



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DEFIANCE**

**March 17, 2024**

**501 Washington Ave.**

**419-782-2781**

**Defiance, OH 43512**

**[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**

Wednesday: WeKirk and Youth- dinner at 6 pm- thank you, Jeanne Peffley!

Thursday: Session at 7 pm

Saturday, March 23: 9 am Workday at the Church; 2 pm lecture at St John UCC  
"Women in Christian History"

Thursday, March 28: 6 pm- Agape Meal and Maundy Thursday devotional

Good Friday: noon- 3 pm, Pastor Ann preaches the 2 pm service.

Thank you, New Wineskins Band, for leading our music today!

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

(Christina Rossetti, alt.)

O Lord Jesus, because, being full of foolishness, we often sin and have to ask pardon, help us to forgive as we would be forgiven; neither mentioning old offenses committed against us, nor dwelling upon them in thought, nor being influenced by them in heart; but loving each other freely, as you freely loved us, for your name's sake.

### **PRELUDE**

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

L: Ubuntu- I am because you are

**P: Ubuntu- I am because you are**

L: A person is a person because of other people

**P: Other people, all people, made in the image of God.**

L: Love God with all that you are, love one another, that is true worship!

#### **\*SONG**

**CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART & CHANGE MY HEART OH GOD**

## **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Benedictine monk Henry Wansbrough prays “I find forgiveness from the heart one of the most difficult things in life. Grant me the generosity to forgive totally so that no hurt or grudge or memory remains. “And Benedictines pray all the time, so let us pray:

## **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

(Eastern Orthodox Church)

**Lord Jesus, help us to be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving one another, as God for your sake, has forgiven us. As the first martyr prayed to you for his murderers, O Lord, so we fall before you and pray: forgive all who hate and maltreat us and let not one of them perish because of us, but may all be saved by your grace, O God, the all-bountiful.**

## **\*SILENT CONFESSION**

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

Scripture forms the basis of our faith: for by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God- not the result of works so that no one may boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. In Christ Jesus 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:** Please share Christ’s peace with one another

## **HEAR**

**WeKIRK WORD**

**ZACCHAEUS**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**JEREMIAH 31: 31-34 AND  
EPHESIANS 2: 13-22, 3: 20-21**

**SERMON**

**UBUNTU: RENEWING OR RELEASING RELATIONSHIPS**

“a person is a person because of other people”  
or “we’re all in this together.”

## **RESPOND**

**SONG – HYMN 69**

**HERE I AM, LORD**

### **OFFERING NOTE**

Thank you for your continued offerings to the church for its work. We really are in this together for good! Please consider your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing this season.

### **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**

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

#### **COMMUNION**

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

#### **\*SONG**

**I WILL FOLLOW  
by CHRIS TOMLIN**

#### **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

#### **\*POSTLUDE**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Evan Bates, Larry Bates, Joy Reid, Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sharon 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), Shelly (cancer; Kristal's cousin), Jeff (stage 5 kidney disorder; Kristal's cousin), Scotty (rehab, Kristal's brother-in-law), Rita Gehring (Kristal's mother in law), James Myers (Nikki's grandfather), Tanner Fernando's family- cousin Annie died a week after her wedding; the family of Jeff Heinrichs (Pr. Ann's cousin)