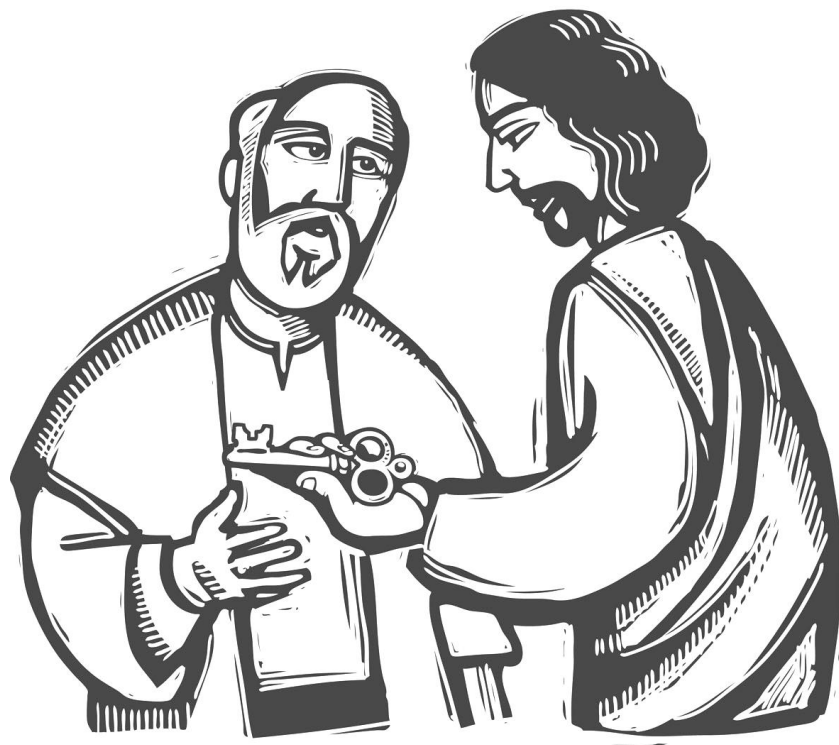


“YOU ARE THE  
MESSIAH,  
THE SON OF THE  
LIVING GOD.”

MATTHEW 16:16, NRSV



**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

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

March 17, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

“Westminster Chimes”

Arr. Douglas E. Wagner

The Handbell Choir – Vicky Westley, Director

Words of Greeting

Dennis Gould, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

Prelude

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Introit (*all sing*)

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

# 123

**Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,**

**O thou of God and man the Son,**

**Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,**

**Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown!**

Call to Worship (*Psalm 51*)

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;

**People: According to your abundant mercy,  
blot out our transgressions.**

Leader: You desire truth in our deepest selves,  
so teach our hearts wisdom.

**People: Let us hear your joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
put new and right spirits within us.

**People: Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us  
to the joy of your salvation. Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn # 95

“Praise Him! Praise Him!”

\*Prayer of Confession

**Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to “me and mine.” Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

**L: Friends, hear the good news! We worship a God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more. Proclaim the good news with me:**

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

**DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

Anthem	“Behold the Lamb”	By D. Rambo
	Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director	
Gospel Lesson		Matthew 16:13-20
Sermon	“Who Do <u>YOU</u> Say that I Am?”	Donna Kanyan

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Affirmation of Faith *(The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 1)*

**L: What is your only comfort in life and in death?**

**P: That we are not our own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to our faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. Because we belong to him, Christ, by the Holy Spirit, assures us of eternal life and makes us wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for God.**

\*Hymn Insert                   “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus”  
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 # 458                   “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

\*Benediction

\*Response                   “God Be with You”                   Arr. Buddy McElroy

\*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, Dennis Gould; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Bell Choir Director, Vicky Westley; Ushers, Mya Johnson and Alan Lowman; Audio/Visual Techs, John Bruner and Brylea Borbonus; and Property Manager, Terry Brown.

WE WELCOME Donna Kanyan back to our pulpit this morning. Please be sure to greet her before you leave.

