)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE