



# *First Sunday of Advent*

**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

November 28, 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

Introit

*"Give to Our God Immortal Praise"*

He sent His Son with power to save  
From guilt and darkness and the grave:  
Wonders of grace to God belong;  
Repeat his mercies in your song.

Call to Worship (*Psalm 25*)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People: O my God, in you I trust;  
do not let me be put to shame;  
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.

**People: Lead me in your truth, and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.**

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**People: All the paths of the Lord  
are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

\*Hymn # 153

*"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

\*Prayer of Confession

**Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds, clouded by worries. Show us the signs of your coming, that we may stand before you, the Son of Man, in whose name we pray.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jean Heberling & Elaine Jellison

***A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in November's dark night.  
While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.***

\*Sharing of the Peace

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

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Anthem

***"Come, Emmanuel, Come"***

Comp. Price/Besig

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\*Affirmation of Faith *(The Larger Catechism, Q.56)*

How is Christ to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world?

**Christ is to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world, in that he, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the last day in great power, and in the full manifestation of his own glory, and of his Father's, with all his holy angels, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, to judge the world in righteousness.**

\*Hymn # 318 *"Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending"*

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

Choral Amen

\*Hymn # 176 *"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"*

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response *"Tidings of Joy"*

\*Postlude

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

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning's service are Liturgist, Jean Heberling; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin; Ushers, Elaine Jellison and Alan Lowman; 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 celebration of God's blessings by Ron and Kim McKinney.

A VARIETY of Advent Devotionals are available to you. These guides are meant to help you as you move through the season to the coming of the Christ Child. They are available for you to pick up at the back of the sanctuary.

WE WILL GATHER for Bible Study in Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Our focus is on the gospel of John. As we gather, we will follow CDC guidelines. Please call the church office with any questions or concerns.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. We welcome any seasoned ringers and any new to handbell ringing. Contact Vicky Westley, director for more information.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR and friends will begin rehearsals of special music for the season of Christmas. Anyone who enjoys singing is invited to be a part of the choir. Rehearsals will begin Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you have any questions or would like more information, please see Cindy Borbonus.

STAFF EVALUATIONS will be held Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Personnel Committee will meet with staff members in the parlor.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet in the parlor Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship. All are welcome.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 4 will hold their annual Soup & Chili Cookoff next Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. This is a fundraising event for the troop.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE will meet Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor to review the 2022 budget. If you are a committee chair and have any items to consider for next year's spending, please contact the church office.

USHERS are being scheduled for the remaining Sundays of this year. If you are willing to greet those coming in for worship and distribute bulletins, please consider signing up for a Sunday. A schedule of dates is available at the back of the sanctuary.

THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE is being held. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats for kids in need. Please mark your donation clearly for “Coat Drive” and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

THE GRANNY’S have been busy making lots of items for their annual Christmas display. All of the homemade items are available to purchase for your gift giving needs. Please see the insert for more information or contact Janeen Swope or Charlotte Cosharek.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE FROM THE CONGREGATION is recovering from surgery or illness and would appreciate a meal being delivered, the deacons would like to be of help to you. Please contact Janet Smith. We don’t know if there is a need unless you let us know.

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, 724-459-7991.

#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

|           |                |  |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| Sunday    | 9:45 a.m.      | Sunday School Classes                              |
|           | 11:00 a.m.     | Worship <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>     |
| Monday    | 6:30 p.m.      | Boy Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall                 |
| Wednesday | 10:00 a.m.     | Bible Study in Fellowship Hall                     |
|           | 5:00 p.m.      | Daisy Troop in Fellowship Hall                     |
|           | 5:30 p.m.      | Staff Evaluations                                  |
|           | 6:00 p.m.      | Bell Choir Rehearsal                               |
|           | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Christmas Choir Rehearsal                          |
| Thursday  | 2:00 p.m.      | Stitching Group                                    |
| Sunday    | 9:45 a.m.      | Sunday School Classes                              |
|           | 11:00 a.m.     | Worship <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>     |
|           | 12:00 p.m.     | Boy Scout Chili/Soup Cookoff<br>in Fellowship Hall |

# **“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard

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# “Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending”

Jesus comes with clouds descending;  
See the Lamb for sinners slain!  
Thousand, thousand saints attending  
Join to sing the glad refrain:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign!

Every eye shall then behold You  
Robed in awesome majesty;  
Those who jeered and mocked and sold You,  
Pierced and nailed You to the tree,  
Shamed and grieving,  
Shamed and grieving,  
Shall their true Messiah see.

Yes, Amen! Let all adore You,  
High on Your eternal throne;  
Crowns and empires fall before You,  
Claim the kingdom for Your own.  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Everlasting Christ, come down!

Charles Wesley | Henry Thomas Smart | John Cennick | Martin Madan

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# **“Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates”**

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates:

Behold, the King of glory waits!

The King of kings is drawing near,

The Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart:

Make it a temple set apart

From earthly use for heaven's employ,

Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide

My heart to You: here, Lord, abide!

Let me Your inner presence feel:

Your grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in!

Let new and nobler life begin!

Your Holy Spirit guide us on,

Until the glorious crown be won.

Catherine Winkworth | Georg Weissel | T. Williams

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