

The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.



Matthew 11:5, 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. Timothy R. Monroe

137 N. Walnut Street ~ Blairsville, PA 15717-1349

Church office 724-459-7991

e-mail: upchurch@r-church.com; website: www.r-church.com

Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

October 23, 2016 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Bonni Dunlap, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Marilyn Neal, Organist

Lighting of the Candles

Chase Stuchal, Acolyte

Introit # 31

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

*I sing the almighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.*

*I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at his command and all the stars obey.*

Call to Worship (*Proverbs 22*)

Leader: A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favor is better than silver or gold.

**People: The rich and the poor have this in common:
the Lord is the maker of them all.**

Leader: The clever see danger and hide;
but the simple go on, and suffer for it.

**People: The reward for humility and fear of the Lord
is riches and honor and life.**

*Hymn # 62

“In the Lord Alone”

*Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our
sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You
alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your
ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy
on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have
done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in
your light, and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Savior.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

*Time with the Younger Saints

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Gospel Lesson	Matthew 11:1-6 (pg. 11 of NT)
Anthem	<i>“Christ Is the Rock”</i> Chancel Choir, Director, Cindy Borbonus
Gospel Lesson	Luke 10:25-37 (pg. 71 of NT)
Sermon	The “tion’s” Clark Bruner

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

Special Music Connie & Abigail Bruner

*Affirmation of Faith

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.' As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. *(Psalm 16)*

*Hymn # 596 *“Help Us Accept Each Other”*

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 # 129 “Be Still, for the Spirit of the Lord”

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*Postlude

(*All who are able, please stand.)

WE WELCOME Clark Bruner to our pulpit this morning and thank him for accepting the call to be with us in Pastor Monroe's absence. Please be sure to greet Clark before you leave today.

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 church brochure, a *Welcome Packet* or a copy of our newsletter, *Uplift*. These are 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, Bonni Dunlap; Acolyte, Chase Stuchal; Ushers, Nancy Campbell, Velma Crawford, Linda George and Naomi Sigafoes; Projector, Kayla Moran; Audio, Tyler Moran; Organist, Marilyn Neal and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Naomi Sigafoes.

THE DEACONS will check blood pressure following worship today. If you would like to have your numbers checked, please see Susie Cotti.

GRANNIES will meet in Fellowship Hall Monday, October 24th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

THE THANKSGIVING TEAM will meet Monday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room on the right side of the hallway in the Sunday School wing. If you are interested in the Bell Choir and would like more information, contact Vicky Westley.

CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. Christmas cantata rehearsals will be held Wednesdays at 7:45 p.m. Anyone wishing to participate in the special music is invited to attend rehearsals. The cantata will be presented Sunday, December 18th. For more information, contact Cindy Borbonus.

STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, October 27th at 3:00 p.m. in the parlor. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

THE PRAYER CHAIN is coordinated by the Adult Sunday School Class. If you have a prayer request or know of someone's need for prayer, please contact Shirley McLaughlin or the church office. Requests are kept in confidence.

A WYOTECH LUNCHEON is planned for Tuesday, October 25th at 11:00 a.m. The luncheon is an outreach of the Mission Committee and friends.

THE 2ND ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS COAT DRIVE is now underway. This year we are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats. Please mark your donation clearly for "Coats". If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, we collect items for the Pathway Homeless Shelter in Black Lick based on their specific needs at that time. This shelter serves all of Indiana County. Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting: cleaning supplies, paper towels, disinfectant spray and dishwasher tabs. Items can be placed in the designated container in the vestibule.

CPR TRAINING is being coordinated by the Deacons. If you are interested in attending a training event, please call the church office at 724-459-7991 or see Susie Cotti. The date will be set according to the availability of attendees.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) is urging your support for those affected by Hurricane Matthew. The need for the response is great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" – Give. Act. Pray. Donations can be made through the church. Make checks payable to the church. Please mark your envelope or memo line "Hurricane Matthew Relief." Gifts will be forwarded on to PDA.

MISSION MOMENT

Prison Ministry Network Emphasizes Listening and Learning Together

When the busload of teenage girls from an affluent boarding school in Farmington, Connecticut, entered the room, they weren't exactly enthusiastic. They would be spending the afternoon with the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, a faith-based social services agency dedicated to meeting the needs of people at risk and breaking the cycle of poverty and incarceration. The young women expected an afternoon of boring lectures. They weren't the only ones with low expectations. As they walked into the room, a woman in her late 20s sat in a chair, eyeing the teenagers. Mary (not her real name) was there at the invitation of the CCGB. Mary had recently gotten out of prison and was living in a halfway house. As she watched the teenagers find their seats, she didn't hold out much hope for mutual understanding. Still, she began. She told her story, gave details about what her life has been like, and despite her reservations, was open and vulnerable. She told them that her family lives 20 minutes away by car but that no one in her family has a car. She described a teenage daughter who had long given up on her incarcerated mother—a maternal stranger who was now trying to reconnect. She described traveling three hours each way by bus to get to her new job at Wendy's because it's the only work she could find. While Mary was talking, something began to happen in the room. The students began to listen, and all eyes were glued on Mary. The young women couldn't imagine commuting six hours on a city bus just to work at a fast-food restaurant. But what stunned them even more, they said later, was Mary's vulnerability. They were particularly interested in Mary's daughter, seeing as they were roughly the same age. Mary shared some of her daughter's writing, rough and raw but full of longing. The young women were hooked. They asked permission to talk with the daughter directly. They began exploring avenues to help her get published. And by the end of that afternoon, they were all exchanging phone numbers and email addresses with Mary. This encounter was just one of the many ways CCGB and a new Prison Ministry Network of the Synod of the Northeast are working to reconnect and heal lives broken by mass incarceration. Agencies like CCGB have long labored to help people both in prison and those reentering society. But many have faced enormous cuts in state funding in recent years. Such programs stand on the edge of losing decades of experience, relationships, research, and work. "The Prison Ministry Network is our challenge to the faith communities to live out the gospel in very specific ways and to stand in the gap more than ever, our churches are needed," said Cass Shaw, a Presbyterian pastor and the president and CEO of CCGB.

Rev. Patrick David Heery, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Auburn, New York

REGULAR WORSHIP CALENDAR

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Clark Bruner
	12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Monday	9:00-12:00 p.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Team Meeting
Tuesday	11:00 a.m.	WyoTech Luncheon
Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Daisy Troop in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:45 p.m.	Cantata Rehearsal
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
		Family Promise begins