

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
November 10, 2019 ~ 11:00 AM
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Lon Ferguson, 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

Introit # 111 *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Call to Worship (*Psalm 98*)

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.

**People: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.**

**All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

People: For he is coming to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

*Hymn # 142 *“Sing Praise to the Father”*

*Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away
from sin. We are quickly shaken in our faith and deceived by
false prophets. We put our hope in this life only and deny
your gift of resurrection. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us
true hope and real comfort. Strengthen us in word and deed
to proclaim the new life you offer; 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 Haggai 1:15b-2:9 (pg. 878 of OT)

Anthem *“We Give Thanks”*

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Betsy Holby, flute

New Testament Lesson II Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 (pg. 203 of NT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith (*Heidelberg Catechism, Q1*)

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 # 447 *“Because He Lives”*

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

Choral Amen

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn Insert *“Standing on the Promises”*

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*Postlude

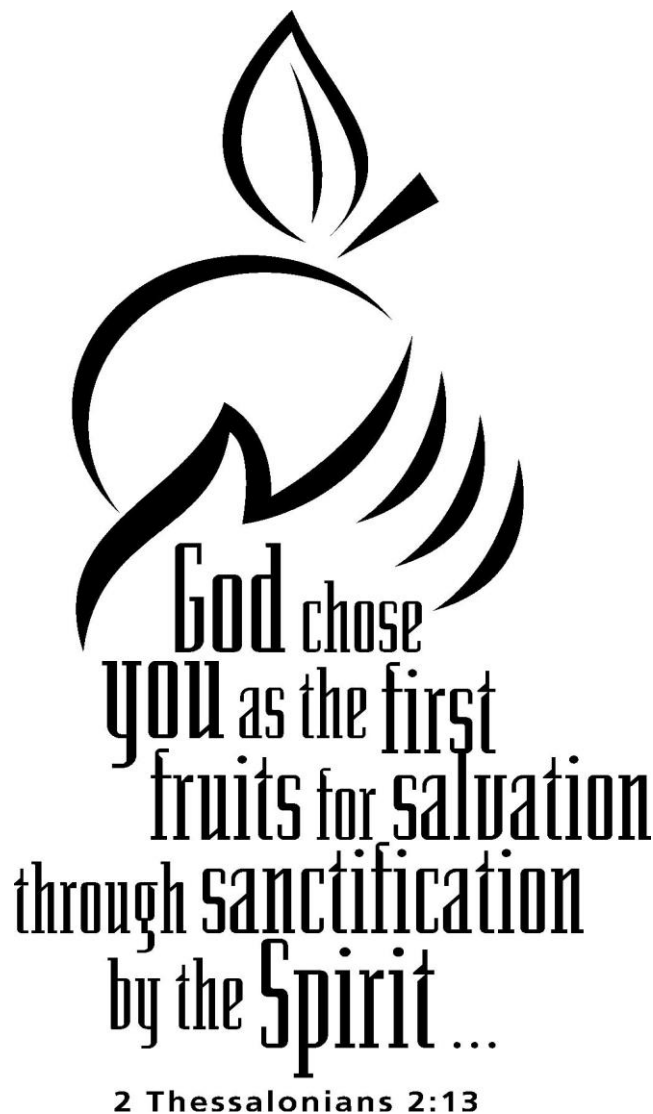
(**All who are able, please stand.*)

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	New Member Orientation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	12:00-1:00 p.m.	Food Bank distributes groceries
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Daisy Troop Meeting Bell Choir will not meet
	6:00 p.m.	Workshop 1 of the Visioning Process will be held in Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Workshop 1 of the Visioning Process will be held in Fellowship Hall
Saturday	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	New Member Orientation
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	2:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved

THE BLAIRSVILLE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND will perform their Annual Veteran's Day Concert Monday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Blairsville Senior High School auditorium. All are welcome.

THE FOOD BANK will distribute groceries Tuesday, November 12th from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Those signing up for the first time should bring proof of residence in the Blairsville borough.



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

WE GIVE thanks to God for the men and women who have served this nation to protect our liberty, peace and freedom.

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, Lon Ferguson; Ushers, Adam, Dana & Brady Doak and Elaine Jellison; Projector, John Clark Bruner; Audio, Andrew Baker; 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 loved ones by Annabel Machak.

GRANNIES will meet Monday, November 11th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. All are invited. There are tasks for all skill levels.

BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesday, November 13th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Old Testament book of Daniel is our focus. All are welcome.

