

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
November 3, 2019 ~ 11:00 AM
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Mary Anzelone, 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 # 72 *“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou has been thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided –
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Call to Worship (*Psalms 119*)

Leader: You are righteous, O Lord,
and your judgements are right.

**People: You have appointed your decrees in righteousness
and in all faithfulness.**

Leader: Your promise is well tried,
and your servant loves it.

**People: Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,
and your law is the truth.**

Leader: Trouble and anguish have come upon me,
but your commandments are my delight.

**People: Your decrees are righteous forever;
give me understanding that I may live.**

*Hymn # 25 *“Let All Creation Bless the Lord”*

*Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from
sin. We follow the crowd around you but stand apart, keeping
our distance. We ask for your mercy and favor, but begrudge
your blessing to others. Forgive us, God of grace. Come to us
and save us, for without you, we are lost, but in you, our lives are
found; 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 II Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 (pg. 203 of NT)

Anthem *“Faithful”*

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson Luke 19:1-10 (pg. 82 of NT)

Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

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

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus
proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and
release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the
children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent
and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and
sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus
from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of
sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

*Hymn # 68 *“Come, Thou Fount”*

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 # 408 *“I Am Thine, O Lord”*

*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, Mary Anzelone; Ushers, Bill & Deb Lint, Diane Hanna and Alan Lowman; Projector, Shakira McKinney; Audio, Jaison McKinney; 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 loving memory of Maurice Borbonus by Cindy and family.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in honor of Marilyn Neal, celebrating 15 years as our organist.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will meet Tuesday, November 5th at 6:00 p.m. on the kitchen end of Fellowship Hall.

ELECTION DAY is Tuesday, November 5th. Voting will take place in Fellowship Hall all day.

BIBLE STUDY will not be held Wednesday, November 6th but will resume Wednesday, November 13th.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, November 6th 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, November 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New and familiar voices are always welcomed! Please see Cindy Borbonus for more information.

The Son of Man
came to seek out
and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10, 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

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 FINANCE COMMITTEE will meet Thursday, November 7th to review the budget for 2020.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS will be held Sundays, November 10th and November 17th at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see Pastor Monroe.

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.

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 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. Boxes will soon be available at the back of the church for the collection of food donations. If any member of the congregation is aware of a family who may need a Thanksgiving basket, please contact Pastor Monroe or Marilyn Neal.

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 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 or the church office at 724-459-7991.

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
		<i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Monday Music Club meet in the sanctuary
Tuesday		Voting in Fellowship Hall all day
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Deacon Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Historical Society Dinner & Meeting in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
	1:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Budget Meeting
	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
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

MISSION MOMENT - *Take time to help veterans in need*

Should you visit the village of Belleau, France, today you will find in their cemetery one grave graced by an American flag. Ernest Stricker is buried among the villagers. Each year the staff of the local military cemetery ensure that his grave is decorated. Stricker is the last American soldier to die in the battle of Belleau Wood.

This battle began June 6, 1918, and raged for nearly three weeks. More than 2,000 U.S. Marines were killed and another 8,000 were injured. German casualties are unknown but were likely even greater. The battle concluded on the June 21 that same year.

Stricker fought in the battle but survived. A Swiss native, he became a naturalized U.S. citizen and enlisted in the Army as part of the American Expeditionary Force. Though honorably discharged in 1919, the war continued to rage in his soul. In April 1928 he left a note in his Paris hotel room saying he could not go on and wanted to be buried among his “comrades in arms.” On the morning of April 2, he was discovered on the grounds of the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery, having committed suicide near the remains of the hunting lodge — a structure nearly destroyed in the battle that ultimately destroyed him.

The military cemetery had been closed to burials in 1928, but the villagers of Belleau took him in. Pfc. Ernest Stricker was buried with full military honors on April 5, 1918 — nearly 10 years after the battle of Belleau Wood.

More than 18 million veterans live among us. And of those 18 million, some 18 are likely to commit suicide today.

The women and men who serve in our nation’s military are changed by their service. The vast majority adjust and continue to live full and productive lives. But some, like Stricker, are consumed by the war that rages within.

As we observe this Veterans Day 2019, let us give thanks for all our veterans. And let us especially be mindful of those who struggle today.

Is your congregation veteran-friendly? More veterans seek help through communities of faith than in veteran hospitals. Take time today and consider how your community can help the Strickers in your midst.

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. — Matthew 25.40

Please pray for our chaplains and the men and women they serve in our military and VA hospitals and centers.

Lyman M. Smith, Captain, CHC, USN, retired; Director of the Presbyterian Counsel for Chaplains and Military Personnel