



FOURTH 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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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

December 18, 2022 ~ 11:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

“Wachet Auf!”
 (“Sleepers Awake”)
The Blairsville Brass

Arr. Ohad Wand

Call to Worship (*Psalm 80*)

Connie Bruner, Liturgist

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**People: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim,
shine forth. Stir up your might,
and come to save us!**

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine,
that we may be saved.

**People: But let your hand be upon the one
at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

Leader: Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.

**People: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light. We choose what is evil and refuse what is good. We scorn our neighbors and laugh at others' troubles. Forgive us; deliver us; let your face shine on us, so that we may be ready to meet our Emmanuel, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" By Gary Fladmoe
The Blairsville Brass

***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
The Bruner Family

***A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above,
a baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.***

*Sharing of the Peace

Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Reception of New Members

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

JESUS! THE ADVENT OF THE MESSIAH

By Mary McDonald and Rose Aspinall

"Christmas Gloria"

"The Gathering"

"God with Us to Dwell"

"Heavenly Peace"

"He Is Born"

"Born A Mighty King"

"There Is Room"

"Jesus! High and Holy One"

*Hymn # 179

"Joy to the World"

*Benediction

*Postlude

"Lift Up Your Heads"
The Blairsville Brass

Arr. James Gilbert

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

THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Sopranos

Kathy Bella
Margaret Lockard
Bobbi Monroe
Muriel Slade
Janet Smith
Janeen Swope

Narrators

Sheila Borbonus
Dennis Gould

Audio

Doug Clayton

Altos

Mary Gorslene
Karen Kerin
Judy Trimble
Vicky Westley

Tenors

Jody Adkins
Bob Klingensmith
Tim Monroe

Basses

Mark Borbonus
Duane Slade
Dave Hiltabidle

Christmas

December 24th

7:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Worship

11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Worship

December 25th

11:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Worship Service

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning's service are Liturgist, Connie Bruner; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin; Audio, Doug Clayton; Advent Readers, the Bruner Family.

THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIAS in the sanctuary this morning are given in memory and in honor of loved ones by many in the congregation. A special thank you to Vicky Doty and the deacons for their work in arranging to have the flowers for the Christmas celebration!

THE WHOLE CHURCH of Jesus Christ rejoices as Hayden Monroe Barto, daughter of Zachary Barto and Lindsay Sharp, is baptized into Christ and the family of faith. We rejoice also as Lindsay Nicole Sharp is baptized into Christ and the family of faith and as Zachary Stephen Barto reaffirms his baptismal vows.

WE WELCOME four confirmands as new members this morning. They include: Brennan Borbonus, Ewan Borbonus, Brady Doak, and John Kerin. We welcome four additional members to the congregation this morning. They include: Zachary Barto, Lindsay Sharp, Dianna Messenger and Bob Klingensmith. We also recognize Lynette Borbonus and Pam Irwin who transferred membership earlier this year from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Clarksburg.

A RECEPTION will be held immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall in recognition of those who joined with the congregation this morning. All are invited to stop in for some cookies, a beverage and to greet our newest members.

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

VOLUNTEERS are needed to run the audio/visual equipment in the balcony each Sunday morning. Those interested will be trained. Please see Jean Heberling or Doug Clayton if interested.

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.

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 Linda George or the church office.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR will gather for rehearsal Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Bell Room. Anyone interested in joining with the Bell Choir is welcome. Training will be offered to those who are new to ringing. Please see Vicky Westley for more information.

CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal will be held Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New voices are always welcome! If you enjoy making a joyful noise, we would love for you to join us. Please see Cindy Borbonus if you would like more information.

IF YOU NEED a special homemade gift to give someone at Christmas, see the Grannies' display in the parlor. There are several items available for purchase. All proceeds benefit their sewing ministry.

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 or drop a note in the offering plate.

AN USHER SIGN-UP SHEET is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to participate in worship as an usher/greeter, please sign-up. There are dates available. Our deacons thank you.

KEEPSAKE ORNAMENTS of the church from Wendall August Forge are available to purchase at a cost of \$12.00 each. Checks can be made payable to the church. Please see Linda George or contact the church office.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS are asked to begin thinking about year-end reports for the Annual Ecclesiastical/Corporate Meeting. Reports are due to the church office by Sunday, January 29th.

THE 2023 FLOWER CHART is located on the bulletin board in the hallway by the church office. You may sign-up for your choice of dates. After worship, you may take your flowers home or we ask that you pick up by the following Tuesday. Those remaining after Tuesday will be delivered to one of our home bound members. Dedications to be printed in the bulletin can be submitted to the church office or noted on the sign-up chart. Flower arrangements are \$20 each and checks can be made payable to the "Board of Deacons."

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS FOR THE WEEK INCLUDE:

Friends of our church who are unable to be with us this morning

Our pastor and church leaders

Our Rwanda Partner – the Gitarama Presbyterian Church

Compassion child: Samuel Mutabazi

Our country and government leaders

Students of the Week:

Olivia Eckenroad and Harrison Gilligan

December Leaders:

Elders: Lisa Hainaut and Bruce Highberger

Deacons: Jamie McKinney and Vicky Westley

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Today	11:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Cantata-Baptisms & New Members
	12:00 p.m. Reception in Fellowship Hall
	3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall reserved
Monday	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m. Deacons will pack Christmas boxes
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Session Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m. Stitching Group
Saturday	7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight
	11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight
Sunday	11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship

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

Joy to the World!

D Em D D D G A

G A A7 F# G

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

D G D G D

D D D D

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

D A

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 (1) and heaven and na - ture sing,

(1) and

A7 D G D Em D A7 D

G A G A G A

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,