



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

*Christmas Eve*

December 24, 2017 – 11:00 PM

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

Bell Preludes

Handbell Choir

*"Angel Tidings"*

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

*"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

arr. Michael Mazzatenta

Interlude

Marilyn Neal, Organist

Words of Greeting

Bobbi Monroe, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

Organ Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

John Clark Bruner, Acolyte

Call to Worship (*Psalms 96*)

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.

**People: Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples.**

Leader: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.  
Honor and majesty are before him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

**People: Say among the nations, "The Lord is king!  
He will judge the peoples with equity."**

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
let the field exult, and everything in it.

**People: For he is coming,  
for he is coming to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with his truth.**

\*Hymn # 179,

*"Joy to the World"*

\*Prayer of Confession

**God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. We pursue worldly passions and revere false idols. We cherish our possessions and spurn your good gifts. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to live as your people, following your holy way and rejoicing in your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

*How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!*

*So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.*

*No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,*

*Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle                      The Tom Holby Family

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;*

*Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.*

*We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;*

*O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.*

\*Sharing of the Peace

### **DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

Old Testament Lesson                      Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 638 of OT)

Anthem                      *"Jesus Is Our Christmas Peace"*

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson                      Luke 2:1-20 (pg. 58 of NT)

Sermon                      Rev. Timothy Monroe

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*(Apostles' Creed)*

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory                      *"Light of the World"*                      Peggy Citeroni

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn # 184,                      *"What Child Is This?"*

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer *(debt...and debtors...)*

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

*(Please hold the bread until all have received, we will partake together)*

*"O Holy Night"*

Matthew Cyphert

Carol Duet

Danielle and Matthew Cyphert

*(Please hold the cup until all have received, we will partake together)*

Prayer after Communion

Bell Choir

*"Silent Night"*

\*Hymn #186,                      *"Silent Night! Holy Night!"*

*(Congregation will sing once all candles are lit)*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember to light candles by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle.

The Worship Assistants for this evening's service are Liturgist, Bobbi Monroe; Acolyte, John Clark Bruner; Ushers, Gary Boone, Shane Boone, Julia Holby, and Tom Holby; Special Music, Danielle & Matthew Cyphert and Peggy Citeroni; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Handbell Choir Director, Vicky Westley; and Organist, Marilyn Neal.

The office will have abbreviated hours this week. If you have a need, please call the church before you stop.