



There is a time  
for everything,  
and a season  
for every activity  
under heaven

Ecclesiastes 3:1

**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

137 N. Walnut Street ~ Blairsville, PA 15717-1349

Church office 724-459-7991

e-mail: [upchurch@r-church.com](mailto:upchurch@r-church.com); website: [www.r-church.com](http://www.r-church.com)

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

November 12, 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

“In Christ Alone”

Introit

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

#562

**We’ve a story to tell to the nations,  
That shall turn their hearts to the right,  
A story of truth and mercy,**

**A story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.**

**For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
And the dawning to noonday bright;**

**And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,  
The kingdom of love and light.**

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Call to Worship (*Psalm 78*)

Pam Irwin, Liturgist

Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**People: I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will utter dark sayings from of old;  
things that we have heard and known,  
that our ancestors have told us.**

Leader: We will not hide them from their children;  
we will tell to the coming generation

**People: The glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might,  
and the wonders that he has done.**

\*Hymn # 71

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

\*Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

Reception of New Member

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

\*Sharing of the Peace

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

Old Testament Lesson

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Anthem

“Blessings”

Arr. Story

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson

Acts 20:17-32

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

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

\*Affirmation of Faith

*(The 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 # 72                                   “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”  
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 # 393                               “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”  
\*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, Pam Irwin; 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 our parents by Gary and Barri Stuchal.

WE WELCOME Barbara Barto as the newest member of our church family this morning. Be sure to welcome her after worship.

THE WHOLE CHURCH of Jesus Christ rejoices as Janice Gayle Reichert and Samantha Rhea Grady are baptized into Christ and the family of faith.

THE WHOLE CHURCH of Jesus Christ rejoices as Molly Mae Grady, daughter of Tom and Samantha Grady, is baptized into Christ and the family of faith.

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.

FIRST SATURDAY is a Christian Education Program that we are planning for students in grades K-6. We are in need of additional volunteers for this program to begin. The next planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at the church. If you are interested in helping, plan to attend the meeting. For more information, please call the church office, 724-459-7991.

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!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA rehearsals will be held Wednesdays 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.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN, this year's Christmas cantata has a part for children. Any children ages 4 - 12 who would like to sing in the cantata are welcome. There will be two practices for the kids, Sunday, December 10 and Sunday, December 17 before worship. For more information, see Cindy.

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 ANNUAL CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER will be served Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. If you would be willing to roast a turkey for the dinner, please see Doug Clayton. The turkeys will be provided, we just need cooks.

A TIME OF RECOGNITION for the retirement of Pastor Monroe will be held during the Thanksgiving Dinner. He and Bobbi have served faithfully alongside of us since 2005. We hope you will plan to attend.

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.

GRANNIES are in need of a new sewing machine. The ones they use have been donated. Recently one stopped working and cannot be repaired. They are asking for financial donations to purchase a new machine. An estimated cost is between \$300-\$500. Please mark your gift clearly "sewing machine."

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 submit their needs for next year. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please 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 confidential.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS have changed. The office is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, the office is closed.

A BLANKET DRIVE is being held to receive NEW blankets or throws for children served by Indiana County Children & Youth Services. Twin size is preferred. We will receive the blankets through November 26<sup>th</sup>. Please place donations at the back of the sanctuary. If you have questions or would like more information, please see Bonni Dunlap.

A CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CONCERT will be held Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. The concert is being sponsored by the Blairsville Monday Music Club and all area church choirs, music groups and area musicians are welcome to participate. Questions may be directed to the club director, Cindy Borbonus.

## **REGULAR SCHEDULE:**

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Monday Music Club Rehearsal
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:30 a.m.	Food Bank Distribution
	4:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
	6:00 p.m.	First Saturday Meeting
<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
<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Randy Degenkolb
	12:00 p.m.	Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner and Recognition of Pastor Monroe's Retirement