



Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding
in steadfast love...

Joel 2:13, NRSV

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
*"a community of believers, called by God, led by the Holy Spirit
to know Christ and to make Christ known"*

Rev. Timothy R. Monroe

137 N. Walnut Street ~ Blairsville, PA 15717-1349

Church office 724-459-7991

e-mail: upchurch@r-church.com; website: www.r-church.com

Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Bobbi Monroe, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude Marilyn Neal, Organist

Lighting of the Candles

Introit # 353 *"Grace Greater than Our Sin"*

***Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.***

***Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;***

***Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.***

Call to Worship (*Joel 2*)

Leader: Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.

**People: Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Leader: Blow the trumpet of Zion; sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly; gather the people.

**People: "Spare your people, O Lord,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations."**

*Hymn # 348 *"Softly and Tenderly"*

*Prayer of Confession

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We want you to notice our humility, but we fail to notice neighbors in need. We want you to show us your mercy, but we fail to show mercy to others. Forgive us, God of grace. Cleanse our hearts and renew our spirits so that we may know once again the joy of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

Imposition of Ashes

(As worshippers come forward to receive the imposition of ashes – those in the pew will read Psalm 51 aloud.)

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Gospel Lesson Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (pg. 5 of NT)

Anthem *"Come Find Forgiveness and Love"*

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 58:1-12 (pg. 688 of OT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. *(The Apostles' Creed)*

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 354 *"Just As I Am"*

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (*"...debts...and debtors..."*)

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

(Please hold the bread until all have received, we will partake together)

(Please hold the cup until all have received, we will partake together)

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn # 461 *"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"*

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*Postlude

This Evening we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Anyone who professes faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is invited to receive and share the sacrament.

Our Worship Assistants for the evening service are Liturgist, Bobbi Monroe; Ushers, Jean Heberling, Naomi Sigafos, John & Mary Hileman; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; and Organist, Marilyn Neal.

Lenten Devotional Booklets are available at the back of the sanctuary for anyone wishing to take one. The booklets include a Daily Lenten Reflection for each day beginning today and concluding on Easter Day.

Our Offering received this evening will be used in replenishing our Deacon Food Pantry Outreach.



*(*All who are able, please stand)*