



Those who eat my flesh and
drink my blood abide in me,
and I in them.

JOHN 6:56, 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"*

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

August 18, 2024 ~ 10:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Pam Irwin, Liturgist

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

“I Believe In Miracles”

By Peterson

Organ and Piano Duet

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 111:1-4*)

Leader: Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the congregation.

**People: Great are the works of the Lord
studied by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**People: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds,
The Lord is gracious and merciful.**

*Hymn # 87 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and sent his Spirit to be with us always. We confess that we have not trusted in the truth of that Spirit to enliven our hearts, to set us in the ways of justice, and to free us from fear. We have turned away from the gift of Christ’s presence. Forgive us, and turn our hearts back to you, that we may be your faithful and loving people, walking in the footsteps of the One who came to transform the world.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson	I Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
Special Sign-a-Song	Abigail Bruner
New Testament Lessons	Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58
Sermon	“Question or Command” Clark Bruner

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Special Sign-a-Song Abigail Bruner

*Affirmation of Faith *(from the Confession of 1967)*

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all. The risen Christ is the Savior of all humanity. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which begins with the apostles and continues through all generations. God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinners. The power of God’s love to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

*Hymn # 568 “People Need the Lord”

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

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Presentation of the Offering

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 66 "To God Be the Glory"

*Benediction

*Postlude

*(*All who are able, please stand)*

(Worship helps written by Barbara Chaapel and provided by the Presbyterian Outlook)

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, Clark Bruner; Special Music, Abigail Bruner; Liturgist, Pam Irwin; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Ushers, Mya Johnson and Alan Lowman; Audio/Visual Techs, Karen and John Kerin; and Property Manager, Terry Brown.

WE WELCOME Clark Bruner back to our pulpit this morning and are thankful for his message. Clark, Connie and their family are a part of our church family. Our special music is provided by their daughter, Abigail who will sign-a-song. Please be sure to greet them before you leave today.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in celebration of our 65th wedding anniversary by Lee and Bunny Ednie.

THE ELDERS will gather for a Session Meeting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Packets for the meeting are available to pick up in the parlor.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship.

THE DEACON'S KIDS CLOSET was blessed to receive a truckload of clothing from Christopher's Light, a non-profit organization located in Saltsburg. The closet is available to families in the River Valley School District. If you know of a family in need, ask them to call the church office to schedule an appointment. Donations for the Kids Closet of sizes from newborn to young adult will be received ongoing. Please reach out to the deacons if you have any questions. Share the news!

OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE begins Sunday, September 8th. The worship hour will begin at 11:00 a.m. and our Chancel Choir will be back in worship with us. Our plans for Christian Education opportunities continue to be discussed.

DURING the month of August, the Deacons will be collecting paper products for the Alice Paul House. The Deacons have supported this mission for women (and their children) of domestic abuse for many years. Items needed include: paper towels, toilet paper, baby wipes, hand wipes and cleaning wipes. Please leave your donations in the Deacon's box in the back of the sanctuary.

THE PRAYER CHAIN is coordinated by members of the Adult Sunday School Class. If you have a prayer request or know of someone's need for prayer, please contact Linda George or the church office at 724-459-7991. Communication is important during this time of transition to a new pastor. Please do not hesitate to call with your prayer needs.

IF YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE, articles to be published in the September edition of the UPLIFT newsletter are due to the church office this week. Please call if you need more information, 724-459-7991.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR will begin Wednesday rehearsals on September 4th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We would love to have new voices join the choir! Many of our seasoned members will not be with us this fall. If you are interested in singing with the choir, please see Cindy Borbonus. The only requirement is to enjoy making a joyful noise unto the Lord. All are welcome!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS are asked to check their mailboxes in the hallway by the office.

CHRISTMAS is right around the corner and as a reminder, Keepsake Ornaments of the church from Wendall August Forge are available to purchase at a cost of \$12.00 each. Checks can be made payable to the church. They make wonderful gifts. Please see Linda George or call the church office.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who setup, cleaned up, volunteered at our table or visited us at the Knotweed Festival last weekend. It was a wonderful day and we met a lot of nice people. Winners of the 2024 Knotweed Festival Bible Giveaway are:

The Beginner's Bible: Timeless Children's Stories: **Aeryn Cassett, Blsv.**

The Action Bible: God's Redemptive Story: **Drew Thompson, Blsv.**

Bible for Teens, Thinline Edition: **Braiden Milliron, Blsv.**

New Believer's Bible NLT: 1st Steps for New Christians: **Ashley Cassett**

Holy Bible: **Pauline Alexander, Blsv.**

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary: **Pam DeCalo, Homer City**

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible: **Darlene Hamp, Blsv.**

A SECOND MOVIE NIGHT will be held in Fellowship Hall Saturday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. The movie will be "Samson" from Sight & Sound Theatre. Popcorn and drinks will be served. A basket for donations will be available for those who wish to donate to defray expenses. Plan now to come and enjoy!

MISSION MOMENT - Presbytery of Utah builds connections with youth across the state

“Youth Director Finds Innovative Ways to Connect Young People From Small and Larger Churches”

There are 20 churches connected with the Presbytery of Utah across the state. In an effort to build connections with youth from the various churches, the presbytery created a ministry role to make that happen. Check out this video on an innovative way of reaching youth from the Presbytery of Utah. <https://vimeo.com/971065240>

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ONLINE GIVING

