



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DEFIANCE

March 10, 2024 – Fourth 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

Tomorrow: PW & F meets at 12:30 pm: Bible Study on Luke 10: 38-42

Wednesday: Deacon Calling Day. 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal- Jennifer & Charlie Bates are hosts

Thursday: Deacon's meet at 6 pm

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us, by your Word, through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

PASSACALGIA - ANDRÉ RAISON

***CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 107)**

L: Give thanks to the Lord because he is good,

P: God's steadfast love endures forever!

L: That's what those who are redeemed by the Lord say, the ones God redeemed from the power of their enemies,

P: The ones God gathered from various countries, from east and west, north and south.

L: We thank the Lord for faithful love and wondrous works for all people.

***HYMN 401**

GATHER US IN

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. With confidence in God's steadfast love for us, we offer our confession. May the words we say together inspire your silent prayers.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

In Christ there is a new creation. The old has passed away; everything is new! Believe the good news: in 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

JESUS & BARTIMAEUS

SCRIPTURE

JOHN 3: 14-21 AND NUMBERS 21: 4-9

HOMILY

**THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SNAKES
THE REV. NORMAN WASSON**

RESPOND

HYMN 450

BE THOU MY VISION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING NOTE

We continue to receive our offerings at the doors to the sanctuary. Thank you for your gifts. Our special offering this month is One Great Hour of Sharing.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCATTER TO SERVE

***HYMN 610**

**O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING
STANZAS 1,2,4**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

MAJESTIC LARGO – ELLEN JANE LORENZ

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

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, 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 (home), Isaac (cancer; Aubrey's friend), Rita Gehring (Kristal's mother-in-law), James Myers (Nikki's grandfather), Annie (Tanner's cousin's wife- stage 4 cancer), the family of Jeff Heinrichs (Pr Ann's cousin