

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

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022 – 11:00 PM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. Edgar Horton

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

arr. Edgar Horton

"For Unto Us a Child Is Born"

arr. Linda R. Lamb

The Handbell Choir - Vicky Westley, Director

Welcome

Leader:

Pastor Monroe

The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Introit

"O Holy Night"

Arr. David C. Wheatley

Bob Cosharek, Flugelhorn and Pam Irwin, Organ

Call to Worship (Psalm 96)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;

sing to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among all the peoples.

People: Honor and majesty are before him;

strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

let the field exult, and everything in it.

People: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

before the Lord; for he is coming,

for he is coming to judge the earth.

All: He will judge the world with righteousness,

and the peoples with his truth.

*Hymn # 182

*Prayer of Confession

God-with-us, we confess that we have not embraced your love. We pursue worldly passions and revere false idols. We cherish our possessions and spurn your good gifts. Forgive us, loving God. Take away the burden of our sin and teach us the song of salvation: good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King!

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Lighting of the Advent Candle
The Eckenroad Family

Joy to the earth! Savior reigns:

Let all their songs employ.

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem

"No Room"

By Peterson

The Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:1-20

Message

Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(Apostles' Creed)

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.

*Hymn # 184

"What Child Is This?"

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 # 186

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

(The Bell Choir will play while lighting candles)

(Congregation will sing once all candles are lit)

- *Benediction
- *Postlude

(*All who are able, please stand)

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.

Remember to light candles by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle.

The Worship Assistants for this evening's service are: Liturgist, Jean Heberling; Special Music, Bob Cosharek; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin; Handbell Choir Director, Vicky Westley; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Advent Readers, the Eckenroad Family; Ushers, Gene and Chery Artman.

The Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday and will have abbreviated hours Wednesday-Friday next week. Please call before you stop.