



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](mailto:upchurch@r-church.com); website: [www.r-church.com](http://www.r-church.com)

Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

April 17, 2016 ~ 11:00 AM

## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Gene Artman, 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

Brylea Borbonus, Acolyte

Introit # 440

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,**

**The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.**

**My soul with comfort rich he fills, and every grief he gently stills:**

**To God all praise and glory!**

Call to Worship (*Psalm 23*)

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**People: He makes me lie down in green pastures;**

**He leads me beside still waters;**

Leader: He restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley,**

**I fear no evil; for you are with me;**

**Your rod and your staff – they comfort me.**

Leader: You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me**

**all the days of my life,**

**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord**

**my whole life long.**

\*Hymn # 73

*"The Lord My Shepherd Guards Me Well"*

\*Prayer of Confession

**God of everlasting life, we confess that we continue in the ways  
of death. We see your work in our world and still do not believe  
in you. We listen to other leaders and ignore your loving voice.  
Forgive us, God of grace. Restore us to your flock and fold so  
that we may believe and receive eternal and abundant life in  
you; 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

New Testament Lesson                      Revelation 7:9-17 (pg. 249 of NT)

Anthem                      “*Loving Shepherd*”

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson                                  John 10:22-30 (pg. 104 of NT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\*Affirmation of Faith (Heidelberg Catechism, Q.1)

What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

**That I belong – body and soul, in life and in death – not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

\*Hymn # 505                      *“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”*

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 # 440                      *“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”*

\*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, Gene Artman; Acolyte, Brylea Borbonus; Ushers, Patti, Sean, Harrison Gilligan and Dennis Gould; Projector, Blake Tonkin; Audio, Mitchell Tonkin; Organist, Marilyn Neal; and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE ROSE in worship this morning is in celebration of the birth of Charlotte Marie Glinsky, daughter of Joseph Faulk and Maggie Glinsky. Charlotte was born Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations!

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

OUR CONFIRMATION CLASS will gather for a light lunch followed by class today after worship. Students will unite with the church during worship on Pentecost, May 15.

A SESSION MEETING will be held Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Packets for the meeting are available to be picked up in the parlor following worship.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS will be held Sundays, April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor. New members will unite with the congregation during worship Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see Pastor Monroe.

*Thank you to everyone who sent a card to help me celebrate my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. I have received 40 cards! It was such a nice surprise to receive all of your greetings. I don't feel 90, but they tell me I am. Thank you all so much for making my birthday a special day!*

*Ruie Gressley*

THE DEACONS will collect items on a monthly basis to be taken to the Pathway Homeless Shelter in Black Lick. During the month of April we will be receiving cleaning products. 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.

DINING WITH DIABETES classes will be offered by Penn State Extension beginning Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The classes continue April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Dining with Diabetes is a program for adults with diabetes and their families.

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will host a fundraiser to benefit Syrian refugees Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. A presentation by Dr. Ezz-Eldin Moukamal of the Syrian American Medical Society Foundation will be offered and light refreshments will be served. A suggested donation of \$10 will benefit the Syrian Refugees.

THE DEACONS are asking for individuals and families to usher during the Summer months. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you to all who have volunteered to usher this year.

SAVE THE DATE...plans are being made to have a new church directory published. Picture dates are scheduled for June 16, 17 and 18. Also, volunteers will be needed as greeters for these days. Please mark your calendars and watch future bulletins and newsletters for more details.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Blairsville Mission Partnership will be held Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Lunch and child care will be provided. Consider volunteering your time working for neighbors in the area. A sign-up sheet is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Applications are also available for those who would like to have work done at their homes. For more information, contact the church office or Pastor Monroe. The Mission Partnership is sponsored by the Blairsville Area Ministerium.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH will provide vaccinations for those underinsured or uninsured from 9:45 – 11:15 a.m. at the Blairsville Community Center, May 18, June 15, July 20 and August 17. The vaccines are by appointment only. Please call 724-357-2995 to schedule an appointment.

OUR BELL CHOIR will rehearse Wednesday, April 20<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, April 20<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.

### REGULAR WORSHIP CALENDAR

<b>Today</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:15 p.m.	Confirmation Class
<b>Monday</b>	10:00-12:30 p.m.	Dining with Diabetes
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	3:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00-4:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
<b>Sunday</b>	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:45 a.m.	New Member Orientation
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Blood Pressure checks
	12:15 p.m.	Confirmation Class

### **MISSION MOMENT** - International Day of Farmers' Struggles

Small-scale farmers feed us all. Their labor keeps us alive. They care for the soil, the seeds, the land and the waters. They make up nearly half of the people on the planet and produce more than 70 percent of the world's food. Your first image may be of someone tilling the land with hand tools, an ox or a small tractor, but they are also farmworkers, pastoralists, small-scale livestock producers, fishers and indigenous producers in every country. They do indeed struggle, and they direly need our prayers and support. We know this from our visits with our partners both in the United States and internationally. If not struggling for survival itself, they are often struggling to continue their “generational occupation”—the job of feeding the world. From our partners in West Africa, South Asia and Latin America, we learn of the threats and murder of farmers and fisherfolk trying to hold onto their land and fisheries in the face of resource grabs by corporations and foreign states. *We pray for their safety and for success in protecting their land and fisheries.* The seeds they have developed over decades, centuries and millennia are also under attack. Giant companies and patenting laws hidden in free trade agreements threaten to strip smallholding farmers of the heirloom and indigenous seeds that allow them to adapt to extreme weather and climate change. Saving seeds also makes farming affordable and can be the difference between prosperity and bankruptcy. *We pray for their livelihoods and for the protection of seeds and biodiversity.* More broadly, small-scale producers have been bankrupted and had land bought or taken by industrial operations producing for export into the global marketplace due to three decades of economic, agricultural and international trade policy, which is often written by and favors agrifood corporations. *We pray for fair markets and policies that prioritize people over profits.*

*Andrew Kang Bartlett, associate for national hunger concerns*