



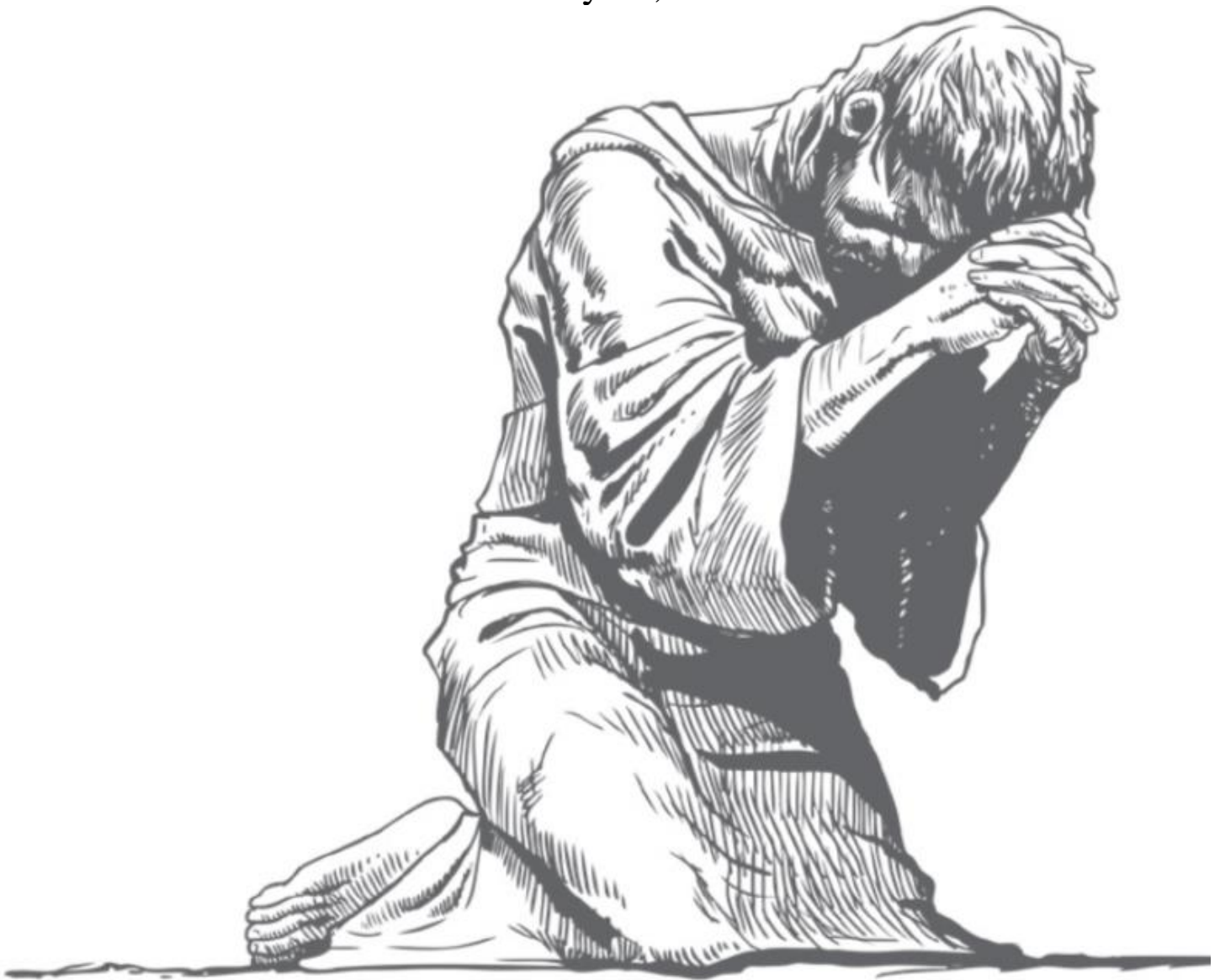
# INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



6624 Public Sq., Independence, OH; (216) 524-6307; office@ipcusa.org

## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 21, 2021



C.J. Briggs, Music Director  
Julie Lehmann, Secretary

Nancy Jermann, Liturgist  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*“We may be dust, but we are dust that is full of mystery and that dreams of glory; dust (we sense) that is to be changed, transfigured, into God’s own likeness.” ~ Michael Mayne*

## **- GATHERING -**

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** "Prelude in Bb Major" (BMV 866)  
by J.S. Bach

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*based on Psalm 25*) Nancy Jermann

O God of Israel, we give you thanks for your steadfast love, for the grace that is so old, so sure, and so good that we bow humbled.

**The lonely you befriend.**

The burdened heart, you relieve. **The distressed, you deliver.**

The forgotten, you remember. **The lost, you guide.**

The sinner, you forgive. **The vulnerable, you guard.**

The captured, you free.

O God our redeemer, we give you thanks for your steadfast love, for the grace that is so old, so sure, and so good that we bow humbled.

**Come, let us worship God.**

**HYMN** "Ah, Holy Jesus" GTG #218  
Words by Heermann; Translation by Robert Seymour Bridges  
Music by Johann Cruger (HERZLIEBSTER JESU)

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We do not live according to our own. We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Teach us your commandments; help us to turn from evil in its many guises, and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near. In covenantal love, remember us, we pray, and be for us, once more and always, an ark of safety and new life. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

*[Time of Silent Confession.]*

**RESPONSE**

“Shepherd Me, O God”  
by Marty Haugen (Psalm 23)

GTG #473

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

We are empowered to love God with all of who we are, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. **Thanks be to God.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

One Great Hour of Sharing

**- THE WORD -**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

*Children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**HEBREW BIBLE**

*Genesis 9:8-17*

(NRSV)

**GOSPEL**

*Mark 1:9-15*

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. David B. Wigger

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**- RESPONDING TO THE WORD -**

**OFFERING**

**RESPONSE**                    “Be Still and Know That I Am God”                    GTG #414  
  by John L. Bell (Psalm 46)

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Response*                    “When We Must Bear Persistent Pain”                    GTG #807  
  Text by Ruth Duck; Music by David N. Johnson                    Verses 1, 4

*The Lord’s Prayer*

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**- SENDING -**

**HYMN**                            “Touch the Earth Lightly”                                    GTG #714  
  Words by Shirley Erena Murray  
  Music by Colin Gibson (TENDERNESS)

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                    “Postlude in Bb Major”                                    (BMV 866)  
  By J.S. Bach

---

Pieces of today’s liturgy are from the *Book of Common Worship*, PC(USA); J. Bradley Wigger, *Together We Pray*; and Presbyterian *Outlook*, Roger Gench.  
(NRSV) = New Revised Standard Version; GTG = “Glory to God” Hymnal