"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem ...



and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8, 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"

Rev. John Manon

137 N. Walnut Street ~ Blairsville, PA 15717-1349 Church office 724-459-7991

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE February 2, 2025 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Rick Shoemaker, Liturgist

Leader:

The love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People:

And also with you.

Opening Prayer

Response of Praise

This is the day, this is the day, That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made, We will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it.

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

"Ivory Palaces"

Arr. Hustad/Smith

Call to Worship

Leader:

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

People: We serve the Lord with great joy!

Leader:

Come into God's presence, singing from the heart!

People: Full of praise, we offer ourselves in worship.

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Merciful God, we come before you now, admitting the many ways we have sinned against you and your word. We pray for your mercy and forgiveness. Cleanse us and restore us by the blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. AMEN.

^{*}Hymn # 61

^{*}Call to Confession

^{*}Prayer of Confession

^{*}Assurance of Forgiveness

- *Gloria Patri
- *Sharing of the Peace

Young Disciples

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Lesson Acts 1:1-5

Anthem "This Is Love" Arr. R. Kevin Boesiger

The Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Scripture Lesson Acts 1:6-8

Sermon "Who Is the Holy Spirit?" Rev. John Manon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith (from the Nicene Creed)

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeded from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified. AMEN.

*Hymn # 461 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

*Hymn # 481

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

*Benediction

*Postlude

(*All who are able, please stand)

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, Rick Shoemaker; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Lewis; Audio/Visual, Kristi Eckenroad and Doug Clayton; Ushers, Todd and Stacy Faulk, Mya Johnson and Alan Lowman; and Property Manager, Gene Artman.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in honor of Mark Borbonus for his birthday by Lynnette, Maura-Reese and Kaylynn.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS will be offered following worship today. If you would like your numbers checked, please see Susie Cotti.

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

BIBLE STUDY will meet Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. 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 to join the group. Bring a project you're working on and plan to stay until about 4:00 p.m.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING was held last Sunday. If you were unable to attend, extra reports from the meeting are available to you at the back of the sanctuary.

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.

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.

OUR DEACONS are collecting toiletries and cleaning supplies for the people in the Carolinas and Tennessee, who are still impacted from hurricane Helene. The collection box will be placed in back of the church during the month of February. Because there are victims living in tents, various types of heaters are needed also. If anyone wishes to make a monetary donation, make checks payable to Helping Hands of Haywood and submit it to Pam Lewis or Pastor John. Your gift is tax deductible as Helping Hands is a registered 501(c)(3) charity.

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 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.

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 8TH ANNUAL TROOP 4 Soup and Chili Cookoff will be held Sunday, February 16th in Fellowship Hall from 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person ages 6 years and up. Price includes all samples, bread, drink and dessert. Make plans to join the boy scouts for another lunch of warm soups and chili. Proceeds benefit the troop's expenses throughout the year.

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 newsletter, please contact the church office with your email address or send it to the office email at upchurch@r-church.com.

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Blood Pressure Checks
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Meeting
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Deacon 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
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Saturday	12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

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 or a committee chair.

Worship – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings, *co-chairs - Jean Heberling and Doug Clayton*

Mission – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries, *co-chairs - Gene Artman and Mark Borbonus*

Christian Education – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education, *co-chairs - Jim Antis and Gene Artman*

Finance – Finances, special funds, and annual budget, *chair - Rick Shoemaker*

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

Property & Maintenance – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory, *chair - Terry Brown*

Evangelism – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity, *chair - Kim McKinney*

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