



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DEFIANCE

February 25, 2024 – Second Sunday in Lent
501 Washington Avenue, Defiance, OH 43512
419-782-2781 **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

Wednesday, Taco Night & Program by Police Chief Todd Shafer on fraud

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Cause me, O Lord my God, more and more to comprehend and acknowledge what I owe you, what I owe others, what I owe myself. Amen. (Eric Milner-White in The Westminster Collection of Christian Prayers)

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

P: Who made heaven and earth.

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: And also with you.

***HYMN 451**

OPEN MY EYES

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us approach God with confidence, trusting in God's grace as we humbly confess our sins.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

***THE PEACE**

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

P: And also, with you.

L: Let us share that peace with one another.

***HYMN 437**

YOU ARE THE LORD, GIVER OF MERCY

HEAR

WeKIRK WORD

GOOD SHEPHERD & LORD'S SUPPER

SCRIPTURE

PSALM 22, SELECTED VERSES AND MARK 8: 31-38

HOMILY

NAMING THE HURT

RESPOND

HYMN 797

WE CANNOT MEASURE HOW YOU HEAL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING NOTE

Begin to consider your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.

SCATTER TO SERVE

***HYMN 223**

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

**Please stand in body or in spirit, as you are able.*

Bulletin Cover is a prayer labyrinth modelled after that in Chartres Cathedral in France- you may use it as a finger prayer- using the trip to the center to empty yourself, pause at the center to listen for God, and on the return trip out, take on what you sense from God.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Evan Bates, Larry Bates, Joy Reid, Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Wilma Sponsler, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Karen Solether (surgery 2/20), Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Nancy Black, Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Sue D'Ambrosia (Nikki's mother-in-law), Marty & Deb Kennedy (Elaine), Nicole D'Ambrosia, Delilah Joy Clapp (10 week old baby in NICU- Nikki's friends), Isaac (cancer; Aubrey's friend), Rita Gehring (Kristal's mother-in-law), James Myers (Nikki's grandfather), Annie (Tanner's cousin's fiancé- stage 4 cancer)