



“He who
is mightier
than I
is coming

He will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit
and fire.”

Luke 3:16, 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”*

Rev. John Manon

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

January 12, 2025 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Mary Anzelone, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Opening Prayer

Response of Praise

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary, O for you.

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

"Tears will Never Stain"

Arr. Mercer

Call to Worship

Leader: God has gathered us to this place.

People: Here we discover what the kingdom of God is like.

Leader: God summons us to this place.

**People: We learn how to serve God
without reservation or hesitation.**

Leader: God will send us from this place.

People: To tell of his hope and divine light.

*Hymn # 31 "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we acknowledge that we have sinned against you in countless ways. We have been guilty of pride, unbelief, lack of love and in ways that you alone know of. Deliver us from every evil habit, from every interest in former sins, from anything that dims

the brightness of your grace, that we may be free and forgiven. In Jesus' name. AMEN.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

Young Disciples

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

Anthem

“Let the Song Begin on Earth”

Arr. Yarbrough

The Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon

“Behold the Beloved Son”

Rev. John Tirpak

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

I worship God with all my heart. I praise him with all my strength.

I seek Christ in all my days. I follow in all his ways.

God alone I long to worship. He alone is worthy of my praise.

*Hymn # 94

“Shout to the Lord”

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

Choral Amen

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

“Victory in Jesus”

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

66 vs. 1

**To God be the glory, great things he hath done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.**

*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, Rev. John Tirpak; Liturgist, Mary Anzelone; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Lewis; Audio/Visual, Brylea Borbonus and John Bruner; and Property Manager, Bob Cosharek.

ACTIVITY BAGS have been prepared for our Young Disciples. Children are invited to pick one up on their way into worship. At the end of the service, please return your bag to the back of the sanctuary so it can be prepared for the following week.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS will be done after worship today. Please see Susie Cotti to have yours checked.

GRANNIES will meet Monday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in the Granny Room. There are tasks for everyone. All are welcome.

THE BLAIRSVILLE AREA MINISTERIUM will meet Monday at 11:00 a.m. at SS Simon & Jude Church.

THE FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION will be held Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. till noon from Fellowship Hall. Those signing up for the first time should bring proof of residence within the Blairsville Borough.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will gather Tuesday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This will be the first meeting with the new deacons. It will also be an organizational meeting.

BIBLE STUDY will meet Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Pastor John leads the groups in a study of the book of Hebrews. ZOOM access is available to those who would like to participate from home. Please call the church office for more information.

OUR HANDBELL CHOIR will rehearse 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. The Chancel Choir is also looking for new members. The only requirement is to enjoy singing. Please see Cindy for more information.

THE STITCHING GROUP meets Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. in the church parlor. If you enjoy needle work and would like some fellowship as you stitch, you are welcome. Bring a project you're working on and plan to stay until about 4:00 p.m.

CALLING ALL MEN! A Men's Breakfast is planned for the third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at Dean's Diner. January 18th will be the first gathering. All men are invited.

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE will meet briefly after worship next Sunday, January 19th in the parlor. If you are interested in serving on the Worship Committee, please plan to attend.

NEXT SUNDAY we will include a Minute for Mission during the service. We welcome Carole Reed, Network Director of Family Promise of Indiana County as our guest. She will share information about Family Promise and their mission.

THE DEACONS are planning a CPR Training Class for the new year. If you are interested in attending, please see Susie Cotti or call the church office. A date and time will be set once we see how many are interested.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, January 26th immediately following worship. This meeting is an annual review of the work of the church. Committee chairs and treasurers are asked to have year-end reports to the church office by Sunday, January 19th. If you need further information for your report, please call the church office 724-459-7991.

THE WORK OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is some of the most important in the life of the church. Those serving have the responsibility to bring before the congregation the names of members who will potentially serve as elders and deacons. The Nominating Committee will be elected at the January 26th Congregational Meeting. Members of this committee should have: an understanding of the nature, ministry and mission of the church; an awareness of the spiritual nature of the offices of elder and deacon; a knowledge of the impending challenges before the church; a familiarity with the members of the congregation and the potential gifts and abilities they bring to service; a spirit of prayer as they approach this work.

THE UPLIFT NEWSLETTER is now coming to you by email. A few hard copies are available at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to receive the email newsletter, please contact the church office with your email address or send it to the office email at upchurch@r-church.com.

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.

A COMMUNITY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL for 2025 is planned. If you feel led to share a devotion, please contact the church office. Devotions can be sent to, upchurch@r-church.com or drop off a hard copy by Sunday, February 2nd.

Monday, April 7—reserved

Tuesday, April 8—Psalm 20; Judges 9:7-15; 1 John 2:18-28

Wednesday, April 9—Psalm 20; Habakkuk 3:2-15; Luke 18:31-34

EACH YEAR the committees of session seek to have volunteers become active participants. Please review the committees and their responsibilities and consider serving. In this year of change, we need volunteers to be active participants. If you would like more information or have questions, please see Pastor John, an elder or call the church office. Chairs will be determined at the January Session meeting.

Worship – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings

Mission – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries

Christian Education – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education

Finance – Finances, special funds, and annual budget

Stewardship – Stewardship education and programs, challenges the congregation in its faithful use of the many different resources entrusted to our care

Property & Maintenance – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory

Congregational Fellowship – Suppers, picnics, outings, trips, camping

Evangelism – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Rev. John Tirpak
	12:00 p.m.	Blood Pressure Checks
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Grannies
	11:00 a.m.	Blairsville Ministerium Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	10:30 a.m.	Food Bank Distribution
	6:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Otter Creek Brass Rehearsal
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast at Dean's Diner
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship and Minute for Mission
	12:00 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting in the parlor
	3:00 p.m.	Community Christian Unity Service at Second Baptist Church

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ONLINE GIVING