

*But as for what was sown on
good soil, this is the one who
hears the word and
understands it, who indeed
bears fruit...*

Matthew 13:23, 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

July 16, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

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

Karen Kerin, Trumpet & Cindy Borbonus, Piano

Call to Worship (*Psalms 119*)

Mel Woodring, Liturgist

Leader: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**People: I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.**

Leader: I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord,
according to your word.

**People: Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.**

Leader: I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

**People: The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.**

Leader: Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.

**People: I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.**

*Hymn # 664

“Thy Word”

*Prayer of Confession

**O Lord our God, we confess that we do not reflect your glory. We
have not prepared our hearts to receive the gifts of your Word.
We allow thorns and weeds to grow in the places where you**

plant the gospel. Forgive us; restore and reorder our lives by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Accomplish all that you desire in us, so that we may bear good fruit, to the glory of your holy name.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

Special Music

Karen Kerin, Trumpet & Cindy Borbonus, Piano

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives.

*Hymn # 480

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

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

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 721 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

*Benediction

*Postlude

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

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, Mel Woodring; Special Music, Karen Kerin; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin; Usher, Alan Lowman.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in the sanctuary this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of father, George S. Graham and mother, Clara Savage by Karen Ruda.

WIC will meet with clients Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group works on personal projects and fellowships. If you enjoy needlework, you're invited to bring a project you're working on and join the group.

SPECIAL MUSIC during worship is being scheduled throughout the summer months. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical talent for our worship service, please see Cindy Borbonus or contact the church office.

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. All requests are kept in confidence unless permission is given to share with others.

KEEPSAKE ORNAMENTS of the church from Wendall August Forge are still 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 for more information.

TEAM HOPE has been meeting for the last eighteen months, discerning and dreaming together about a path forward for Kiskiminetas Presbytery. They have developed a plan and structure for the Presbytery that will meet the needs of congregations and make sure not to put undue stress on pastors. You are invited to attend one of the cluster gatherings to ask questions, get more information about the plan, and help the Team with your feedback. Members of Team Hope will be present at each gathering. Anyone who is a member of the congregation is invited to attend. Dates and locations of the gatherings are listed:

- Thursday, August 3 at 6:30 p.m. Shelocta Church
- Monday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m. Beechwoods Church
- Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30 p.m. First Church, Clarion
- Wednesday, August 9 at 6:30 p.m. Appleby Manor Church
- Monday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m. Punxsutawney Church

Please RSVP to the Presbytery Office via email at kiski@kiskipby.org or via phone at 724-783-7196.

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC SCHEDULE

July 16 Karen Kerin
July 23 The Kerin Family
July 30 Adam Loucks
August 6..... Angela Lyons
August 13..... Matthew Cyphert
August 20..... Blairsville Brass

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Monday Music Club Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	WIC meets in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
Friday	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall Reserved
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship