



FIRST 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](mailto:upchurch@r-church.com); website: [www.r-church.com](http://www.r-church.com)

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

November 27, 2022 ~ 11:00 AM

*First Sunday of Advent*

**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

“Panis Angelicus”

By Franck

Introit

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

# 614

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, children all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Jill Jackson | Sy Miller CCLI License # 1214765 © 1955. Renewed 1983 Jan - Lee Music

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Call to Worship (*Psalms 122*)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Leader: Jerusalem – built as a city that is bound firmly together.

**People: To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
as was decreed for Israel,**

**to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

Leader: For there the thrones for judgement were set up,  
the thrones of the house of David.

**People: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**

**“May they prosper who love you.**

Leader: Peace be within your walls,  
and security within your towers.”

**People: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say,  
“Peace be within you.”**

**For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek your good.**

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

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light. We study  
the ways of war; we stray from the paths of peace. By day we  
waste your gifts; by night we dishonor your name. Forgive us;  
deliver us; awaken us to your Word, so that we may be ready to  
welcome you with joy, in 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

Dennis and Nancy Gould

***A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in November’s dark night.  
While angels sing blessing from heaven’s starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.***

\*Sharing of the Peace

## **DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

Anthem

“Someday There’ll Be Peace On Earth”

By Peterson

The Chancel Choir - Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

- \*Affirmation of Faith *(Heidelberg Catechism, Q.52)*  
What comfort does the return of Christ “to judge the living and the dead” give you?  
**That in all affliction and persecution I may await with head held high the very Judge from heaven who has already submitted himself to the judgment of God for me and has removed all the curse from me; that he will cast all his enemies and mine into everlasting condemnation, but he shall take me, together with all his elect, to himself into heavenly joy and glory.**
- \*Hymn # 318 “Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending”  
Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer (*“...debts...and debtors...”*)  
Choral Amen
- \*Hymn # 534 “When the King Shall Come Again”
- \*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 copy of our newsletter, *Uplift* 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, Jean Heberling; Advent Readers, Dennis and Nancy Gould; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Guest Organist, Pam Irwin.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my father, Alvin Kitzmiller by Mary Gorslene.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS will not meet today but will resume next Sunday. Please see the schedule of dates and times below.

Sixth Gathering ..... December 4 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

At the Homer City Presbyterian Church

Meet with the Elders ..... December 11 – 12:00 p.m.

Unite with the Congregation ..... December 18 – 11:00 a.m.

GRANNIES sewing group will meet Monday in Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. There are tasks for all skill levels. All are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday in Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM. We continue through the gospel of John followed by a study in Revelation. We hope you will join us.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR will gather for rehearsal Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Bell Room. Anyone interested in joining with the Bell Choir is welcome. Training will be offered to those who are new to ringing. Please see Vicky Westley for more information.

CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal will be held Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New voices are always welcome! If you enjoy making a joyful noise, we would love for you to join us. Please see Cindy Borbonus if you would like more information.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC for the season will be rehearsed immediately following chancel choir from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Those who would like to participate with the holiday music are welcome. Please see Cindy for details.

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

OUR DEACONS will be assembling Christmas Boxes for families in need in our community. Each box will include menu items to prepare a Christmas dinner. Hams and potatoes will be provided by the deacons. Donations are being received and include: canned vegetables (no corn or green beans), canned fruit, Jello, boxed dessert mixes and canned sweet potatoes. If you are donating from your cupboard, please check expiration dates. A container is available at the back of the sanctuary to collect donations.

OUR ANNUAL COOKIE WALK has been scheduled. Families in the congregation are asked to donate at least 4 dozen cookies, candies, or holiday treats (please no cupcakes, cakes, or pies) for our Holiday Cookie Sale to be held Saturday, December 3rd, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (*note the time change*) in the Fellowship Hall. Please invite your fellow bakers, family, friends, groups or organizations to participate. All baked goods may be dropped off in a disposable container on Friday, December 2nd from 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

Also, volunteers are needed to help with the Cookie Walk on December 3rd. If you have any questions or would like to help, contact Joan Moran, Erica Ash or the church office. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of the sanctuary. Please let us know what kind of cookie you will be donating so we don't have too many duplicates!

DURING THE HOLIDAYS make your best cookies and shop for the rest! The congregation and community are invited to purchase delicious holiday treats at the Annual Holiday Cookie Walk for gift giving, holiday parties, etc. on Saturday, December 3rd from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (*note the time change*) Cookies are \$8.00/pound and all proceeds will benefit “Share the Joy.”

CUSTOM KEEPSAKE ORNAMENTS of the church from Wendall August Forge are available to purchase at a cost of \$12.00 each. Checks can be made payable to the church. Please see Linda George or contact the church office.

THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE is being held. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats for kids in need. Please mark your donation clearly for “Coat Drive” and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to run the audio/visual equipment in the balcony each Sunday morning. Those interested will be trained. Please see Jean Heberling or Doug Clayton if interested.

THE DEACONS are planning a CPR training class. They would like to know how many would be interested in attending before final plans are set. If you are interested in being a part of a CPR training, please contact Judy Trimble or the church office. Once we get an idea of class size, dates and times will be announced.

AN USHER SIGN-UP SHEET is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to participate in worship as an usher/greeter, please sign-up. There are dates available. Our deacons thank you.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS FOR THE WEEK INCLUDE:

Friends of our church who are unable to be with us this morning

Our pastor and church leaders

Our Rwanda Partner – the Gitarama Presbyterian Church

Compassion child: Samuel Mutabazi

Our country and government leaders

***Students of the Week:***

Brady Doak and Matthais DePalma

***November Leaders:***

Elders: Gene Artman and Rick Shoemaker

Deacons: Elizabeth Bruner and Vicky Doty

## **REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

- Today** 11:00 a.m. First of Advent Worship
- Monday** 9:00 a.m. Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts meet in Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study meets  
5:30 p.m. Personnel Committee meet for Staff Reviews  
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m. Christmas Music Rehearsal
- Thursday** 2:00 p.m. Stitching Group
- Saturday** 1:00 p.m. Cookie Walk Setup  
3:00-5:00 p.m. Cookie Walk
- Sunday** 10:00 a.m. New Members Meet  
11:00 a.m. Second of Advent Worship  
5:00-7:00 p.m. Confirmation Class meets at Homer  
City Presbyterian Church