

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
September 29, 2019 ~ 11:00 AM
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Dennis Gould, 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 "The Lord Is My Light"

Organ and Piano Duet

Lighting of the Candles

Introit # 438 "On Eagle's Wings"

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust."
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

Call to Worship (Psalm 91)

Leader: You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord,

People: "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

Leader: Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;
I will protect those who know my name.

People: When they call to me, I will answer them;

**I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.**

**All: With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

*Hymn # 507 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

*Prayer of Confession

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we
forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our
offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you
our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

*Time with the Younger Saints

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson II Corinthians 11:21b-30 (pg. 185 of NT)

Anthem "Let Mt. Zion Rejoice"

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Sermon "The Message of My Shower Curtain"

The Rev. Dr. Roger Petersen

I. Praise: Psalm 98:4

II. Believe: Matthew 17:20

III. Serve: Joshua 24:15

IV. Trust: Proverbs 3:5

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.**

(The Apostles' Creed)

*Hymn # 260 "The Old Rugged Cross"

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

Choral Amen

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" The Choir

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 443 "Trust and Obey"

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*Postlude

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

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Reception in Fellowship Hall in Honor of Dr. Petersen's 60 th Year of Ordination
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study begins
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Historical Society Meeting
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion

WELL DONE,
—GOOD—
AND
faithful
SERVANT.

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

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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, Dennis Gould; Ushers, Elizabeth Bruner, Linda George, Kim & Shakira McKinney; Projector, John Clark Bruner; Audio, Elizabeth Bruner; Organist, Marilyn Neal; and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

WE WELCOME to the pulpit this morning our Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Dr. Roger Petersen who is celebrating his 60th anniversary of ordination. Following the service we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshment in honor of Dr. Petersen. We hope you will stay.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of Bea Smith by Ed and Becky Bence.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will meet Tuesday, October 1st at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Deacons are reminded to come prepared to review their portion of the Deacon Handbook.

BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesday, October 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Old Testament book of Daniel is our focus. All are welcome.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:00 p.m. We are in need of two ringers to complete our choir. If you are interested in ringing, please see Vicky Westley.

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New and familiar voices are always welcomed! Please see Cindy Borbonus for more information.

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 5th ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE is now underway. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats. Please mark your donation clearly for "Coats" and place it in the offering plate. If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, October 3rd 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.

SAVE THE DATE, this year's Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner will be held Sunday, November 24th following worship. We will gather in Fellowship Hall for a time of thankfulness for our church family and the many ways in which God has blessed us. Please look for inserts in upcoming bulletins.

AN USHER SIGN-UP SHEET is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to participate in worship as an usher/greeter, please sign-up. There are still dates available.

CHURCH PARKING is available in front of the building on Walnut Street, in the ally along the side of the building and in the parking lot across the street. Those able to walk are asked to please park across the street in the lot so those with difficulty walking can park closer to the building. Please refrain from parking in the Episcopal Church spaces.

IF YOU NOTICE SOMETHING around the church facility that needs maintenance, 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 office. The secretary will forward the concern to the chairs of the committee. Please be very specific as to what the problem is, so that the issue can be handled. Thank you.

MISSION MOMENT - *'A sanctuary for God's beloved exiles'*

Last summer, I received a call to join Olympia Presbytery in planting a new worshipping community, Hagar's Community Church, at the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) — the largest women's prison in Washington state. This work I have been called to do has fundamentally changed me as a person. Being allowed to witness the lives of the women at the WCCW and worship alongside them weekly has opened my eyes to the realities of incarceration in the United States. It also has shown me how transformative God's love can be. Although it has been open only about six months, 30 women attend Hagar's Community Church regularly. The church's mission statement is to be a "Sanctuary for God's Beloved Exiles at the WCCW." That means providing the individuals at the WCCW with their own Christian community, to allow them to explore their spirituality and encounter the proclamation and experience of God's love. The name of the church comes from the story of Hagar, found in Genesis 16 and 21. Much like the women at WCCW, the story of Hagar's unkind history does not go unnoticed by the God who sees her. The women in my congregation are living many people's worst nightmares — they are separated from their family, especially their children. They have little freedom to make choices about their lives, and the world defines them by their worst mistake. Yet these women have shown me what it means to love one another, what it means to support each other, what it means to rely on God and what it means to joyfully come together in worship. The worship services I have the honor of leading each week are full of laughter, gratitude and love. The few from the outside who have had the privilege of being able to visit during worship say they are caught off guard by this. Expecting worship to be much more somber, they comment on the power of the women's faith and how it speaks to and teaches them. While sharing highs and lows during worship, one woman stated that her low for the week was coming to terms with the fact that she would be spending the next seven to 10 years at the WCCW. On the other hand, her high was that she would have Hagar's Community Church to belong to during those years. She stated that being able to belong to a congregation is something she never imagined possible while incarcerated, and now having a Christian community to be a part of is life-giving and provides her something to look forward to. As she was sharing, I realized just how important it is that these women have a place where they are known not for their worst mistakes, but rather as God's beloved.

Rev. Lane Brubaker, Pastor of Hagar's Community Church, a new worshipping community at the Washington Corrections Center for Women.