

*Let us draw near
with a true heart
in full assurance
of faith...
Let us hold fast
the confession
of our hope
without wavering...*
Hebrews 10:22-23

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

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Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

November 15, 2015 ~ 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

Cindy Borbonus, Pianist

Lighting of the Candles

Brylea Borbonus, Acolyte

Introit # 136 vs. 4 "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky, and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Call to Worship (*I Samuel 2*)

Leader: "My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God.

My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory

**People: There is no Holy One like the Lord,
there is no Rock like our God.**

Leader: The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.

**People: The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low, he also exalts.**

Leader: He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.

**People: The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king,
and exalt the power of his anointed.**

*Hymn # 507

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

*Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to seek your will. You warn us of what is to come, but we ignore the signs of the times. You promise us a new creation, but we cling to the ruins of this world. Forgive us, God of grace. Wash away the stain of our sin and keep us faithful in love and in deed, while we await your coming in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- *Assurance of Forgiveness
- *Gloria Patri
- *Sharing of the Peace
- *Time with the Younger Saints

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Gospel Lesson Mark 13:1-8 (pg. 50 of NT)
 Anthem *"Sing to the Lord"*
 Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director
 New Testament Lesson Hebrews 10:11-25 (pg. 224 of NT)
 Sermon Rev. Timothy R. Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

- *Affirmation of Faith (A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

- *Hymn # 426 *"Blessed Assurance"*
- Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (*"...debts...and debtors"*)
- Choral Amen
- Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word
- Offertory
- *Doxology
- *Prayer of Dedication
- *Hymn # 405 *"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"*
- *Benediction
- *Choral Response
- *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 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, Brylea Borbonus; Projection, Shakira McKinney; Audio, Jaison McKinney; 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 Julie by Terry and Barb Brown.

WE WILL CELEBRATE the sacrament of Holy Communion next Sunday during worship. Please take time this week to prepare to receive and share the sacrament.

THE DEACONS will check blood pressures following worship today. If you would like to have your numbers checked, please see Kim McKinney or Beverly Lindsey.

THE THANKSGIVING TEAM asks that if you plan to attend the Thanksgiving dinner next Sunday that you let them know by completing the bulletin insert. They would like to have rsvp's in by today to plan for the meal.

BOY SCOUTS will meet in Fellowship Hall Monday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

THE SESSION will meet Tuesday, November 17th at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Packets for the meeting are available to be picked up in the parlor.

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE will meet Wednesday, November 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the parlor.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, November 19th at 3:00 p.m. in the parlor.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH will sponsor avaccination clinic at the Blairsville Community Center December 16 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. You are eligible for vaccines at low or no cost if you are underinsured or uninsured. Please call the PA Dept. of Health at 724-357-2995 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

A COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP will be held Sunday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Christian & Missionary Alliance Church in Blairsville. The speaker will be Dan Cunkleman. The service is sponsored by the Blairsville Area Ministerium.

OUR BELL CHOIR rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. We still need ringers for our lower octaves. We would love to have you join us. No experience necessary, we'll train you. If you have questions or are interested in ringing, please see Vicky Westley, director or a bell choir member.

CHOIR REHEARSALS are held Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always appreciated. We will begin rehearsing special music for the holidays on Wednesdays at 7:45 p.m. If you are interested in participating during this time, we would love to have you. For more information, please see Cindy Borbonus or come to rehearsals Wednesdays. You're always welcome.

WE ARE in the process of updating our clearances for all children's ministry workers, elders, deacons and staff. If you received your Child Abuse Clearance form in the mail, please bring it to the office so we can make a copy for our records.

ONCE AGAIN the Deacons will assemble Thanksgiving Baskets for families in the community. We ask that you consider donating food items or giving a monetary contribution. Articles of food can include: canned fruit or vegetables, boxed baked goods, pie fillings, Jello, boxes of stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, just to name a few. Boxes will be available at the back of the church for the collection of food donations. Please check expiration dates on items before donating them. If any member of the congregation is aware of a family who may need a Thanksgiving basket please contact Pastor Tim or a member of the Deacons. Thank you for your generous help in the past, and we look forward to sharing another happy holiday with those in our community!

PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY invites you to bring your family or guest and drop in for cider, sandwiches, and a variety of community activities for the Christmas season. Come and go when you can—and RSVP by November 30th. Email ctappy@pts.edu or call reception at 412-362-5610.

COOKIES WANTED...The Evangelism committee is asking all families in the congregation to donate at least 4 dozen cookies, candies, or holiday treats (no cupcakes, cakes, or pies) for our Annual Holiday Cookie Sale to be held Saturday, December 19th, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please invite your fellow bakers family, friends, co-workers, groups or organizations to participate. All baked goods may be dropped off in a disposable container on Friday, December 18th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions contact Erica Ash or the church office. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the back of the sanctuary. Please let us know what kind of cookie you will be donating so we don't have too many duplicates!

MISSION MOMENT - *Ukraine*

In October 2013, I came back to far western Ukraine from a six-week visit in the United States to find that my only early childhood education teacher could not continue. But God had prepared a replacement—Marta. Although she has no teacher training, Marta is a graduate of Podilsky Technical University in Ukraine. She had worked for many years but lost her job and needed work. At first she was frightened of the Roma families and children. Every day I spent extra time preparing her for the coming day's lessons. She and I would converse in Russian, and then she would teach the children in Hungarian. By God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, in a month's time she had mastered the technical matters of teaching and gained confidence with the children and their families. The children love her. One day Marta invited me to have a cup of tea with her. "I thank God, for he has helped me greatly," she said. "My close friends and my family could not imagine that I would have anything to do with Roma people. Two years ago, on Christmas Eve, my family prepared a roasted pig for a celebration and Roma people came and robbed us; they took many new clothes and the pig." "Now I know that God has healed my broken heart with his love," she continued, with tears in her eyes, "and I love these Roma people too."

REGULAR WORSHIP CALENDAR

Today	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Blood Pressure checks
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
	7:45 p.m.	Cantata rehearsal
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Church Thanksgiving Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Community Thanksgiving Worship at the C&MA Church