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LET THE WORDS OF  
**MY MOUTH**  
— AND THE —  
MEDITATION OF  
**MY HEART**  
BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU,  
**O LORD,**  
**MY ROCK**  
— AND —  
**MY REDEEMER.**  
P S A L M 1 9 : 1 4 , N R S V

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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

October 8, 2023 ~ 11:00 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

Organ and Piano Duet

Introit

“This Is My Father’s World”

# 21 vs. 2

**This is my Father’s world: O let us not forget  
That though the wrong is great and strong,  
God is the ruler yet. He trusts us with his world,  
To keep it clean and fair – all earth and trees,  
All skies and seas, all creatures everywhere.**

CCLI License # 1214765 Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, Mary Babcock Crawford

Music: English Melody; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard

Call to Worship (*Psalm 19*)

Mary Anzelone, Liturgist

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple;

**People: The precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart; the commandment  
of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

**People: More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Leader: Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

**People: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation  
of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord,  
my rock and my redeemer.**

\*Hymn # 136 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

\*Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You gave us the gift of your law, but we do not keep your commandments. You sent your Son to save us, but we sent him to his death. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

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

New Testament Lesson Philippians 3:4-14

Anthem "Jesus Is the Cornerstone"

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

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

\*Affirmation of Faith *(The Theological Declaration of Barmen)*

**"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body (is) joined and knit together." (Eph. 4:15-16)**

**The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its**

**faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance.**

- \*Hymn # 261      “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
- Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer (*debt...and debtors...*)
- Choral Amen
- Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word
- Offertory
- \*Doxology
- \*Prayer of Dedication
- \*Hymn Insert      “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”
- \*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, Mary Anzelone; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Usher, Alan Lowman; and Property Manager, Bob Cosharek.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Barbara Kocsis.

THE GRANNIES will gather in Fellowship Hall Monday at 9:00 a.m. and will work until 12:00 noon. There are a variety of tasks for everyone. All are welcome.

THE BLAIRSVILLE AREA MINISTERIUM will meet Monday at 11:00 a.m. at SS Simon & Jude Church.

THE FOOD BANK will distribute groceries from Fellowship Hall Tuesday from 10:30 – 12:00 noon.

BELL CHOIR rehearsal will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. We are in need of ringers to complete our choir. If you have ever thought of giving handbells a try, please contact Vicky Westley.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal will be held Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We would love to have new voices join us in song! If you are interested in singing with the choir, please see Cindy Borbonus. All are welcome!

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 confidential.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA rehearsals will be held Wednesday from 8:00-8:30 p.m. Christmas is a beautiful time of year and music is part of that beauty. If you would like to participate with the special music for the holidays, we invite you to attend rehearsal. The Christmas Cantata will be presented during worship Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Please see Cindy Borbonus for additional information.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship. You are invited to bring a project you're working on and join the group.

OUR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS have changed temporarily. The office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

THE CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE has planned a Soup & Sandwich Luncheon for next Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> following worship. We will gather around tables in Fellowship Hall for a time of refreshment and fellowship. Lunch will be provided by the committee. Those attending are asked to bring a dessert to share. Contact Joan Moran or Linda George for more information.

“MEN WITH MIXERS AUCTION” will also be part of the day October 15<sup>th</sup> with proceeds supporting our Coats-for-Kids outreach. Men of the church who would like to participate are asked to use the sign-up sheets located at the back of the sanctuary. Bake your favorite dessert and bring it with you to be auctioned off to the highest bidder following the soup luncheon.

THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE has begun. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats for kids in need. Please mark your donation clearly for “Coat Drive” and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

CUSTOM 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 for an ornament or for more information.

WE HAVE BEEN receiving manufacturers’ coupons for veterans for several years. During that time, we have donated a total value of \$567,694.20. As of the end of December, Erica and Ellen would like to retire from handling this program. If anyone is interested in taking it over, they are willing to teach the process. We are grateful to them both for their service.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE will soon begin to review information for the 2024 church budget. Committee chairs are asked to begin planning for next year and consider your financial needs.

## **REGULAR SCHEDULE:**

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 a.m.	Worship
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Ministerium Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:30 a.m.	Food Bank Distribution
<b>Wednesday</b>	5:00 p.m.	Daisy Troop Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Leader Meeting
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 a.m.	WIC meets in Fellowship Hall
<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
		Men with Mixers Auction