



First Presbyterian Church of Defiance

October 22, 2023 - Ordinary Time

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

Coat Sorting: Mondays & Thursdays at 10 am

Tuesday: 7 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday: Pizza & Program- 5:30 pm Pizza service begins. WeKirk & Youth to meet.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lord, in the stories of your Scripture, give us truth to cling to; help us hear your still, small voice. Amen.

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: In this sacred hour of worship when we name things for what they really are,

P: we give to God what is God's.

L: Between the demands of this last week and the demands of the one ahead

P: we give to God what is God's.

L: With open hearts and hands and minds, every innate gift from our loving Creator,

P: we give to God what is God's.

***HYMN 353**

MY HOPE IS BUILT

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Sin tricks and traps us a hundred times a day. So we turn to God, whose business is freedom. Trusting that God will free us from our sin and deliver us to safety, let us confess our sins with courage and hope.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Creator God, we are commanded to give to you what is branded as yours. But since we cannot see your face, we confess to a miserable confusion. Where is your image printed? Not on our coinage or our calendars. Not on any of the things we buy in the store or in the ad-laden videos that stream by us. No, the only place we can see your face, is in our neighbor and in the mirror. We're the ones created in your image. Honestly, we'd rather pay you the taxes, God, than give up our whole selves. But if we are what you want, heart, mind, soul, and strength — we'll do our best, God. We'll give our all to you.

SILENT CONFESSION

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

L: Hear the good news! Our God, lover of justice, glories not in punishment but in redemption.

P: Christ has broken the power of sin and rescued us from our shame.

L: Be at peace: you are forgiven, and you are free.

P: To God be the glory! Alleluia! Amen!

***THE PEACE**

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

P: And also, with you.

L: Please share signs of peace with one another.

***HYMN 582**

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

HEAR

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 22:15-22

SERMON

GIVE TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD

RESPOND

HYMN 716

GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING NOTE

Scripture praises the “work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” We give now not for the flash or the fame but in quiet, steadfast hope that every dollar might serve to build up the body of Christ in this congregation, and the beloved community in the world. Your offerings matter. Make them with confidence.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, we dedicate our all to you; not just the money that we no longer call ours (whether it's sitting in the plate or whizzing along digital paths), but our thoughts, our plans, our time, our dreams, our days. It's all yours, God. It always was. Help us to rejoice in that. Amen.

SCATTER TO SERVE

***HYMN 307**

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

PLEASE PRAY FOR Craig Richards, Marty Retcher, Wilma Sponsler & daughter, Helen, Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Foyle & Karen Solether, Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Bill Kerr (Norm Wasson), Nancy Black, Floyd Culver, Karen Barber, Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Alan Heinrichs (Wasson cousin), Liat and Aviv and all the captured and refugees