

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
December 22, 2019 ~ 11:00 AM
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Jean Heberling, 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

Lighting of the Candles John Kerin, Acolyte

Introit # 154 *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

Call to Worship (*Psalm 80*)

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
Stir up your might, and come to save us!

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

Leader: O Lord God of hosts,
You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

**People: Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.

**People: Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.**

**All: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

*Hymn # 189 *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light. We
choose what is evil and refuse what is good. We scorn our
neighbors and laugh at others’ troubles. Forgive us; deliver
us; let your face shine on us, so that we may be ready to meet
our Emmanuel, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Clayton Family

**A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above,
a baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth
for Jesus is bringing God’s love to our earth.**

*Sharing of the Peace

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

**“EVERLASTING LIGHT
The Promise of Christmas”**

By Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald, Jay Rouse and Larry Shackley

“Everlasting Light”

“Longing for the Light”

“My Soul Proclaims”

Janet Smith - soloist

“Bethlehem, O Bethlehem”

Ken Doak - soloist

“Shepherds and Angels”

“This Child of Light”

“This Is Christ the King”

“Everlasting Light”

(Finale)

Congregation joins

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*Benediction

*Postlude

(*All who are able, please stand)



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

CHOIR MEMBERS

Sopranos

Kathy Bella
Peg Lockard
Bobbi Monroe
Janet Smith*
Lori Smith
Janeen Swope
Vicky Westley

Basses

Dave Hiltabidle
Brent Ritchie

Altos

Mary Anzelone
Karen Kerin
Beverly Lindsey
Judy Trimble

Tenors

Ken Doak*
Bobby Klingensmith
Pastor Tim Monroe

NARRATORS

Sheila Borbonus and Dennis Gould

ACCOMPANIST

Marilyn Neal

DIRECTOR

Cindy Borbonus

**soloist*



4TH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning's service are Liturgist, Jean Heberling; Acolyte, John Kerin; Advent Readers, the Clayton family; Ushers, Steve & Joan Moran and Rick & Willa Shoemaker; Projector, Kayla Moran; Audio, Elizabeth Bruner; Organist, Marilyn Neal; and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIAS in the sanctuary this morning are given in memory and in honor of loved ones by many in the congregation. A special thank you to Jen Borbonus and the deacons for their work in arranging to have the flowers for the Christmas celebration!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP services are scheduled. Early worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. The service will include the sacrament of communion and candlelight. A traditional communion and candlelight service will be held at 11:00 p.m. All are welcome to worship with us.

OUR CHOIRS will take a rest from rehearsals and resume in the New Year, Wednesday, January 8th.

THE 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available to pick up at the back of the sanctuary. They have been placed in alphabetical order for your convenience. If we missed you or you would like to have envelopes, please contact the church office, 724-459-7991.

THE 2020 FLOWER CHART is hanging in the hallway outside the church office. If you would like to order flowers for Sunday worship, please use the chart to sign-up for your choice of date. Flowers are \$20/Sunday and checks can be made payable to the Board of Deacons. We hope that those ordering flowers through the deacons (signing up on the chart in the hallway) would take the arrangement following worship or pick them up at the church by the following Tuesday. Flowers that remain at the church after Tuesday will be shared with homebound members of the congregation. Please contact the church office with any questions or concerns.

WE WILL CELEBRATE the sacrament of Holy Communion Tuesday, December 24th during the evening worship services. Please take time to prepare to receive and share the sacrament.

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 again Thursday, January 2nd from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group gathers to work on personal projects and to fellowship. All are welcome.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who participated in this year's Holiday Cookie Walk. Thank you to those who baked and donated cookies, those who set-up and cleaned-up Fellowship Hall, and especially to all those who came and purchased goodies. All of the proceeds will be sent to the homeless shelter in Black Lick.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS and treasurers are reminded that reports are requested for the annual Congregational Meeting which will be held Sunday, January 26, 2020 following worship. Please have reports to the church office by Sunday, January 19th. If you have any questions or need information from the office, contact Jill during office hours at 724-459-7991 or email at upchurch@r-church.com.

OFFICE HOURS this week will be abbreviated. Please call before you stop by. The office will be closed Tuesday through Thursday, December 24-26th in observance of the Christmas holiday. Please have any announcements for the December 29th bulletin into the office by Monday, December 23rd.

REGULAR SCHEDULE BEGINS:

Sunday *4th Sunday of Advent*
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
 11:00 a.m. Christmas Cantata
 Christmas Joy Offering received
Tuesday 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall reserved
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship
 Communion & Candlelight
 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship
 Communion & Candlelight
 Office Closed
Wednesday MERRY CHRISTMAS!
 Office Closed
Thursday Office Closed
Friday Fellowship Hall reserved
Saturday Fellowship Hall reserved
Sunday 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Worship