

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" Rev. John Manon 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 Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024 – 11:00 PM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

"Away in a Manger-O Holy Night" arr. Berry/Bennett Organ, Pam Lewis – Piano, Cindy Borbonus

Video Introduction

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Rick Shoemaker, Liturgist Jeff and Pam Lewis

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Call to Worship

Leader:	Sing to God a ne	w song. Sing to	God, all the earth.

- People: Sing to the Lord. Tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Leader: Declare his glory among the nations and his marvelous works among his people.
- People: Glory and honor are before Him. Strength and majesty are in his sanctuary.
- Leader: Let the heavens be glad and earth rejoice.
- People: For to us a child is born, who is Christ the Lord.

*Hymn # 182 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*Prayer of Confession

God of grace and glory, illumine our lives this night. Too often we lose sight of your guiding star. Too often we forget the truth of peace, hope, joy and love born this wonderful night. We pray for the forgiveness of all our sins. Shower us in your glorious light; inspire us to live lives of love and joy. We praise you for the amazing gift of Jesus. AMEN.

*Assurance of Forgiveness *Gloria Patri *Sharing of the Peace Handbell Trio

"Away In a Manger"

Arr. Linda R. Lamb

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading Special Music Christmas Message Luke 2:1-20 Matthew Cyphert

"Just What We Need" Rev. John Manon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. I believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh, yet full of grace and truth. I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of God, that is for the happiness of all people. AMEN.

*Hymn # 229

"The First Noel"

vs. 1-3

MINISTRY OF GIVING IN RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Presentation of the Offering *Doxology *Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please hold the cup until all have received. We will partake together.) *Candlelight/ Holy Light

(Congregation will sing once all candles are lit) "Joy to the World" "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

*Benediction *Postlude

- This evening we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Anyone who professes faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is invited to receive and share the sacrament.
- Remember to light candles by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle.
- The Worship Assistants for this evening's service are: Liturgist, Rick Shoemaker; Special Music, Matthew Cyphert; Handbell Trio, Bill and Vicky Westley and Amy Yackuboskey; Organist, Pam Lewis; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Advent Readers, Jeff and Pam Lewis.
- **The Office** will be closed Tuesday thru Friday and will have abbreviated hours Monday thru Wednesday of next week. Please call before you stop.