



Do not think of yourself
**more highly
than you ought,**
but rather think of yourself
with sober judgment,
in accordance with
**the faith God
has distributed**
to each of you.

ROMANS 12:3, NIV

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”*

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

August 27, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

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

“Jesus Medley”

Dave Hiltabidle, saxophone – Cindy Borbonus, piano

Call to Worship (*Psalm 124*)

Jean Heberling, Liturgist

Leader: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,

**People: Then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;**

Leader: Then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;

**People: Then over us would have gone
the raging waters.**

Leader: Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

**People: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

*Hymn # 84

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

*Prayer of Confession

God our redeemer, we confess that we remain captivated by sin. You let the oppressed go free, but we allow oppression to continue. You give away the keys to your realm, but we try to stand guard at the gates. Forgive us; liberate us! Let us be no longer bound by sin, but released, restored, set free to worship and serve you in freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson

Romans 12:1-8

Special Music "Nobody Knows the Trouble Medley"

Dave Hiltabidle, saxophone – Cindy Borbonus, piano

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 31)

Why is he called Christ, that is, the Anointed One?

Because he is ordained by God the Father and anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, fully revealing to us the secret purpose and will of God concerning our redemption; to be our only High Priest, having redeemed us by the one sacrifice of his body and ever interceding for us with the Father; and to be our eternal King, governing us by his Word and Spirit, and defending and sustaining us in the redemption he has won for us.

*Hymn # 420 "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (*debt...and debtors...*)

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 442 "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

*Benediction

*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; Special Music, Dave Hiltabidle; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Usher, Alan Lowman.

THE GRANNIES will gather in Fellowship Hall Monday at 9:00 a.m. and will work until 12:00 noon. There are a variety of tasks for everyone. All are welcome.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship. You are invited to bring a project you're working on and join the group.

VOLUNTEERS to assist during the worship service are always needed. There are a variety of ways you can become involved as an assistant. Call the office if interested.

Usher/Greeter—welcome those coming in for worship and hand them a bulletin; answer questions; and carry the offering plate forward.

Liturgist—assist the minister, from the pulpit, by leading the Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession and reading scripture

Audio-Visual Tech—after training, take your turn in rotation to run the sound and slides from the balcony during worship, and live-stream the service for those at home.

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 Linda George or the church office. All requests are kept confidential unless permission is given to share with others.

AFTER A BREAK for the summer months, our Board of Deacons will begin gathering for monthly meetings starting in September. The next deacon meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

OUR BELL CHOIR rehearsals will begin at 6:00 p.m. on September 6th, the first Wednesday after Labor Day. We need 1 or 2 more ringers to complete our 2-octave choir and 3 or 4 more ringers to be able to play our 3-octave music. If you have ever thought of giving handbells a try, please contact Vicky Westley. We can plan a time to meet so you can "test it out" before committing to ringing with the Bell Choir.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR will begin Wednesday rehearsals on September 6th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We would love to have new voices join the choir! Many of our seasoned members will not be able to be with us this fall. If you are interested in singing with the choir, please see Cindy Borbonus. All are welcome!

OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE begins Sunday, September 10th. The worship hour will begin at 11:00 a.m. and our Chancel Choir will be back in worship with us. Our plans for Sunday School continue to be discussed. Please watch your weekly bulletins for updates.

WE WILL HOST an American Red Cross Blood Drive Friday, September 8th from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All who come out to donate will receive a Red Cross t-shirt, while supplies last and a coupon for a free haircut at Sport Clips Haircuts. For more information, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 800-Red Cross.

SAVE THE DATE! The Congregational Fellowship Committee is planning a Soup & Sandwich Luncheon for Sunday, October 15th following worship. We will gather around tables in Fellowship Hall for a time of refreshment and fellowship. Watch your bulletin for more information.

THE WORK of the Nominating Committee is some of the most important in the life of the church. They will be meeting soon to begin their work. Those serving have the responsibility to bring before the congregation the names of those who will potentially serve as elders and deacons. Please be in prayer for them as they discern God's will for our church's leadership. Also be in prayer for those individuals who will be asked to serve.

The Nominating Committee includes:

Kim McKinney-chair, Gene Artman-elder, Chris Antis-deacon, Elaine Jellison, Barb Brown, Lynette Borbonus, Linda George and Pastor Monroe. Willa Shoemaker and Diana Messenger are the alternates.

A FALL FESTIVAL will be held at Gray Wing Park in New Alexandria Saturday, September 9th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Many activities are planned with craft and other vendors, live entertainment, food trucks, Fox's Pizza Race, hay rides, pumpkin decorating and more.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Monday Music Club rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:30 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