THE FLOWERS in worship are given to the glory of God and in honor of my granddaughter, Molly by Jill Wolford.

THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE will give an update during worship today. The committee of nine members include: Chris Antis, Mary Anzelone, Tricia Baker, Zack Barto, Mark Borbonus, Bonni Dunlap, Todd Faulk, Pam Irwin, and Rick Shoemaker. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they are diligent in their search for our new pastor.

THE DEACONS will check blood pressures today following the worship service. Please see Susie Cotti.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS will be oriented Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. If you volunteered to help out in the office, please be sure to attend the orientation on Tuesday.

THE SESSION will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Packets for the meeting are available to pick up in the parlor.

OUR HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Bell Room. We are 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.

TODAY is the last day to let us know if you will be attending the Easter Breakfast and also to order Easter flowers. Please use the bulletin inserts.

### THE COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHEONS

Please see the schedule below. Each Wednesday through the season of Lent, beginning at 12:00 noon, a Lenten service is held followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon.

3/20 ..... Black Lick Methodist.....Pastor Jim Kendall

3/27 ..... SS Simon & Jude Church ..... Pastor Jenn Krishart

3/29 ..... Blairsville Methodist Church ..... Pastor Mark Ferlin

Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS is something new this year sponsored by the Blairsville Area Association of Churches (ministerium). On Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, a trek will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the gazebo carrying the cross to 14 locations in the community. A stop will be made at each location for prayer, scripture, and reflection. Our church will be one of the 14 locations. The public is invited to join the group of ministers and lay leaders as they make the two-mile trek. This will be an outdoor event so please dress appropriately.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING will be received next week, Palm Sunday during worship.

### OUR HANDBELL CHOIR

Vicky Westley, Director

- Ringers -

Bill Westley

John Kerin

David Kerin

Karen Kerin

Cindy Borbonus

Dianna Messenger

Bonni Dunlap

Carter Schaffer

Brylea Borbonus

### **DATES TO REMEMBER** for The Season of Lent and Easter

#### **Wednesdays**

Community Lenten Lunches, 12:00 pm

#### **Sunday, March 24**

Palm Sunday Worship with Donna Yarnal, 11:00 am

#### **Good Friday, March 29**

Stations of the Cross, 9:00 am at the gazebo

Community Worship

Blairsville Methodist Church, 7:00 pm

#### **Easter Day, March 31**

Easter Breakfast, 9:30 am

Easter Day Worship & Communion

with Rev. Dr. Don Wilson, 11:00 am

Special Music by The Blairsville Brass

## THE SESSION COMMITTEES FOR 2024

In this year of transition we need volunteers to be active participants in the committees of session. 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 were determined at the January Session meeting and are listed.

**Worship** – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings;  
*co-chairs: Jean Heberling and Doug Clayton*

**Mission** – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries; *chair: Gene Artman*

**Christian Education** – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education; *co-chairs: Jim Antis and Gene Artman*

**Finance** – Finances, special funds, and annual budget; *chair: Rick Shoemaker*

**Stewardship** – Stewardship education and programs, challenges the congregation in its faithful use of the many different resources entrusted to our care; *co-chairs: Bonni Dunlap and Todd Faulk*

**Property & Maintenance** – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory; *chair: Terry Brown*

**Congregational Fellowship** – Suppers, picnics, outings, trips, camping;  
*chair: tbd*

**Evangelism** – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity; *chair: Kim McKinney*

### REGULAR SCHEDULE:

**Sunday**            10:15 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship

                         11:00 a.m. Worship with Donna Kanyan

                         12:00 p.m. Blood Pressure Checks

**Monday**            6:00 p.m. Monday Music Club meets in  
   Fellowship Hall

                         6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday**            9:30 a.m. Office Volunteers Orientation

                         6:30 p.m. Session Meeting

**Wednesday**    12:00 p.m. Community Lenten Luncheon

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

**Palm Sunday**

10:15 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship

11:00 a.m. Worship with Donna Yarnal

*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*