

# Christmas Eve Worship



**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

A Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2023 ~ 7:00 PM

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 "O Holy Night - Away in a Manger"

Introit "O Come All Ye Faithful"

# 182

Call to Worship (*Luke 2:15-20*)

L: When the angels had left them, the shepherds said,  
"Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing  
that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

P: So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the child lying in the manger.

L: When they saw this, they made known what had been  
told them about this child;

P: And all who heard it were amazed at what  
the shepherds told them.

L: But Mary treasured all these words and pondered  
them in her heart.

P: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God  
for all they had seen and heard.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King!

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Todd and Stacy Faulk

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
Let all their songs employ.

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Special Music

Matthew Cyphert

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*Adam and Eve disobey God's command  
and disrupt the order and goodness of creation*

CAROL

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

# 180

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises that, through Abraham,  
all the peoples of the world will be blessed*

CAROL

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

# 153

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The people who walk in darkness  
receive the promise of the Messiah*

CAROL

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

# 191

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse  
to restore the peace of creation*

CAROL

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

# 190

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

*An angel appears to Mary and announces  
that she will bear a holy child*

CAROL "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" # 185  
SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7

*Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem  
where Mary gives birth to her child*

CAROL "Away in a Manger" # 203  
SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16

*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields  
and announce the birth of the Messiah*

CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High" # 188  
EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-11

*Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah  
and offer gifts to the baby Jesus*

CAROL "We Three Kings of Orient Are" # 233  
NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14

*The Word of God becomes flesh  
and lives among us, full of grace and truth*

CAROL "Joy to the World" # 179  
Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

CAROL "Silent Night! Holy Night!" # 186  
(Congregation will sing once all candles are lit)

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "Sleep Holy Child"

\*\*\*\*\*

(\*All who are able, please stand)  
(Carols will be verse 1 only)

Remember to light candles by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle.

The Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday and will have abbreviated hours Wednesday-Friday next week. Please call before you stop.

Next Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> we welcome the Blairsville Brass to share their musical talents during our worship service. We will also hear the *Real* 12 Days of Christmas. We hope you will join us. All are welcome.

Those who ordered poinsettias are welcome to take them home with you following worship this evening. Thank you for sharing their beauty with us for our Christmas celebration!

