



First Presbyterian Church of Defiance

September 3, 2023 ~ Ordinary Time

501 Washington Ave.

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

Plan to stay to tend the garden.

Next Sunday is our back to school, back to fall Sunday. We will have backpack tags for your use and a coffee hour to celebrate.

PW&F ~ begins new hear Sept. 11 @ noon. Bring \$5 to cover cost of lunch. We will be discussing plans for the year.

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: We gather hoping to see God,

P: here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.

L: We can see God

P: when we show one another honor,

L: when we pursue hospitality to strangers,

P: when we live in harmony with one another, when we rejoice in hope.

L: Let us worship the visible God amongst us

***HYMN ~ 372**

O FOR A WORLD

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

It is in our confession, in admitting the truth of our lives, that we can be our genuine selves again.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of love, you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are, you tell us to bless one another, you encourage us to do good. But we have not listened to your words, instead of loving we have practiced hatred, instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing, instead of doing good, we have sought to get even. Forgive us for giving up. Give us grace to try again, and encouragement to make your ways, our ways. We pray, we wait, and we hope.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

God's love for us is genuine. When we need it the most, God's grace washes over us seeping into the cracks of our brokenness and saturating our thirsty hearts. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

***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 (1 x)
HEAR**

WEKIRK WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 12

SERMON

"WALK THE TALK"

HYMN ~ 526

LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Why do we give each week? We give because we have received so much from God. We give to practice the gratitude for all that God has done for us. We give because we trust that God can do more with what we have than we can do alone.

We will continue to receive our offering at the entrance/ exits of the sanctuary. On communion Sundays, 1/2 of the loose offering is received for the Deacons.

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

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also, with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION ~ *come forward. If you wish to be served, please alert someone and we will bring communion to you.*

CLOSING PRAYER

***HYMN ~ 700**

I'M GONNA LIVE SO GOD CAN USE ME

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Some of the liturgy today was prepared by the Rev. Molly Spangler, associate pastor at Unity Presbyterian Church in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

Please pray for ~ Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Wilma Sponsler, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Karen Solether, Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Bill Kerr (Norm Wasson), Nancy Black, Jacob Black, Ann & Floyd Culver, Karen Barber, Daryl (Jennifer Bates father), Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Nick Mannering, Vern Kindinger, Alan Heinrichs (Wasson cousin), Chuck White (Bob Hanna).