

new Code Blue Program (overnight temporary shelter for homeless when temperatures are 32 degrees and below). The Town of Bloomsburg has passed a resolution that approves a Code Blue program for our community. Code Blue will allow AGAPE to provide shelter for those who are homeless in the evenings from November through March when the temperatures are at 32 degrees and below plus snow etc. To implement this program AGAPE is asking churches and individual volunteers to man the desks during its Code Blue hours. We have to man about 5 months.

Volunteers are needed from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday of each day that is declared a Code Blue. The time period for needed help is divided into three (3) four (4) hour shifts or as many shifts desired by the volunteer. We are requesting two (2) individuals per shift to be present at the Code Blue Center during these hours.

An Orientation/Informational meeting will be held at the AGAPE Center 851 Railroad Street, Bloomsburg, PA at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. **November 8, 2024**. For more information call: 570-317-2210 or email: execassistant@agape-pa.org. Please leave your name and phone number .

Your commitment to helping those in need during these challenging conditions is greatly appreciated. Together, we can make a difference and provide comfort to those facing the harsh realities of homelessness.

Worship Participants:
Sally Dries, Guest Pastor
Jim Ross, Worship Assistant
Alison Hause, Greeter
Jennifer White, Organist
Leland Dietterick, Technical Director



The First Presbyterian Church



Ruth

FOR WHERE YOU GO, I WILL GO

RUTH 1:16

Berwick, PA

The Order of Worship Sunday November 3, 2024

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Berwick! We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. If you are visiting for the first time today, we invite you to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or scan the QR code to fill it out digitally. Throughout the service, the People make the responses in **bold** print.



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Shall We Gather at the River *arr. by Gordon Young*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Come, people of God. Let us gather together this day!

People We gather to feel God's presence here in this place. We gather to know God's love in our hearts.

Leader Let us open ourselves to the nudging of God.

People Let us breathe deeply of God's Spirit.

Leader Remember God made flesh;

People Jesus, who taught us a new way of being in this world.

Leader Come, let us worship God together!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #460 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

¹ Holy God, we praise Your Name;
Lord of all, we bow before You;
All on earth Your scepter claim,
All in heaven above adore You.
Infinite Your vast domain,
Everlasting is Your reign.

² Hark, the loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

³ All apostles join the strain
As Your sacred name they hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain,

HANGING THE GREENS

We will be meeting **Saturday November 30th** to prepare the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

IN THE PULPIT

November 3 Sally Dries

November 10 Nancy Hardy

November 17 Steve Engelhardt

November 24 John Polhill

BIRTHDAYS

Wade Casaldi

Emma Botto

Celebrate their birthday this week!

Happy Birthday!

COMMUNION

November 24

December 24

PRAYER LIST

Matthew Boggs

Wade Casaldi and family

DAngelo family

Bob Feick Family

Matt Gabel

Wilhelmina Hoover

Tom & Barb Huntington

Kishbaugh family

Joann Magners

Paul Moskaluk

Tammy Platukis

Alison Powlus

Nancy Raber

Lauren Sadock

Jason Seltzer

Clio Strausser

Martha Yost

AGAPE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

OUR NEW TEMPORARY WINTER HOMELESS PROGRAM

AGAPE requests churches and individual volunteers to help for its

Announcements

“In November, the magic of the holidays is just beginning!”

THANK YOU!

This morning we welcome back Sally Dries to the pulpit. Welcome back Sally and thank you for leading us in worship this morning!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Don't forget, men's breakfast is held **EVERY Wednesday** at 7:30am downstairs in the kitchen. All men are welcome to attend, fill up on hot cooked grub, join in fellowship and do whatever it is that men do.

HARVEST HOME

Thank you to the Deacons for their beautiful Harvest Home display this morning! It is always a welcome feast for the eyes each year!

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

At the October 15, 2024 meeting the Session voted to make a contribution on behalf of the Congregation of \$1,000 to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund to be used for victims of hurricanes Helene and Milton. Anyone willing to help offset this contribution from the church treasury can do so by including an extra amount in the offering envelop, writing the amount on the outside and designating it for the Presbyterian Disaster Fund. This may be placed in the offering plate in the back of the church or turned into the church office. A separate envelope may be used but should include your name and envelope number if you wish to receive credit for your contribution for tax purposes.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

It's that time of year. We are now taking orders for poinsettias. Plants are \$11 per plant this year. **Please use the insert in your bulletin or contact the office to place your orders by November 24th. Orders placed after this date will not be accepted.**

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2025 offering envelopes are available on the back table of the sanctuary. **Please note that the per capita has changed. It is not the \$35 printed on the blue envelope. It is now \$36.57.** Please make that change when submitting your blue envelopes.

And the blessed martyrs follow,
And from morn to set of sun,
Through the church the song goes on.

4 Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, Three we name You,
While in essence only One;
Undivided God we claim You,
And adoring bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we gather in the presence of God, let us offer to God those areas of our lives that are in need of healing and forgiveness. Let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of love and hope and new life, we confess that it is easier to love our own than to reach out to others; that it is more comfortable to be at ease than to be on the cutting edge; that it is safer to make rules than to wrestle with the complexity of relationships. Be gentle with us, yet firm. Be gracious toward our failings, yet unrelenting in your call to wholeness. Strengthen us to seek and follow your will for our lives. Through Christ, hear our prayers:

(Silence for people to examine their hearts in prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader This is the good news! God loves us. God forgives us. God sets us free to begin anew.

People **We are God's loved and forgiven people. Thanks be to God! So let us live anew!**

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS Ruth 1:1-18, Mark 12:28-34

SERMON “Determined to Follow”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
THE APOSTLES' CREED (ECUMENICAL)

HYMN #338 Kum ba Yah

¹ Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum ba yah!

² Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum ba yah!

³ Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum ba yah!

⁴ Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum ba yah!

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN #358 Help Us Accept Each Other *vs. 1-3*

¹ Help us accept each other
As Christ accepted us;
Teach us as sister, brother,
Each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
And bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted
And meant to love and live.

² Teach us, O Lord, Your lessons,
As in our daily life
We struggle to be human
And search for hope and faith
Teach us to care for people,
For all, not just for some,

To love them as we find them
Or as they may become.

³ Let Your acceptance change us,
So that we may be moved
In living situations
To do the truth in love;
To practice Your acceptance
Until we know by heart
The table of forgiveness
And laughter's healing art.

*BENEDICTION

Leader Go forth, knowing that we do not leave God behind
when we leave this place.

People God's faithfulness will sustain us;

Leader God's strength will uphold us;

People God's love will comfort us;

Leader God's hand will guide us

People into living God's way each new day.

Leader So may it be.

All So may it be. Amen.

*MUSICAL BENEDICTION #358 Help Us Accept Each Other
vs. 4

⁴ Lord, for today's encounters
With all who are in need,
Who hunger for acceptance,
For righteousness and bread,
We need new eyes for seeing,
New hands for holding on:
Renew us with Your Spirit;
Lord, free us, make us one!

*Will those who are able please stand