

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
November 17, 2019 ~ 11:00 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 Marilyn Neal, Organist

Lighting of the Candles

Introit # 363 *“My Tribute”*

Call to Worship *(Isaiah 12)*

Leader: You will say on that day:

I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away, and you comforted me.

People: Surely God is my salvation;

**I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.**

Leader: With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

And you will say on that day:

**People: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.

**People: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

*Hymn # 71 *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

*Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away
from sin. We hear of terror and trouble and forget your
promise of salvation. We see signs of destruction and try to
save ourselves from harm. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us
the strength to endure every trial that is set before us, always
testifying to your saving love; 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 Isaiah 65:17-25 (pg. 696 of OT)

Anthem *“New Jerusalem”*

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:5-19 (pg. 85 of NT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith *(Brief Statement of Faith)*

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In
sovereign love God created the world good and makes
everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every
race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel
against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s
commandments, we violate the image of God in others and
ourselves, accept lies as truth, and exploit our neighbors. We
deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and
mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of
Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all
families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the
children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a
mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father
who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

*Hymn # 411 *“How Firm a Foundation”*

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 # 428 *“When Peace Like a River”*

*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
	2:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	9:00-3:00 p.m.	WIC meets in Fellowship Hall
	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Leader Training in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Staff Reviews
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall carpet cleaning
	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Dinner Set-Up
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion New Members will Unite
	12:00 p.m.	Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner
	7:00 p.m.	Community Thanksgiving Worship at Hebron Lutheran Church



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; website: www.r-church.com

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, John & Mary Hileman and Kristi & Hannah Eckenroad; 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 loved ones by Terry and Barb Brown.

BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesday, November 20th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Old Testament book of Daniel is our focus. All are welcome.

THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE will meet with staff for annual reviews beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 20th in the parlor.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held this Wednesday, November 20th. 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 20th 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 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 STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, November 21st from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group gathers to work on personal projects and to fellowship. All are welcome.

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.

NEXT SUNDAY, we will join together in Fellowship Hall following worship for our annual Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner. If you haven't signed-up to attend, please use the bulletin insert to RSVP. Those who volunteered to help set-up, we will meet Saturday, November 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

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 CHRISTMAS EVE early worship has traditionally been a service for families with children. This year we would like to have our children of the church participate in the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. Participation can include: speaking, singing, playing a musical instrument – just to name a few. We plan to hold rehearsals during the Sunday School hour with possibly one rehearsal close to Christmas Eve. Please consider having your child be a part of this year's worship service. For more information, please see Cindy Borbonus.

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.

A COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE will be held next Sunday evening, November 24th at 7:00 p.m. Hebron Lutheran Church in Blairsville will be our host. This service of Thanksgiving is sponsored by the Blairsville Area Ministerium.

CALLING ALL SINGERS! The Blairsville Monday Music Club is sponsoring its annual Community Christmas Program, Monday, December 9, 2019 at the C&MA Church in Blairsville at 7:00 p.m. We are welcoming anyone that enjoys singing to participate in the Community Choir. We have two Christmas selections to perform and the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Practices will be as follows:

Monday, November 18..... 7:00-8:30pm C&MA Church
Monday, November 25..... 7:00-8:30pm C&MA Church
Monday, December 2 7:00-8:30pm C&MA Church
Monday, December 9 7:00pm Concert C&MA Church

MISSION MOMENT - Hunger and Homelessness Sunday

Presbyterian congregations are responding to homelessness around the country by preparing meals and sharing produce from community gardens, offering shelter on cold nights, assisting with job skills training and participating in Congregation-Based Community Organizing (CBCO). CBCO is a local coalition of congregations from many faiths working together to root out injustice and build equitable solutions in their neighborhoods and cities. While advocating with people whose voices are too often ignored, congregations find that the vibrancy of their own faith communities increases. When Deborah Agbor-Tabi joined St. James Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC, she found the congregation very involved with the community in areas such as recreation, social events, working with local political leaders, and ministries with youth, seniors, students and those in need of food stamps. Deborah knew that in addition to mercy and faithfulness, God calls the Church to do the work of justice (Micah 6:8, Matthew 23:23-24). Members of St. James have been active for several years in community organizing with their local CBCO, the Charleston Area Justice Ministry. "Each year we focus on one challenge and we research it along with possible solutions. We present these to our public officials in public gatherings. Using the example of Nehemiah, we have an annual gathering ... to ask our officials to adopt and implement the solutions we have identified. Sometimes this can take two to three years, but we are successful. Then we follow up together to be sure it is implemented. Those folks who felt that nothing ever works have heard about our successes and have started to participate," Deborah said. "Together we make a difference for each other, our membership and our community, while also energizing the congregation."