First United Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2024

Second Sunday in Easter

**GATHERING**

**CHIMES** Set your heart for worship, if you must whisper, let it be in prayer.

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING WORDS**

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And, also with you!**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: How joyful it is, to celebrate the good news of God’s love!

**All: We are called to be Easter people!**

One: Darkness cannot claim us!

**All: Fear cannot bind us!**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen, indeed! AMEN!**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*OPENING HYMN “**Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; This is what I pray.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, you have given us the gift of Your mercy and grace, but we struggle, trying instead to feel worthy. You call us to be people of courage and hope, and yet at times we hide and doubt. You challenge us to proclaim our faith and show Your love to others, and yet a times we find ourselves holding back, waiting for the right time. Help us to see and feel Your presence, and to live into the life that You have given us. Mold us, shape us, and cause us to share your love. Amen**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE TO PARDON** #579 Gloria Patri

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**All: And also, with you!**

One: Please pass the peace to those around you!

**\*GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE** #322 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, Mold me, Fill me, Use me. Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

**PROCLAMATION**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**EPISTLE READING** 1 John 3:1-7

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL READING**  Luke 24:36b-48

**SERMON**  “Like Children” Rev. Greg Menssen

**RESPON****DING**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** #439 In Christ There Is No East or West

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** #592

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**

 **\*HYMN OF INVITATION** #505 Be Known To Us in Breaking Bread

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.

Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,

that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.

 **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

 **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

 **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

 **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #535 Go with Us, Lord

Go with us Lord and guide the way. Through this and every coming day.

That in Your Spirit strong and true, Our lives may be our gift to you.

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

(Please remain standing or seated until the Postlude is completed.)

**POSTLUDE**

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YES! SIGN UP NOW for a Sunday to impart your knowledge to the **KidsTalk Summer Sunday School!** The CE Committee is looking for volunteers to spend a Sunday morning with the kids! You can teach them a new skill, tell stories of your childhood, sing songs, just about anything sounds great!! Contact Sara Stahler for more details!



**SERVING IN CHURCH TODAY. . .**

Worship Leader: Ben Stahler Organist: Tom Boone

Welcome Team: Bridget Hawkins, Cindy Jenkins, Pat Ortli, Holly VanBuskirk

Deacons On-Call: Phyllis Lyons, Ben Stahler

Acolytes: Scarlett Lentz, Evelyn Lentz

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **PWA Leadership** meets today, 12:00pm in the Library.

The **Book Study** meets Tuesday April 16, 11:00am in the Chapel.

The **Deacons** meet Tuesday April 16, 5:00pm in the Chapel.

**THOSE IN NEED OF OUR CONTINUED PRAYERS**

The Amidons Jadyn Plaugher Rose Gunkle Kris Sutterfield June Coil

Carl Wunderle Sherri Ullom Vicki Shafer The Morrisons Mark Brienza

James Mitchell David Ritter Shirley Ritter Kathy Jo Putt

Karen Primavera The Deardurff Family Kevin & Christina Horrigan

**WITH US IN SPIRIT, BUT UNABLE TO JOIN US…**

Sue Albano 2739 Co. Rd. #91 \*104 Belleft. 43311

Lois Ashworth 209 E. Glen Belleft. 43311

Bob Carter 6559 US Rt 68 S W. Liberty 43357

Joyce Core 2450 Co. Rd. 118 Rushsylvania 43347

Bud & Mona Eichholtz 1328 Omaha Belleft. 43311

Byron Fullerton 2739 Co. Rd. #91 Belleft. 43311

Anne Heinlen 741 E. Sandusky Ave. Belleft. 43311

Marcella Neeld 541 Center St. Belleft. 43311

Nate Weber 608 Newford Dr. Belleft. 43311

**CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY!**

April 14: Phyllis Lyons April 15: Lois McKenzie

If we have missed your birthday or wedding anniversary, please contact the Church Office at 937-592-6611 or secretary@bellefontainepres.com.

WE DON’T WANT TO MISS ANYONE!

**AS YOU GO ABOUT YOUR WEEK…**

**Sunday April 14**

Pray for Covenant Presbyterian Church of Springboro

 9:30am Sunday School

10:45am Worship

**Monday April 15**

Pray for Caroline Notestine

No later than 12:00pm

April 29.

**Tuesday April 16**

Pray for Brenda and Charles Oda

Book Study 11:00am

Deacons 5:00pm

**Wednesday April 17**

Deadline for the

Weekly Bulletin

And

The View From the Pew:

No later than 12:00pm,

the preceding Tuesday.

Pray for Judy Oldiges

Bells 6:00pm

**Thursday April 18**

Pray for Pat Ortli

**Friday April 19**

Pray for Bill and MaryAnn Patterson

**Saturday April 20**

Pray for the staff of the Miami Valley Presbytery

**Sunday April 21**

 9:30am Sunday School

10:45am Worship Service

**YES! VBS NEEDS YOU!!**

Plans are underway to make our Vacation Bible School the best one yet! **But we can’t do it without you!**

As we rebuild our congregation, we must think of the future and our children who will be the ones to carry

out that future!

What better way to start their journey in their walk with God than a fun and exciting week of learning!!

**We can’t do it without you!** We are in need of volunteers to become a part of VBS, whether it be in the planning stages, seeing those plans come to life, offering snacks and drinks, helping with crafts, singing songs, cleaning up after an evening of fun, the list is endless!

**We can’t do it without you!** If you are available to help in some way, please contact Sara Stahler or any member of the Christian Education Committee. Surely we can find some place for your help!

**WE CAN DO IT WITH YOU!!**

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