



And he went and  
lived in a **city called**  
**Nazareth,**  
so that what was  
**spoken** by the  
**prophets**  
might be **fulfilled.**

—Matthew 2:23, ESV

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**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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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

January 1, 2023 ~ 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 Wonder as I Wander”

By John Jacob Niles

Introit

“Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him”

# 17

**Praise the Lord! O heavens, adore Him;**

**Praise Him, angels in the height;**

**Sun and moon, bow down before Him;**

**Praise Him, shining stars of light.**

**Praise the Lord, for He hath spoken;**

**Worlds His mighty voice obeyed;**

**Laws which never shall be broken**

**For their guidance He has made.**

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Call to Worship (*Psalms 148*)

Bobbi Monroe, Liturgist

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

**People: Praise him, sun and moon;**

**praise him, all you shining stars!**

**Praise him, you highest heavens,**

**and you waters above the heavens!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for he commanded and they were created.

**People: He established them forever and ever;**

**he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**People: Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his glory is above earth and heaven.

**People: He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his faithful,  
for the people of Israel who are close to him.  
Praise the Lord!**

\*Hymn # 189 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

\*Prayer of Confession

**God-with-us, we confess that we have not embraced your love. We forget your great mercy and seek out other saviors. We allow violence to continue and ignore those who weep. Forgive us, loving God. Make us sisters and brothers, sharing with all your children good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

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

New Testament Lesson

Hebrews 2:10-18

Anthem

"Let the Song Begin"

By Yarborough

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

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

\*Affirmation of Faith

*(Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 86)*

Leader: Since we are redeemed from our sin and its wretched consequences by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why must we do good works?

**People: Because just as Christ has redeemed us with his blood he also renews us through his Holy Spirit according to his own image, so that with our whole life we may show ourselves grateful to God for his goodness and that he may be glorified through us; and further, so that we ourselves may be assured of our faith by its fruits and by our reverent behavior may win our neighbors to Christ.**

\*Hymn # 225

“I Wonder as I Wander”

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer (“...*debts...and debtors...*”)

Choral Amen

\*Hymn # 188

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response

\*Postlude

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

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PLEASE JOIN us in the ritual of friendship by signing the attendance pads that are at one end of each of the pews. If you are here for the first time, we would appreciate it if you would give us your local telephone number. Please help yourself to a copy of our newsletter, *Uplift* available at the back of the church. We thank you for joining your voice to ours in sacred worship.

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning’s service are Liturgist, Bobbi Monroe; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held following worship. More details will be shared closer to the date. Committee chairs and treasurers are reminded that year-end reports are requested to be turned in by Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Committee reports consist of a summary of the year’s activities, committee members and comments you would like to share. If you need any information or have questions, please contact the church office.

END OF THE YEAR financial statements will be mailed early to mid-January. If you would like your statement earlier, contact the church office at 724-459-7991.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for the New Year are available for you to pick up at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like offering envelopes, please contact the church office at 724-459-7991.

We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion next Sunday during worship. Please take time this week to prepare to receive and share the sacrament.

THE 2023 FLOWER CHART is hanging in the hallway outside the church office. If you would like to order flowers for Sunday worship, please use the chart to sign-up for your choice of date. Please note any special dedication for the bulletin. Flowers are \$20/Sunday and checks can be made payable to the: Board of Deacons.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will meet Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. The choir is currently in need of additional ringers so it can ring the 3-octave music. We welcome any seasoned ringers and any new to handbell ringing. Contact Vicky Westley, director for more information.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR will rehearsal Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New voices are always welcome! If you are interested in singing in the choir or need more information, please see Cindy Borbonus.

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.

## WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

|                  |            |                                       |
|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b>     | 11:00 a.m. | New Year's Day Worship                |
| <b>Monday</b>    |            | Office Closed                         |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 6:00 p.m.  | Board of Deacons Meeting              |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 6:00 p.m.  | Bell Choir Rehearsal                  |
|                  | 7:00 p.m.  | Chancel Choir Rehearsal               |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 2:00 p.m.  | Stitching Group                       |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 11:00 a.m. | Worship & Communion                   |
|                  |            | Ordination & Installation of Officers |

## THE SESSION COMMITTEES FOR 2023

Each year the committees of session seek to have volunteers become active participants. Please review the committees and their responsibilities and consider serving. If you would like more information or have questions, please see Pastor Monroe or an elder. Chairs will be determined at the January Session meeting.

Worship – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings

Mission – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries

Christian Education – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education

Finance – Finances, special funds, and annual budget

Stewardship – Stewardship education and programs, challenges the congregation in its faithful use of the many different resources entrusted to our care

Property & Maintenance – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory

Congregational Fellowship – Suppers, Dinner Theater, picnics, outings, trips, camping

Evangelism – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity



THE MINISTERIUM will sponsor another Community Lenten Devotional in 2023. Volunteers are needed to write devotional thoughts for the days below. Those who volunteer to submit a devotion will list the chosen scripture lesson, a devotional message of about 400 words, and a one or two sentence prayer. You can sign your name, or remain anonymous. All submissions will be gathered and will be compiled into booklet form, duplicated, then distributed to area churches for use during the Lenten Season (*which begins Ash Wednesday, February 22*). Our congregation has been assigned 6 days. If you feel led to share with your brothers and sisters in Blairsville, please let Pastor Monroe know of your willingness as soon as possible. Please read through the scriptures and choose one for your focus:

**MARCH 20**

Psalm 146; Isaiah 59:9-19; Acts 9:1-20

**MARCH 21**

Psalm 146; Isaiah 42:14-21; Colossians 1:9-14

**MARCH 22 - reserved**

**MARCH 23**

Psalm 130; Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11

**MARCH 24**

Psalm 130; Ezekiel 33:10-16; Revelation 11:15-19

**MARCH 25 - reserved**