



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"*

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

January 21, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Rick Shoemaker, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude "Be Thou My Vision"

Introit "When Peace Like a River" # 428 vs. 1

When peace like a river attendth my way,

When sorrows like sea billows roll,

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,

"It is well, it is well with my soul."

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Call to Worship

Leader: Silence your scattered thoughts
and lay down your distractions.

God calls us here to worship.

People: We are here to worship.

Leader: Drop your nets and leave your boats.

God is with us. Jesus calls us.

People: We are here to worship.

All: Let us worship God together.

*Hymn # 136 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

*Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in Nineveh. We have gotten comfortable in our categories: haves and have-nots, makers and takers, bigots and bystanders, self-starters and subordinates, law-abiders and illegals, the perpetrators and the innocent. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems

of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Lesson

Luke 10:25-37

Anthem

“Here I Am, Lord”

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 25:35-40

Sermon

“Who Is My Neighbor?”

Donna Kanyan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(The Declaration of Faith)

In forming his people and sending them into the world Jesus called individuals to be disciples. They were to share the joy of his companionship, to understand and obey his teachings, and to follow him in life and death. We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God’s undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God’s demand upon every one of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and supported by our siblings in Christ, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.

*Hymn # 422

“Amazing Grace!”

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

Choral Amen

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Presentation of the Offering

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 109

“O, How I Love Jesus”

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*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 Guest Speaker, Donna Kanyan; Liturgist, Rick Shoemaker; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Ushers, Alan Lowman and Mya Johnson; and Property Manager, Dennis Gould.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Maurice Borbonus by Cindy and family.

WE WELCOME Donna Kanyan to worship this morning. She is a member of the Jacksonville Presbyterian Church and is an elder and serves as Clerk of Session. Donna also ministers as part time organist. She has been preaching in area churches for 12 years and is a Commissioned Pulpit Supply in the Kiskiminetas Presbytery. Please be sure to greet her before you leave.

THE 2023 ECCLESIASTICAL/CORPORATE MEETING will be held next Sunday, January 28th immediately following worship. This meeting is an annual review of the work of the church. We hope you will plan to attend.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS are asked to have year-end reports for the Annual Ecclesiastical/Corporate Meeting to the church office today. The meeting is scheduled for next Sunday. For more information, please contact the church office.

GRANNIES will meet Monday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. There are tasks for everyone. All are welcome.

THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE will meet Monday at 6:30 p.m. Please see Rick Shoemaker for more information.

THE SESSION AND PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

OUR HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Bell Room. Our bell choir is looking for new ringers. If you would like to try ringing a bell, contact Vicky Westley for more information.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We are looking for new voices to join our choir. The only requirement is to enjoy singing. Please see Cindy for more information.

A TRANSITION MEETING will be held Saturday, January 27th beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Elders, deacons, and staff will meet with our moderator. Please be sure to RSVP to the office by Tuesday, January 23rd.

PER CAPITA for 2024 is \$37.40 per member on the active roll. That breaks down to: General Assembly—\$10.00, Synod—\$2.40, and Presbytery—\$25.00. The Session has taken action to withhold all per capita to General Assembly with the exception of contributions given with specific designation to it.

THE WORK OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is some of the most important in the life of the church. Those serving have the responsibility to bring before the congregation the names of members who will potentially serve as elders and deacons. The Nominating Committee will be elected at the January 28th Congregational Meeting. Members of this committee should have:

- * An understanding of the nature, ministry and mission of the church
- * An awareness of the spiritual nature of the offices of elder and deacon
- * A knowledge of the impending challenges before the church
- * A familiarity with the members of the congregation and the potential gifts and abilities they bring to service
- * A spirit of prayer as they approach this work

THE BLAIRSVILLE AREA MINISTERIUM will again offer the community Lenten services and lunches this year. Each Wednesday through the season of Lent, beginning at 12:00 noon, a Lenten service is held followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon. A schedule of dates, places, and pastors are listed.

2/14	Crossroads Church.....	Pastor Harold Hicks
2/21	Hopewell Church	Pastor Susan O'Shaughnessy
2/28	C&MA Church.....	Pastor Bill Hebenthal
3/6	Hebron Lutheran Church	Pastor Fred Craig
3/13	United Presbyterian Church	Father Dino Laude
3/20	Black Lick Methodist.....	Pastor Jim Kendall
3/27	SS Simon & Jude Church	Pastor Jenn Krishart

THE SESSION COMMITTEES FOR 2024

Each year the committees of session seek to have volunteers become active participants. Please review the committees and their responsibilities and consider serving. In this year of transition we need volunteers to be active participants. Please review the list below and consider where you fit in. If you would like more information or have questions, please see an elder or call the church office. Chairs will be determined at the January Session meeting.

Worship – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings

Mission – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries

Christian Education – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education

Finance – Finances, special funds, and annual budget

Stewardship – Stewardship education and programs, challenges the congregation in its faithful use of the many different resources entrusted to our care

Property & Maintenance – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory

Congregational Fellowship – Suppers, picnics, outings, trips, camping

Evangelism – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity

For over one hundred years, Christian churches throughout the northern hemisphere have been gathering to celebrate a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. **Today, the Blairsville Area Association of Churches will be celebrating with a service of Christian Unity.** The Blairsville Area Association of Churches is composed of clergy and lay leaders, serving Jesus Christ while representing Christian churches working together to meet the spiritual, social and physical needs of Blairsville and neighboring communities. **The service will be held at Summit Church in Blairsville at 3:00 p.m.** All believers in Jesus Christ are invited to the service.

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Sunday	10:15 a.m.	Cookies and Coffee in Fellowship Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Donna Kanyan
	3:00 p.m.	Community Unity Service
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Personnel Committee Meeting
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Session and PNC Meeting
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Daisy Troops meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:30 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Transition Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Sunday	10:15 a.m.	Cookies and Coffee in Fellowship Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Mrs. Tammy Noss
	12:00 p.m.	2023 Ecclesiastical/Corporate Meeting