

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is
steadfast love,
and with him is
**plentiful
redemption.**

PSALM 130:7, ESV



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

May 5, 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

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Arr. Hayes

Introit (*all sing*)

“This Is My Father’s World”

21

This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears

All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas –

his hand the wonders wrought.

Call to Worship

Leader: We come to join with all the earth in praise:

People: To sing a new song to the Lord,

who has done marvelous things,

who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: We praise the Lord with joyful noises

joining the symphony of the earth:

People: The roar of the ocean, the call of the birds,

the wind across the hills,

people in every corner of the globe.

Leader: On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

People: We greet you with joy, our living God!

*Hymn # 440

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

*Prayer of Confession

Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Hear the good news! The only one who could judge us calls us friends.

P: Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

L: By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem

“It’s Beginning to Rain”

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson

Galatians 4:1-7

Sermon

“Redemption Through the Incarnation”

Graham Smith

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith *(from the Belhar Confession)*

L: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

P: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.

L: We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another.

P: We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

*Hymn # 436

"Grace Alone"

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 # 414

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives!"

*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, Graham Smith; Liturgist, Mary Anzelone; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Ushers, Mya Johnson and Alan Lowman; Audio/Visual Techs, Kristi and Olivia Eckenroad; and Property Manager, Dennis Gould.

GRAHAM SMITH returns to our pulpit this morning. We welcome Graham back and thank him for sharing a message with us. Please be sure to greet him before you leave.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will gather Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for their monthly meeting.

BIBLE STUDY will meet Wednesday morning in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. Gene Artman and Bill Lint are leading the study. Please see Gene for more information.

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 handbell before committing to the choir, 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.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet in the parlor Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship. All are welcome.

We will celebrate the sacrament of holy communion Pentecost Sunday, May 19th during worship.

THE MONDAY MUSIC CLUB will present their Spring Program, "Celebrating 100 Years Through Music" Monday at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Doors will be open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for the evening are \$10. Proceeds from the evening will support the club's scholarship fund.

WE ARE LOOKING for the names of upcoming graduates from high school or schools of higher learning. It has been our tradition to recognize the accomplishments of our young people during a worship service. Please submit names of graduates to the church office. More information to follow.

THE DEACONS may plan a CPR training class. They would like to know how many would be interested in attending before plans are made. If you are interested in being a part of a CPR training, please contact Susie Cotti or the church office. Once we see how many may be interested, additional information will be made available.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS would like to begin monthly collections for their pantry. During the month of May, we are receiving baby items: diapers, baby wipes and baby food. A container is located at the back of the sanctuary to place your items.

NEXT SUNDAY we will receive a Blanket Offering for Church World Service. They are able to provide blankets at \$10 each, and distribute them to those hurting and in need due to disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR will take a break for the summer months. Beginning in June, we will host guest musicians and have Special Music during worship. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical talent for our worship service, please see Cindy Borbonus or contact the church office.

OUR SUMMER SCHEDULE begins Sunday, June 2nd. The worship hour will begin at 10:00 a.m. throughout the summer months. Our choirs will be in recess. Following Labor Day, our Regular Schedule will resume. Mark your calendars.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT VOLUNTEERS

- * Volunteers are needed to run the audio/visual equipment in the balcony each Sunday morning. Those interested will be trained. Please see Jean Heberling or Doug Clayton if interested.
- * Volunteers are needed to usher. An usher signup 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.
- * If you would like to help during the worship service as a liturgist, volunteers are needed. As a liturgist you will lead the order of worship from the pulpit with the aid of a liturgist guide. A liturgist guide and a copy of the bulletin will be sent to you ahead of Sunday for your preparation. Please contact Elaine Jellison if you are considering helping as a liturgist.

LOOKING AHEAD

Guest speakers scheduled for May and June are listed below.

| | | |
|------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 11:00 a.m. | May 5 | Graham Smith |
| Regular | May 12..... | Randy Stear |
| Schedule | May 19..... | Donna Yarnal |
| | May 26..... | Rev. Dr. Donald Wilson |
| 10:00 a.m. | June 2..... | Rev. Ray Lyons |
| Summer | June 9..... | Faith Stories |
| Schedule | June 16 | Donna Yarnal |
| | June 23 | to be confirmed |
| | June 30 | Donna Kanyan |

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

| | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 10:15 a.m. | Refreshment and Fellowship |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Graham Smith |
| Monday | 7:00 p.m. | Monday Music Club Spring Program |
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. | Board of Deacon Meeting |
| Wednesday | 10:00 a.m. | Bible Study in Fellowship Hall |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Daisy Troop meets 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 |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Girl Scout Leader Meeting in Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday | 10:15 a.m. | Refreshment and Fellowship |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Randy Stear <i>Mother's Day – Blanket Offering</i> |

FIND US ONLINE AT:

Our Website—www.r-church.com

Facebook page—The United Presbyterian Church of Blairsville

Instagram—[presbyterianblairsville](https://www.instagram.com/presbyterianblairsville)

Youtube—[@theunitedpresbyterianchurc7667](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7667)

Each Sunday our worship service is **live streamed**. Access is available through our facebook page or our Youtube channel. Previous services can be watched from our Youtube channel.

Our online giving portal is now active!! Use the QR code below to access the portal link. Open your phone's camera and hover over the box below. A link will appear. Touch the link and it will take you to the online portal. Follow the online instructions. It's that simple. Pew cards are now available including the QR code.

