

KNOW
THAT
THE
LORD
IS GOD.

IT IS HE
WHO MADE US,
AND
WE ARE HIS.

PSALM 100:3, NIV

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; website: www.r-church.com

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

November 26, 2023 ~ 11:00 a.m.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude "Now Thank We All Our God" Arr. Nigel Williams
The Blairsville Brass

Introit "Let All Things Now Living" #22

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

Call to Worship (*Psalm 100*)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

People: Know that the Lord is God.

**It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

**People: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

*Hymn # 721 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

*Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you give beyond measure, bringing forth abundance day by day. We confess our failure to acknowledge your goodness. We confuse our efforts with your providence. We conflate our deeds with your gifts. Forgive our sins. Grow in us thankful hearts, ready to praise your faithfulness. Form in us grateful spirits, quick to trust in your gracious care; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Special Music “Thanksgiving Medley” Arr. Glen Poehlmann

Message “I Can Do It Myself” Pastor Michael Renninger

Special Music “For the Beauty of the Earth” Arr. Robert Coil

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.

Remembering Church Members and Loved Ones

*Hymn # 699 “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Confessional Prayer

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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 # 359

"Give Thanks"

*Benediction

*Postlude

"Prelude To Te Deum"
(Thee, O God, We Praise)

Arr. Jerry Lanning

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

This morning 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.

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 Liturgists, Bonni Dunlap; Elder Leading Communion, Gene Artman; Memorials, Dennis Gould; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; and Usher, Alan Lowman.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of parents, John and Anna Mae Turkovich by Diana Blazek.

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 17th 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.

SOMETHING NEW! Our Congregational Fellowship Committee will offer coffee and cookies before worship each Sunday during Advent. Beginning next Sunday, December 3rd at 10:15 a.m. we will gather in Fellowship Hall and enjoy some cookies, coffee and fellowship before worship. All are welcome!

OUR GRANNIES were able to obtain a sewing machine! Thank you to all those who gave to support them.

THE GRANNIES are accepting silent auction bids for the full size, hand appliqued Dresden Plate pattern quilt at the back of the sanctuary. A recommended starting bid is \$200. Proceeds from the auction will benefit their ministry.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS will be available for you at the back of the sanctuary beginning the First Sunday of Advent, December 3rd. This year's devotional is entitled, "The Light of Grace, Welcoming God's Amazing Gift of Christ" by Michael Hoy. These guides are meant to help you as you move through the season to the coming of the Christ Child.

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.

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. Correspondence can be emailed to the office at upchurch@r-church.com. Messages can also be left on the phone, 724-459-7991.

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.

AN USHER SIGN-UP 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.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to run the audio/visual equipment in the balcony each Sunday morning. Those interested will be trained. Please see Doug Clayton if interested.

A CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CONCERT will be held Monday, December 11th 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.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH will host "The Sounds of the Season" next Sunday, December 3rd. It is a wonderful Christmas music event which they wish to share with the community. The festivities begin at 3:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be available following the performances. If you would like to participate in the evening, call their office at 724-459-6155.

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Worship and Communion
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Monday Music Club Rehearsal
Wednesday	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.	Cantata Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Brass Rehearsal
Sunday		FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	10:15 a.m.	Cookies and Coffee in Fellowship Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Clark Bruner