



*The Lord is my light and salvation*

-WHOM SHALL I FEAR?

*The Lord is the stronghold of my life*

-OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID?

-Psalm 27:1

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

February 21, 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

Eli Borbonus, Acolyte

Introit # 496

*"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"*

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine,*

*leaning on the everlasting arms;*

*what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,*

*leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;*

*Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Call to Worship (*Psalm 27*)

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: Teach me your way, O Lord,  
and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**People: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they are breathing out violence.**

Leader: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**People: Wait for the Lord; be strong,  
and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

\*Hymn # 569

*"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

\*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you. We put  
our trust in wicked leaders and reject the prophets you send. We  
prosper as friends of the empire and live as enemies of your cross.  
Forgive us, God of grace. Cast out the demons within us. Cure  
the evil in our hearts. Continue the work you have begun in us;  
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

Old Testament Lesson                  Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 (pg. 12 of OT)  
Anthem                                        “Promised Land”

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

New Testament Lesson      Philippians 3:17-4:1 (pg. 198 of NT)  
Sermon      Rev. Timothy Monroe

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\*Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967)

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all that resists his will and disrupts his creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in men and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

\*Hymn # 408                      *“I Am Thine, O Lord”*

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 # 513                      *“O Jesus, I Have Promised”*

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response

## \*Postlude

(\*All who are able, please stand.)

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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, Eli Borbonus; Ushers, Bill & Holly Tonkin and Jim & Mary Piper; Projector, Blake Tonkin; Sound, Mitchell Tonkin; Organist, Marilyn Neal; and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE GRANNIES will meet Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.

WIC will meet in Fellowship Hall Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

THE DEACONS will collect items on a monthly basis to be taken to the Pathway Homeless Shelter in Black Lick. During the month of February we will be receiving paper towels, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, Band Aids, Kleenex, dishwasher detergent and floor cleaner. A container is located at the back of the sanctuary to place items in. If you would rather make a monetary donation, make checks payable to the Board of Deacons and mark in the memo for Pathway.

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.

OUR BELL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. We would love to have new members 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.

THE CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. New voices are always appreciated. For more information about the choir, please see Cindy Borbonus or come to rehearsals on Wednesdays. You're always welcome.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS are available at the back of the sanctuary for our journey through the season of Lent. The booklet is entitled, “Living Lent as People of the Resurrection” by Dr. Rich Bimler. There are daily devotions that lead us from the cross to the empty tomb watching for signposts of Ponder, Purpose, People, Proclaim, Praise, Pain and Promise along the way. Please be sure to pick one up.

#### THE SESSION COMMITTEES FOR 2016

Each year the committees of session seek to have volunteers become active participants. Please review the committees and responsibilities of the committees and consider serving. If you would like more information or have questions, please see Pastor Monroe or the chair of the committee.

**Worship**, Elaine Jellison, chair – Worship services, sacraments, music, funerals, weddings

**Mission**, Gene Artman, chair – Benevolences, special offerings, global & local missions and missionaries

**Christian Education**, Deb Lint, chair – Sunday school programs, curriculum, adult education, youth work, leadership education

**Finance**, Tom Smith, chair – Finances, special funds, and annual budget

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

**Property & Maintenance**, Gene Artman, chair – Construction, maintenance, repairs, housekeeping, safety, security, yard work, inventory

**Congregational Fellowship**, Nancy Hartmann, chair – Suppers, Dinner Theater, picnics, outings, trips, camping

**Evangelism**, Gene Artman, chair – New member recruitment and assimilation, outreach, publicity

CONFIRMATION CLASSES are being scheduled for Sunday afternoons. We will gather for a light lunch after worship followed by the class which will end approximately at 2:00 p.m. Parents are welcome to sit in on the classes. The proposed dates are: March 13, 20, April 3, 10, 17, 24 and May 1. Students will unite with the church during worship on Pentecost, May 8. If you have any questions about the classes, please contact Pastor Tim or Deb Lint.

VACCINATIONS are available from the Dept. of Health to those who are uninsured or underinsured at the Blairsville Community Center from 9:45 – 11:15 a.m. March 16 and April 20. Please call the Dept. of Health to schedule an appointment at 724-357-2995.

A HEALTHY COOKING DEMONSTRATION will be held at the Blairsville Community Center Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. featuring Chef Don Nadzadi. Come and enjoy free sampling. Please rsvp to 724-459-8588. Sponsored by the Blairsville Walkworks.

THE GAITHER VOCAL BAND is coming to Indiana to the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jackie Henry-Montgomery at 724-357-5205.

#### MISSION MOMENT

##### *Universal Day of Prayer for Students*

Around the world, the stories of students are as diverse as the cultures and lands from which they come. Individuals furthering their education may do so out of a sense of hope for the future, that they might improve their life and be exposed to ideas that challenge and change them. This period of transformation and growth comes at a time when many students are physically separated from their support networks and communities of faith. The Student Christian Movement provides space where these students can share their stories and walk their faith journeys together. These local Student Christian Movements comprise the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The WSCF has six regions, each with its own particularity. The WSCF organizes the annual Universal Day of Prayer for Students, held the third Sunday in February. The day of prayer provides an opportunity to remember students in prayer and to raise up the concerns of students around the world. The 2016 theme is “Stories of Faith.” On February 21, 2016, hear and share the stories students bring to their studies—stories that underscore the privilege of studying and the sometimes great sacrifices of students and their families. Also remember those who aspire to be students but are unable to fulfill the dream of furthering their education.

*Melissa G. Davis*

## REGULAR WORSHIP CALENDAR

<b>Today</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
<b>Monday</b>	9:00-12:00 p.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00-3:00 p.m.	WIC meets in Fellowship Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lenten Lunch here with Rev. Scott Shaffer
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

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COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHESES will be held each Wednesday afternoon through Lent. A service will be held at 12:00 noon followed by a light lunch. The worship schedule is as follows:

Feb 24 .....	Rev. Scott Shaffer .....	United Presbyterian Church
Mar 2.....	Rev. Brett Dinger .....	Hebron Lutheran Church
Mar 9.....	Rev. Timothy Monroe .....	First United Methodist Church
Mar 16.....	Father Steve Bugay .....	Hopewell Methodist Church
Mar 23.....	Rev. Rusty McClurg.....	SS Simon & Jude Church
Mar 25.....	Rev. Jim Kendall .....	Connect Church

Good Friday, 7:00 p.m.