

A vertical decorative scrollwork graphic on the right side of the page, featuring intricate black and white patterns of leaves and scrolls.

The message  
about the cross  
is foolishness  
to those who  
are perishing,  
but to us who  
are being saved  
it is the  
power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, NRSV

**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 29, 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

“Shoulders”

Arr. Mercer

Introit

“Sanctuary”

# 482

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,**

**Pure and holy, tried and true;**

**With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.**

John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs CCLI License # 1214765

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Call to Worship (*Psalm 15*)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**People: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,  
and speak the truth from their heart;**

Leader: Who do not slander with their tongue,  
and do no evil to their friends,  
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

**People: In whose eyes the wicked are despised,  
but who honor those who fear the Lord;  
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

Leader: Who do not lend money at interest,  
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

**People: Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

\*Hymn # 358

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

\*Prayer of Confession

**God of glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. We demand signs and desire wisdom; yet the cross of Christ is all we need. We boast about our strength; yet the weakness of Christ has saved us. Forgive us; give us grace. Teach us what is truly wise and good and blessed: to show the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

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

Old Testament Lesson

Micah 6:1-8

Anthem

“Blest Are They”

By Haas

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson

I Corinthians 1:18-31

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

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

\*Affirmation of Faith

*(A Brief Statement of Faith)*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

\*Hymn # 479

“Near the Cross”

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

Choral Amen

\*Hymn # 255

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

\*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, Jean Heberling; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin.

THE 2022 YEAR in review Congregational Meeting will be held today. A soup luncheon will be served in Fellowship Hall after worship followed by the meeting. We hope you will plan to stay.

BIBLE STUDY will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday in Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM. Our study is in the book of Revelation. We hope you will join us.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. The choir is currently in need of additional ringers. 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.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 4 will hold their Annual Soup and Chili Cook Off, Sunday, February 5th in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$10.00 per person. They will have 12 different soups and chili's to enjoy, plus bread and delicious desserts. This is a Boy Scout fundraiser to help cover expenses incurred in camping and other activities throughout the year. Thanks for your support.

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.

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.

**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:***

Chase Stuchal and Alexis Mudge

***January Leaders:***

Elders: Joan Moran and Jeff Lewis

Deacons: Janet Smith and Bobbi Monroe

***Presbytery Prayers***

West Glade Run Church

Moderator, Marty Neal

THE SESSION COMMITTEES for 2023 are looking for interested members to be active participants. Chairs for the committees are listed. Please review the committees and responsibilities of the committees and contact the chair if you are interested in serving.

Worship – *co-chairs, Jean Heberling and Doug Clayton*—Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings

Mission – *chair, Gene Artman*—Benevolences, special offerings, global & local mission and missionaries

Christian Education – *co-chairs, Jim Antis and Gene Artman*—Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education

Finance – *chair, Rick Shoemaker*—Finances, special funds, and annual budget

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

Property & Maintenance – *chair, Pat Swope*—Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory

Congregational Fellowship – *chair, Joan Moran*—Suppers, Dinner Theater, picnics, outings, trips, camping

Evangelism – *chair, Kim McKinney*—New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity

WE WILL GATHER for worship at 7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. There will be the imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive them and the Lord's Supper will be celebrated. The service will be live streamed for those at home. This service of worship will be your first step into the Lenten season.

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:

- \* Volunteers are needed to run the audio/visual equipment in the balcony each Sunday morning. Those interested will be trained. Please see Doug Clayton or Jean Heberling if interested.
- \* Volunteers are needed to usher. An usher signup 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.

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** - reserved

**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

