



The true light, which enlightens  
everyone, was coming into the world.

J o h n 1 : 9

**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](mailto:upchurch@r-church.com); website: [www.r-church.com](http://www.r-church.com)

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

January 5, 2025 ~ 11:00 AM

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

Words of Greeting

Todd Faulk, 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

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Arr. Innes

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

**People: We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: Let us lift our voices to the Lord.

**People: We will sing his praises forever and ever.**

\*Hymn # 405 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we freely admit the many ways we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. By faith, we seek your forgiveness. Restore us to wholeness, that we may better serve you and others in this world. AMEN.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

\*Sharing of the Peace

Young Disciples

## DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 148

Anthem

“Let the Song Begin on Earth”

Arr. Yarbrough

The Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-9

Sermon

“Light of the World”

Rev. John Manon

## 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 # 569 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

\*Hymn # 581 “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

\*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)*

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This morning 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.

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 Liturgist, Todd Faulk; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Lewis; Audio/Visual, Kristi Eckenroad and Doug Clayton; Ushers, Mya Johnson and Alan Lowman; and Property Manager, Terry Brown.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in honor of Maura-Reese Borbonus for her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday by dad, mom and Kaylynn.

WE REJOICE this morning as John Clark Bruner is ordained and installed with Erica Ash and Chris Antis to the Diaconal Class of 2027. We thank Linda Neal and Brylea Borbonus for their faithful service.

WE REJOICE this morning as Mark Borbonus is ordained and installed with Jim Antis, Terry Brown and Jean Heberling to the Sessional Class of 2027 and Tricia Baker is ordained and installed to the Sessional Class of 2026. We thank Mel Woodring for his faithful service.

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.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will gather Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Deacons are asked to consider the committee where they would like to serve.

BIBLE STUDY will resume. A morning study is held Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and an evening study is held Thursdays 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.

WE WILL host a Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

A PRESBYTERY MEETING will be held Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Appleby Manor Presbyterian Church. Elder, Todd Faulk will attend as commissioner with Pastor John.

A COMMUNITY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL for 2025 is planned. Submissions are to be 420 words, list the biblical reference from one of the listed lectionary texts or a text of the writer's choice citing the version of the Bible used, followed by the devotional and a two-sentence prayer. Giving your name is optional but appreciated. If you feel led to share a devotion, please contact the church office and let us know of your willingness and which day you choose. Send devotions to the church office email, [upchurch@r-church.com](mailto:upchurch@r-church.com) or drop off a hard copy by Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you have questions, please call the office.

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

THE 2025 FLOWER CHART is hanging in the hallway by the office. Flowers will continue to be provided by Betsy Steeves and will cost \$20 per arrangement. Please take time to sign up for your choice of dates.

THE DEACON'S KIDS CLOSET is available to families in the River Valley School District and Blairsville area. 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 are always welcomed.

THE DEACONS are collecting unused greeting cards and luggage for the patients at Torrance State Hospital. Please set any donations at the back of the sanctuary.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup>.

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.

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

## COMING IN 2025

- ❖ Communion will be offered the first Sunday of each month. The traditional method of passing trays of bread and cup will be utilized.
- ❖ The offering will be received each week by passing the plates among the pews.
- ❖ Children's Sunday School will begin as early in January as possible once teachers are secured.
- ❖ Beginning in 2025, a Minute for Mission will be shared during worship the third Sunday of each month.
- ❖ Men's Breakfast will be the third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at Dean's Diner. January 18<sup>th</sup> will be the first. All men are invited.

## REGULAR SCHEDULE:

<b>Sunday</b>	9:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship and Communion Ordination and Installation of Officers
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Daisy Troop
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Otter Creek Brass Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Leader Meeting
<b>Friday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Presbytery Meeting at Appleby Manor Presbyterian Church
<b>Sunday</b>	10:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship