

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE  
July 28, 2019 ~ 10:00 AM  
**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

Words of Greeting Rick Shoemaker, 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 "He Hideth My Soul  
with It Is Well with My Soul"  
Organ & Piano Duet

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (*Psalm 85*)

Leader: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful, to those who turn to him  
in their hearts.

**People: Surely his salvation is at hand  
for those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**People: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

Leader: The Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

**People: Righteousness will go before him,  
and will make a path for his steps.**

\*Hymn # 84 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

\*Prayer of Confession

**Faithful and loving God, we confess that we have not lived in faith and love. You claim us as your own people, but we forsake your holy covenant. You offer us the gift of prayer, but we forget to lift our hearts to you. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to live our lives in Christ, rooted and grounded in our faith and growing each day in your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri  
Sacrament of Baptism

\*Sharing of the Peace

\*Time with the Younger Saints

**DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

New Testament Lesson Colossians 2:6-19 (pg. 200 of NT)

Special Music "In the Presence of Jehovah"  
Organ & Piano Duet

Gospel Lesson Luke 11:1-13 (pg. 72 of NT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy R. Monroe

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Affirmation of Faith (*Catechism, Q.98, 184, 185*)

What is prayer?

**Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.**

For what things are we to pray?

**We are to pray for all things tending to the glory of God, the welfare of the church, our own or others' good; but not for anything that is unlawful.**

How are we to pray?

**We are to pray in awe of the majesty of God, and deep sense of our own unworthiness, necessities, and sins; with penitent, thankful, and enlarged hearts; with understanding, faith, sincerity, fervency, love, and perseverance, waiting upon him with humble submission to his will.**

\*Hymn # 478 "Sweet Hour of Prayer  
Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (*debt...and debtors...*)

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word  
Offertory "Like a River Glorious  
with Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"  
Organ & Piano Duet

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn # 473 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

\*Benediction

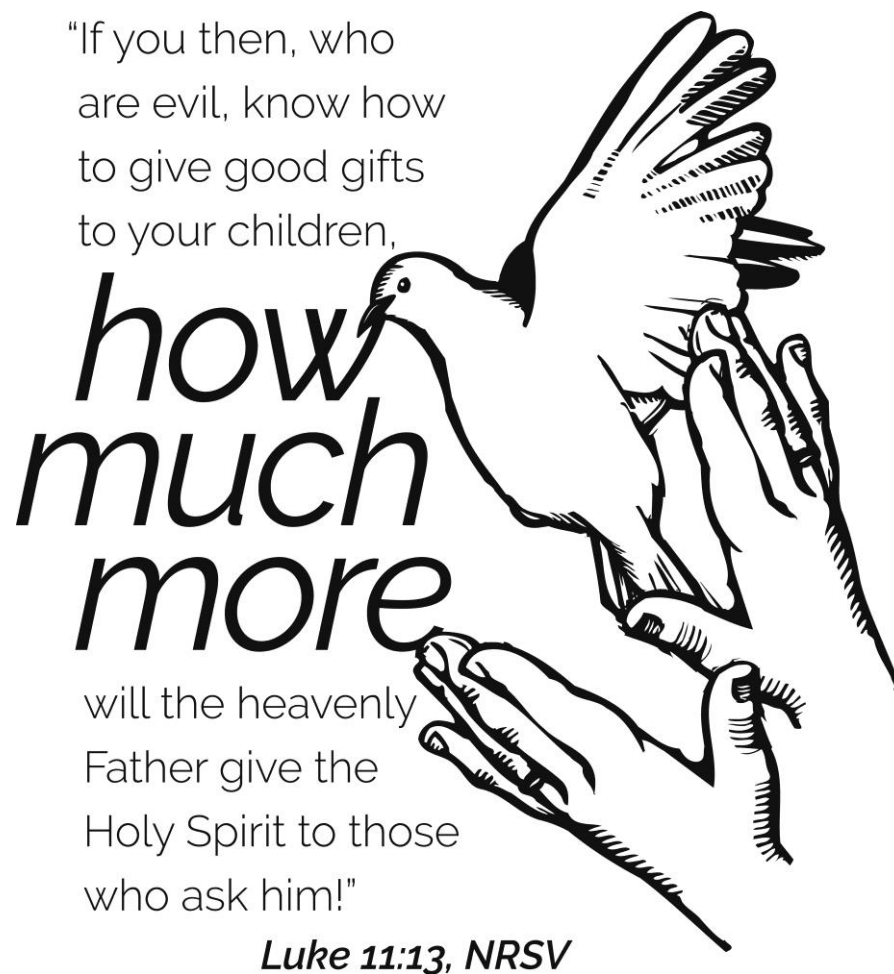
\*Postlude

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

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**SUMMER SCHEDULE:**

<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship & Baptism
<b>Monday</b>	4:00-10:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting in Fellowship Hall
<b>Thursday</b>	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group meets in the parlor
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion



"If you then, who  
are evil, know how  
to give good gifts  
to your children,

*how  
much  
more*

will the heavenly  
Father give the  
Holy Spirit to those  
who ask him!"

