



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

*Welcomes You to
Worship!*

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE
Clatterbuck

J. David

RINGING OF THE HOUR
Berger

Janice

WELCOME GOOD PEOPLE

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come! All of us. Come!

People: Let us join the happy crowds to honor the name of the Lord!

Leader: Come! From the hustle and bustle of your lives. Come!

People: Lay aside your to-do lists, your cell phones, your TV remotes.

Leader: Come! Cast your worries and your fears aside. Come!

People: Come and lay our cloak before him. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the Highest!

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEIVING LOVE

CHORAL PROCESSIONAL HYMN
Choir

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Laurel

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Bittersweet Love, we confess that we are all too happy to wave you on and go along than to stand alone trying to practice love of neighbor. We prefer to shout our “Hosanna’s” rather than to lovingly root out injustice or to seek mercy. At the start of Holy Week, be patient with us as we become lost in this parade; forgetful that Jesus came to save us from ourselves. Give us eyes to see and yet the grace to sustain the seeing. Help us not shrink back from bearing your cross into all of the places of our lives. Pour out your forgiveness so that we might be forever changed by the power of this humble and giving love, that meets us in the unknowing, so that we might claim the love that claims us at the cross, for we pray this in the name of that one who rides in on a donkey this day but exits on a cross on Friday.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . Amen

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: Beloved, hear the good news: We are created in the very image and likeness of God. And because we are, we can always begin again and again to claim the love that claims us at the cross. Friends believe this good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

CHORAL RESPONSE

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Laurel Choir

PROCLAIMING LOVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 11: 1-11 (NRSV)

SERMON

“Abandoned to the Parade”

The Rev. Ann D.

Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

CHORAL ANTHEM
Choir

Behold the King/Open the Eyes of My Heart

Laurel

PROFESSION OF FAITH
Henderson

The Nicene Creed 1.2

Michael

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all

things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

CHORAL RESPONSE *There is a Redeemer* Laurel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

CHORAL HYMN *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* Laurel Choir

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION The Rev. Ann D.
Cherry

POSTLUDE J. David
Clatterbuck

Lay Reader: Thank you to Michael Henderson for serving as our liturgist today. We are also very grateful to David Clatterbuck, our Choir and WPT.

Our Sanctuary Flowers: Our flowers are given this morning by Michael Henderson, to the glory of God and in memory of his father, H. Lee Henderson.

Worship Production Team (WPT): A special thank you to Duane Berger, Ruby van't Riet, Ann Whitby and Steve Scarce for recording and producing our worship services.

LIVE from Laurel Pres! You can now connect to us at our regular worship time and worship alongside of your Worship Production Team. Just go to our website, click Services, and this will bring you to our YouTube page. This should play automatically and if not just click the link again for today's date.

In-Person Worship Is Back!! We are open and happy to be back in person. Please know that we love you and want you to make attendance choices that reflect what is best for your well-being. We understand if you still prefer to stay at home. We are a judgement free zone :)

Zoom Help? To connect to any church program by Zoom, just click the link. You don't even need to download the Zoom app. Just click through to join, and agree to let your audio and video be used. If you run into issues, we are here to help you brainstorm a way through. Just email Rev. Ann at laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com.

Leading with the Heart of God: The practice of leading with the heart of God continues now more than ever as we enter Holy Week. Keep on keeping on as we walk in solidarity with our Suffering Servant this long, hard, week ahead.

Last Call for Easter Hydrangeas: \$21.95. Today is the last day that orders can be placed. Please either (1) complete the pink form in the bulletin and drop in church house in narthex, (2) call Duane Berger and leave a message at (804) 876-3414, or (3) email the church at laurelpres@verizon.net. Please include your name and telephone number and indicate if the flowers are in memory of or in honor of those named. Note on your checks that this is for Easter Hydrangeas.

Palm Sunday: Today we wave our branches high as our choir symbolically parades into worship to join with the ancient biblical people who honored Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem that began what we know as Holy Week. It is a bittersweet day of knowing and unknowing of the events to come.

Maundy Thursday, 5 pm: Join us as we participate in this very special service to commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus at 5 pm. This is the night of the Passover feast that holds the Last Supper celebration. It is the day where Jesus becomes both the Passover Lamb himself, as well as, our servant leader in the foot-washing ritual. We have learned from the Judeo Christian tradition that the sacrifice instinct recognizes symbolically that something needs to die for something new to be born. Together, as this Body of Christ, we will move from the table to the garden, and finally to the cross. Please join us for this pivotal experience of dying to ourselves, so something new can be born.

Good Friday Experience: April 2nd, 1 – 4 pm. Please join us for a self-guided outdoor experience of letting go of all that is not of God as we walk with Jesus to the cross. It is meditative and designed to support an encounter with our living God as we embrace the hard realities of the cross. We intend to be outside on the front lawn by the bell. If it should rain, we will hold it inside and will give you privacy and space to meander your way through.

Easter Service: April 4th – 10 am. Please bring your fresh-cut flowers to flower our cross as we gather to celebrate the gift of new life. Let your wonder and awe join with the universe as we give thanks for this gift of Love that even death cannot deny.

Easter Egg Hunt: An Easter Egg Hunt will follow worship out by the bell. Masks are required and we will space everyone out so our fun is COVID-safe. All are welcomed.

Laurel Visioning Team: Our Session voted to organize a Vision Team to begin to discern God's call for Laurel and how we might think about making love known through our church. If this is something that speaks to you, please contact Rev. Ann at laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com. We will be meeting by Zoom in late April. Our goal is to provide our initial report to Session in June.

Our Tithes and Our Offerings: Thank you for your gifts to support how we make God's love known through Laurel. There is a small church house in the narthex for your offering if you are attending in-person worship. You can also mail in your tithes and offerings using our post office address: P.O. Box 1280, Glen Allen, VA 23060-1280

Old, But Reliable Car Needed: We were contacted by someone who needs transportation help. Contact Rev. Ann or Nana Sarfo-Kantanka if you have a tip about a good but inexpensive car.

Call to Prayer: Please keep vigilant and awake as we pray our way through Holy Week. Try to participate in as many Holy Week opportunities as you can so you can fully appreciate the depth of love that is poured out for all of us.

Pastoral Care: Please call/text the Rev. Ann Cherry at (804) 873-1990, or email her at laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com

The Shepherd of the Month: Please reach out to Gladys Bowles at 266-0541 for extra TLC.

L a u r e l P r e s b y t e r i a n C h u r c h

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister

Rob McBane, Treasurer

J. David Clatterbuck, Director of Music

Wayne Deisher, Bookkeeper

Diane Jackson, Session, MCM Team

Stephen Searce, Session, SP Team

Mary Jane Bowlin, Session MCM Team

Michael Henderson, Session, WE Team

Nana Sarfo-Kantanka, Session, MCM Team

Duane Berger, Session, WE Team

Linda Coulson, Session, MCM Team

Find Us Here:

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