



First Presbyterian Church of Defiance
November 19, 2023 - Stewardship Sunday
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

Many thanks to everyone who has been helping with Coats for Christmas. This project takes a village and we have reached out to so many people in our community! Distribution is noon- 3pm today; if you can come at 3 to help with clean up that will be well appreciated!

Please plan to stay for some cake, punch and hugs to honor Rich and Pam Reid. They are moving to Columbus next week! The Holiday Bazaar is open today in the conference room.

Many thanks to all who helped with Floyd Culver's Memorial service especially Jeanne Peffley, Lynn Bishop, and Joel Youkers!

Blessed Thanksgiving to everyone! Pastor Ann & Norm travel to Tulsa tomorrow and return on November 27.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Whenever we worship,

P: let us worship together.

L: Whenever we gather,

P: let us gather in God's name.

L: Whenever we pray,

P: let us pray for each other.

L: Whenever we meet,

P: let us meet as Christ's body, Christ's people, Christ's loving community.

HYMN 612*WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD*****CALL TO CONFESSION**

We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that God in Jesus Christ can lift that weight from us and transform our lives.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have done what is evil in your sight. We've made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people, by action and inaction. We have wounded creation, by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours, by action and inaction. And if the sum total of what we have done and what we have not done adds up to evil in your sight, then in your sight we ask you to turn us towards goodness. Forgive our past, and shape our future that we might build your kingdom here. In the strong name of Christ, we pray.

SILENT CONFESSION**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

L: Hear the good news! Who is our God?

P: Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

P: We are forgiven, rescued and redeemed. Alleluia! Amen.

***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

HYMN 582*GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME****HEAR****WeKIRK WORD****EXILE & RETURN****SCRIPTURE READING****MATTHEW 25:14-30**

SERMON

WHAT KIND OF SERVANT CHURCH?

RESPOND

HYMN 37

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

MOMENTS FOR MISSION AND THANKSGIVING-HONORING RICH & PAM REID

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Thank you for your gifts to the work of our church. We give thanks to God by making promises to support God's cause through the church and with our lives.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR PLEDGES AND OUR LIVES

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER

SCATTER TO SERVE

HYMN 719

COME, LABOR ON

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

PLEASE PRAY FOR Ann Mallet (elbow surgery – Sandy Dunlap's daughter), Craig Richards, Larry Bates, Joy Reid, Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Wilma Sponsler and her daughter, Helen, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Karen Solether, Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Nancy Black, Karen Barber, Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Liat & Aviv and all who are missing out of Israel, and all those seeking refuge in/from Gaza, family members and friends in recent car accidents (Lily & Kristal), Lily Seipel