*Luke 11:13, 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

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Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

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, Rick Shoemaker; Ushers, Mary & John Hileman, Barri Stuchal and Irving Lindsey; Projector, Kayla Moran; Audio, Olivia Eckenroad; 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 Russ Harvey, Sr. by Sue Harvey and family.

THE WHOLE CHURCH of Jesus Christ rejoices as Riley Ann Mudge, daughter of Rob and Reneah Mudge, is baptized into Christ and the family of faith.

THE SESSION will meet Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Packets for the meeting are available to pick up in the parlor.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup> from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group gathers to work on personal projects and to fellowship. All are welcome.

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 WORSHIP COMMITTEE is looking for youth or adults interested in operating the sound or projector during worship. The equipment is located in the balcony. Audio and projection techs are scheduled on a rotating basis. Those interested would be scheduled approximately once a month. If you would like more information, please see Elaine Jellison or contact the church office.

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 Nancy Campbell or the church office.

THE HOMER CITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will host Mandated Reporter Training Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Reservations can be made by calling the Homer City Church at 724-479-2695 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Monday or Friday. The church has limited office hours so please call in this time frame.

SPECIAL MUSIC is scheduled for worship during the summer months. If you or someone you know would like to share a musical talent during worship, please see Cindy Borbonus or contact the church office, 724-459-7991.

**SPECIAL MUSIC SCHEDULE:**

August 4 – Adam Loucks

August 11 – Matt & Dani Cyphert

August 25 – Blairsville Brass Ensemble

IF YOU NOTICE something around the church property that needs repaired, please refer the matter to the Property & Maintenance Committee via the church office. Either place a note in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. The secretary will forward the concern to the chair of the committee. Please be very specific as to what the problem is, so that the issue can be handled. Thank you.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM used by our young people this Fall will follow the lectionary. All students will be studying the same texts. While the lessons will be appropriate for the different age groups, there are common themes for teachers to consider. We are asking teachers to attend a general review of those themes on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Monroe will offer a general overview, highlighting more important points of the lesson.

**MISSION MOMENT** – *Remembering a selfless chaplain*

*“On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.”*

*(Psalm 138:3, NRSV)*

Imagine being an observer of SINKEX 2016. A SINKEX is a Navy exercise in which a ship is deliberately sunk by being subjected to missiles and bombs until it slips beneath the waves to the bottom of the sea. SINKEX 2016 took place 117 nautical miles north of Guam on Sept. 13, 2016. The targeted ship sank after five hours and 22 missile hits. The vessel subjected to this tortuous end was the decommissioned USS *Rentz*.

For those familiar with the *Rentz*, this seemingly undignified end must have been filled with irony. After all, the *Rentz* was named for Chaplain George S. Rentz, a Presbyterian minister who served as a chaplain during World War II. Rentz died as a result of the sinking of the USS *Houston* on March 1, 1942. Having been in the water for hours following the sinking, Rentz relinquished his lifejacket to Seaman First Class Walter L. Beeson. Rentz then offered a brief prayer and kicked away from the overcrowded float and disappeared. By giving of himself, Rentz ensured others could survive. For his actions, Rentz was awarded the Navy Cross for valor, the only chaplain in World War II to receive the distinction.

How ironic, then, that the ship named after this heroic chaplain should in the end sink even as the chaplain’s last ship had been sunk and caused his death. And yet, the sinking of the *Rentz* did provide good. Those who trained in the exercise were better prepared to take action to potentially save the lives of others who might be under attack. Chaplain Rentz gave his life so that others could live, and the ship named in his honor did the same. When Chaplain Rentz died in 1942, he was only few months shy of his 60th birthday, which was July 25. He was working among sailors who could have been his grandchildren. His sailors said he had a fatherly concern for them and often referred to them as his “boys.” He loved them enough to give his life so that they could live.

As Jesus prepared to depart his disciples in his own voluntary sacrifice to bring us life, he said to them: “No one has greater love than this — that one lays down his life for his friends.” Chaplain George S. Rentz was a true follower of our Lord and Savior.

This day, please pray for all who serve to defend our nation, and remember our chaplains, who are deployed to all corners of our globe. May they be encouraged by Chaplain Rentz as they minister to those amid conflict and chaos and, ironically, bring peace.

*Lyman M. Smith, captain, CHC, USN, retired; director of Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies*