



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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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

September 3, 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

“Love Was When”

Arr. Don Wertzen

Pam Irwin, organ – Cindy Borbonus, piano

Call to Worship (*Psalm 105*)

Rick Shoemaker, Liturgist

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**People: Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**People: Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works he has done,
O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

*Hymn # 82 “Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”

*Prayer of Confession

God our redeemer, we confess that we remain captivated by sin. We seek profit and pleasure in the world but you offer us a greater glory. We strive to preserve our way of life but you call us to give our lives away. 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 12:9-21
Special Music	“The Lord Is My Light” <i>Based on Psalm 27</i>	Arr. Allitsen
	Pam Irwin, organ – Cindy Borbonus, piano	
Gospel Lesson		Matthew 16:21-28
Sermon		Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

- *Affirmation of Faith *(Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 43)*
 What further benefit do we receive from the sacrifice and death of Christ on the cross?
That by his power our old self is crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil passions of our mortal bodies may reign in us no more, but that we may offer ourselves to him as a sacrifice of thanksgiving.
- *Hymn # 350 “The Summons”
 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 # 509 “Onward, Christian Soldiers”
- *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, Rick Shoemaker; Special Music, Organ and Piano Duet; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Usher, Alan Lowman.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Linda George.

THE OFFICE will be closed Monday, September 4th in recognition of the Labor Day holiday.

AFTER A BREAK for the summer months, our Board of Deacons will begin gathering for monthly meetings. 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!

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.

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.

OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE begins next 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.

FIRST SATURDAY volunteers will meet Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This will be an informational, brainstorming, organizational meeting. If you are interested in being a children's ministry volunteer, please join the group and bring your ideas.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 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. Lunch will be provided by the committee. Those attending are asked to bring a dessert. The day will also include "Men with Mixers" with proceeds supporting our Coats for Kids outreach. Watch the back of the sanctuary for a sign-up sheet for those who would like to participate. Please contact Joan Moran or Linda George for more information.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE will soon begin to review information for the 2024 church budget. Committee chairs are asked to begin planning for next year and consider your financial needs. If you have any questions or would like additional information that would help your planning process, please contact the church office.

We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion next Sunday during worship. Please take time this week to prepare to receive and share the sacrament.

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.

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.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in Clarksburg will host a Movie Night September 17th at 6:00 p.m. You are cordially invited to join them in their sanctuary to watch the presentation of the movie "The Jesus Revolution." This is a true story of a national spiritual awakening in the early 1970's and its origins within a community of teenage hippies in Southern California. The movie is rated PG-13 and is approximately two hours long.

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.

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.

THE ANGELS' WINGS PROGRAM provides gifts at Christmas time to individuals and families who reside in Indiana County and who financially qualify, in addition to providing gifts to veterans as a thank you for their service to our country. It's sponsored by Diamond Drugs, Inc. in cooperation with ICCAP. If you are interested in ways you can help, look online at <https://www.angelswingsprogram.com> or email angelswings@diamondpharmacy.com.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday		Office Closed – Labor Day
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Historical Society Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:30 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
Friday	12:00-5:00 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall

REGULAR SCHEDULE BEGINS:

Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion
	1:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall reserved