

Second 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

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Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

December 6, 2020 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Rev. Timothy Monroe

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

arr. by Bennett

Call to Worship (*Psalm 85*)

Mary Anzelone, Liturgist

Leader: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

**People: For he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him
in their hearts.**

Leader: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

**People: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Leader: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**People: The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**

**All: Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.**

*Hymn # 158 “Blessed Be the God of Israel”

*Prayer of Confession

**God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you.
You call us to repent, but we turn away from you. You wait
patiently for us, but we fail to watch and wait for you. Forgive us,**

God of grace. Embrace us with tender mercy so that we may be at one with you when all your glory is revealed; through 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

Terry and Barb Brown

***A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.***

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Anthem

“Carol for Advent”

by Price and Besig

Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Betsy Holby, flute

New Testament Lesson

II Peter 3:8-15a

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(The Larger Catechism, Q.56)

How is Christ to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world?

Christ is to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world, in that he, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the last day in great power, and in the full manifestation of his own glory, and of his Father's, with all his

holy angels, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, to judge the world in righteousness.

*Hymn # 428 “When Peace Like a River”

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer (“...debts...and debtors...”)

*Hymn # 358 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*Benediction

*Postlude

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

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning’s service are Liturgist, Mary Anzelone; Advent Readers, Terry and Barb Brown; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Audio/Visual Equipment Techs, Jonathan & Doug Clayton and Dennis Gould.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of our parents by Pat and Janeen Swope.

A VARIETY of Advent Devotionals are available to you. These guides are meant to help you as you move through the season to the coming of the Christ Child. You can pick one up at the back of the sanctuary.

THE BOARD OF DEACONS will meet Tuesday, December 8th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please follow CDC guidelines as we gather.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will meet December 8th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Those attending are asked to follow the governmental guidelines in place for indoor gatherings. Pastor Monroe will be using the sound system so as to be heard clearly. For those who would like to participate from home, we are set up to offer Bible Study via Zoom. If you are interested, please call the church office for more details.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR is rehearsing special music for Christmas. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. As with the Sunday anthems, the special music will be recorded and shared in worship Sunday, December 20th. If you are interested in joining the choir for the holiday season or if you have questions, please contact Cindy Borbonus.

THE STITCHING GROUP will gather in the parlor Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. to work on personal projects and fellowship. All are invited.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to be trained to run the new streaming equipment. If you are interested or available to help out, please see Dennis Gould or contact the church office at 724-459-7991.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for the New Year are available for you to pick up at the back of the sanctuary. If you do not have church offering envelopes and would like a box set or if you would like to have your box mailed to you, please contact the church office at 724-459-7991.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP services are scheduled for 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. We will celebrate with candlelight and the sacrament of communion. The services will be live streamed for those joining us from home. We will continue to follow CDC guidelines during our gatherings. All are welcome.

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.

In-House Worship Guide

- ✓ Stay home, if not feeling well
- ✓ Wear a mask, if able
- ✓ Abide by distancing guides
- ✓ Respect the space of others
- ✓ Restrooms are open, if needed
- ✓ Remain in your seat until dismissed by an usher

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Today	9:45 a.m. Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class
	11:00 a.m. In-House and Online Worship <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>
Monday	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	11:00 a.m. Food Bank Distribution 6:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Bible Study in Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir & Friends Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m. Stitching Group 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Leader Meeting
Sunday	9:45 a.m. Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class 11:00 a.m. In-House and Online Worship <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>

Blest Be the God of Israel

Blest be the God of Israel,
Who comes to set us free,
He visits and redeems us,
And grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
Of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise
To bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David
A child of grace has come,
A Savior who will lead us
To our eternal home.
Before Him goes the herald,
Forerunner in the way,
The prophet of salvation,
The harbinger of day.

On all by death imprisoned
The sun begins to rise,
The dawning of forgiveness
Upon the sinner's eyes,
To guide the feet of pilgrims
Along the paths of peace;
Oh bless our God and Savior
With songs that never cease!

Hal H. Hopson | Michael Perry

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When Peace Like a River

C C₂ C C/G G/F C/E G7/D G G7 C Am E7/B Am/C

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
 3 My sin—O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, my sin—not in
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled

Am/C G/D D G G7 C C/E F A7/E Dm D7

sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 sur - ance con - trol: that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

G Am/G G C/E Dm7/F C/G G C/G C Refrain N.C. C C/E

say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
 tate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well
 more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is
 scend: "E - ven so"—it is well with my soul.

G N.C. G G7 C F C/G G C/G C

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 well with my soul,

358 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

B \flat Eb B \flat F7 B \flat F/E \flat E \flat B \flat F7 B \flat

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
 3 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;

E \flat B \flat F7 F \sharp dim7 Gm E \flat B \flat F7 B \flat

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:

Gm Gm Gm D7 Gm D B \flat E \flat B \flat F C C7 F7

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

B \flat E \flat B \flat F7 F \sharp dim7 Gm E \flat B \flat F7 B \flat

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.