SOME YEARS AGO, the Session and members of the congregation spent a day “in retreat” – looking at the present state of the church and planning for the future. The Session has determined it's time to do that again and has scheduled two evenings in November (13th and 14th at 6:00 p.m.) to assess what we've done since that retreat and what we should do. Rev. Kathy Nice will facilitate the work sessions – to help lead us in how we should carry out our mission and vision. It's important that we have not just members of the Session involved, but other members of the church. Please consider attending one or both of these sessions; contact Rev. Monroe or Bonni Dunlap for more information or to let us know you'll be coming.

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.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will not be held this Wednesday, November 13th. However, we are still 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, November 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New and familiar voices are always welcomed! Please see Cindy Borbonus for more information.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA rehearsals will be held Wednesdays from 8:00-8:30 p.m. Anyone wishing to participate in the special music is invited to attend rehearsals. The cantata will be presented Sunday, December 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE will meet Wednesday, November 13th at 5:30 p.m. in the parlor.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, November 14th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the parlor. All are welcome.

THE DEACONS will assemble Thanksgiving Baskets for families in the community. Each box contains everything a family needs to cook a Thanksgiving dinner. We ask that you consider donating food items or giving a monetary contribution. A box is available at the back of the church for the collection of food donations. If you are aware of a family who may need a Thanksgiving basket, please contact Pastor Monroe or Marilyn Neal.

THE 5th ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE is 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 winter coats, please contact Janet Smith.

MISSION MOMENT - *Library project in Ethiopia half-finished*

Ed Pollock, the son of longtime PC (USA) mission co-worker Ted Pollock, is a man on a mission. Since 2017, Pollock and members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Mount Airy, MD, have worked tirelessly to collect enough books and Bibles to build a theological reference library for seminary students in Gambella, Ethiopia. This urgent project, launched at the request of leaders of Jordan Bible School, the only theological training school of the Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) in the Western Gambella Bethel Synod of Ethiopia, will help the school meet requirements to become a certified, degreed program. "In a time of crisis, when Ethiopia is overflowing with refugees from neighboring war-torn Sudan, the churches in Ethiopia are desperate for pastors to serve their people," said Michael Weller, who serves with his wife, Rachel, as PC(USA) mission co-workers in Ethiopia, alongside EECMY. The seminary recently voted to add a track for refugees to take classes, with staff and administrators readily agreeing to work more unpaid hours to facilitate these classes to meet the great need for trained pastors. The seminary library project is now halfway to completion, Pollock said. More than 6,000 books have been collected. Volunteers from St. Andrew's Presbyterian have devoted more than 400 hours to sort and prepare the books to be sent to the Theological Book Network (TBN) for shipment to Ethiopia. Churches in the Presbytery of Baltimore, New York and presbyteries in North Carolina have also supported the project. Pollock said TBN is holding the books until a suitable seminary library can be built in Gambella. This part of the project has become more urgent for him, he said, since he was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer in April. "Before I die, I want to know there is a plan to get these books where they belong," Pollock said. "Short of a miracle, there is no cure, only treatment that will extend my life by six to 22 months." In the time remaining, he said he has felt led by the Holy Spirit to see that a proper library is built for the seminary in Gambella. The Western Gambella Bethel Synod currently has 138 churches, 94 preaching points (new churches that are gathering but have not yet organized as congregations), more than 100,000 church members — and only 64 pastors. The synod's five-year plan includes organizing 79 new congregations and creating 174 additional preaching points, increasing the need for well-trained pastors. Jordan Bible School presently has a maximum capacity of 30 students and is limited to offering a two-year certificate program. With construction of the library, the synod plans to double the capacity of the school and upgrade it to be a three-year diploma program to help alleviate the pastor shortage. Pollock believes that building the library has the potential to heighten awareness

and deepen compassion for Christians and mission co-workers in Africa who carry on, despite distressing circumstances. Plans for the library are being finalized and construction is expected to begin next spring with the involvement and support of Leah Preston, Pollock's sister; his nephew, Adam Pollock; and brother, Ron Pollock. The library will be made of simple cement blocks. It will be 23-by-70-feet, surrounded by a veranda to provide an extra study area for the students. The roof system, windows and doors will be fabricated by Ethiopian Steel, based in Addis Ababa, which also made the roof for another building the Pollock family built near Gambella in 2014. Bookshelves will be placed along the walls so they are easier to illuminate at night and to provide space for tables in the center of the room. A row of sunlight tubes will be installed in the center of the building to supplement window light during the day. Backup solar lighting also will be included to address unpredictable electricity in the community.

Tammy Warren, Communications Associate, Presbyterian Mission Agency