



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"*

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

March 3, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Mary Anzelone, 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

“My Tribute”

By Crouch

Introit (*all sing*)

“Sanctuary”

482

Call to Worship (*Psalm 19*)

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

**People: The decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple.**

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

People: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

Leader: The ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

**People: They are more desirable than gold
and sweeter than honey.**

Let us worship God!

*Hymn # 111 “When Morning Gilds the Sky”

*Prayer of Confession

God of righteousness, we confess that we have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of unjust practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for

condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Hear these words from the Apostle Paul.....

The grace of Christ is sufficient for us.

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 20:1-17

Anthem

“Thy Will Be Done”

By Eilers

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lessons

John 1:22-25; 1 Corinthians

Sermon

“Which Bible?”

Sharon Nelmes

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(The Confession of 1967)

God’s redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes our natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. God wills that God’s purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ, and all evil be banished from God’s creation. Already God’s reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

*Hymn # 481 “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”
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 # 461 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”
*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, Sharon Nelmes; Liturgist, Mary Anzelone; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Ushers, Gene and Chery Artman; Audio/Visual Techs, Karen and John Kerin; and Property Manager, Gene Artman.

WE WELCOME Sharon Nelmes to lead our worship service this morning. Sharon is a resident of the Saltsburg area and is commissioned to supply the pulpit in our Presbytery. Please be sure to greet her before you leave.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in honor of Cindy’s birthday by Mark, Lynnette and family.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will gather for a meeting Tuesday at 6:00 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.

COMMUNITY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS are available to you at the back of the sanctuary. The booklets include a Daily Lenten Reflection for each day through Lent and concludes on Easter Day. We would like to thank those from our church who participated by writing a devotion and providing artwork. We hope you pick one up and use it through the season.

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.

3/6	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
3/29	Blairsville Methodist Church	Pastor Mark Ferlin

Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

COOKIES AND BEVERAGES are offered at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday before worship. We are looking for cookie bakers to provide cookies for future Sundays. If you would like to help, please see Joan Moran.

THE DEACONS are offering the congregation the opportunity to order Easter flowers. Please use the bulletin insert to place your order and note your dedication for the bulletin.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING will be received Palm Sunday during worship. These gifts will share God's love with neighbors around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. If you choose, giving calendars and banks are available at the back of the sanctuary to collect your gifts.

THE 67TH ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST sponsored by the YMCA of Indiana County will be held March 29th at 7:00 a.m. at their facility. Tickets are \$20 per person thru March 15th and \$25 per person from March 16th – 29th.

WEEKLY UPDATE:

- *Cookies and coffee will be available in the Fellowship Hall before church, beginning at 10:15 a.m.
- *Don't forget the Lenten Luncheons on Wednesdays at noon; Hebron Lutheran will host the March 6th luncheon and Pastor Fred Craig will provide the message.
- *Looking further ahead, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received on Palm Sunday during worship. Pick up a calendar and collection bank in the back of the church.
- *Session will be meeting with any person interested in joining the church on March 19th at 6:30 p.m. If you know of anyone interested in joining, please have them contact Bonni at 724-388-1520.
- *Also on March 19th at 9:30 a.m. is a volunteer orientation for church office helpers. Please contact the church office to sign up.
- *The Pastor Nominating Committee has received applications and is busy screening and setting up interviews of candidates. They continue to meet at least weekly; please pray for this committee in their search for our new pastor!
- *We continue to find unlocked doors to our church; if you are responsible for a group meeting in the church, please ensure that the lights are off and the doors are locked when you leave!!

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*

WE ARE PLANNING an Easter Breakfast. Please use the bulletin insert to let us know if you plan to attend and consider lending a hand. Any questions can be directed to Doug or Andrea Clayton.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS next weekend. Remember to change your clocks!

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

- Sunday** 11:00 a.m. Worship with Sharon Nelmes
- Monday** 6:30 p.m. Monday Music Club
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday** 6:00 p.m. Board of Deacons Meeting
- Wednesday** 12:00 p.m. Community Lenten Luncheon
6:00 p.m. Historical Society Meeting
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
- Sunday** 10:15 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship
11:00 a.m. Worship with Mr. Graham Smith
Daylight Saving Time Begins