



FOURTH SUNDAY  
*in*  
LENT

**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

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Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

March 14, 2021 ~ 11:00 AM

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

Words of Greeting

Rev. Timothy Monroe

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

Prelude

“I Should Have Been Crucified”

By Gordon Jensen

Organ and Piano Duet

Call to Worship (*Psalm 107*)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**People: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands.**

Leader: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;

**People: He sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.**

Leader: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.

**People: And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.**

\*Hymn # 59

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

\*Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have**

**done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

### **DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

Gospel Lesson

John 3:14-21

Anthem

“God So Loved the World”

Arr. Spainer

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson

Ephesians 2:1-10

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Affirmation of Faith

*(A Brief Statement of Faith)*

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors in need. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem us. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

\*Hymn # 422

“Amazing Grace”

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 come forward to receive the sacrament)*

*(Those who remain at their seat, will be served)*

Prayer after Communion

\*Hymn # 479

“Near the Cross”

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

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

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This morning 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.

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning’s service are Liturgist, Jean Heberling; Organist, Marilyn Neal; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Ushers, Pat and Janeen Swope; Audio/Visual, Austin Baker and Cole Stuchal; Streaming, Chase Stuchal.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents by Denny and Pam Irwin.

THE PRAYER CHAIN is coordinated by the Adult Sunday School Class. If you have a prayer request or know of someone’s need for prayer, please contact Nancy Campbell or the church office.

THE SESSION will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Safety guidelines will be followed as we meet. Packets for the meeting can be picked up in the parlor.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Those attending are asked to follow the governmental guidelines in place for indoor gatherings. For those who would like to participate from home, we are set up to offer Bible Study via Zoom. If you are interested, please call the church office for more details.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR will gather for rehearsal Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Safety measures are followed while we meet. If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact Cindy Borbonus.

THE STITCHING GROUP will gather in the parlor Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. to work on personal projects and fellowship. All are invited.

THIS YEAR'S LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET is available at the back of the sanctuary. There are daily reflections which will conclude Easter Day. We thank those from the congregation who wrote a devotion, and Kathy Bella for the cover artwork. Please help yourself to a copy.

### **REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

<b>Today</b>	9:45 a.m. Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class
	11:00 a.m. Worship and Communion In-House and Online
	<i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i>
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30 p.m. Session Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 a.m. Bible Study
	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	2:00 p.m. Stitching Group
<b>Sunday</b>	9:45 a.m. Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class
	11:00 a.m. Worship In-House and Online

# “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth & heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven  
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# “Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

Edwin Othello Excell | John Newton  
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## **“Near the Cross”**

Jesus, keep me near the cross;  
There a precious fountain,  
Free to all, a healing stream,  
Flows from Calvary's mountain.  
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,  
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
Love and mercy found me;  
There the Bright and Morning Star  
Sheds its beams around me.  
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,  
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
Bring its scenes before me;  
Help me walk from day to day  
With its shadows o'er me.  
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,  
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
Hoping, trusting ever,  
Till I reach the golden strand  
Just beyond the river.  
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,  
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.