



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Pentecost 15

September 5, 2021 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Mary Searce

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit of the Living God

Hymn No. 288

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Henderson

Leader: We have gathered here to worship God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

People: **We gather here surrounded by God's mercy and grace, to make our love known through Christ.**

Leader: Praise be to God, whose goodness and understanding fill our days.

People: **Praise be to God, whose ways point the way to peace and justice.****

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL GATHERING HYMN

Morning Has Broken Vs. 1-3

Hymn No. 664

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of us all, your grace and mercy are our guiding lights. We give you our thanks and praise for loving us through thick and thin. For too often, we forget or ignore your presence in our lives. Too often, we treat your children unequally, seeing some of us as more important than others. Too often, we forget that our daily actions need to reflect your love through us. Forgive our missteps and open us again to see, hear, and act as kingdom people. Lead us back to you to embrace abundant life for all of your children, for we ask this through Jesus, who is and was and always will be, our Christ.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . Amen

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: Beloved Ones, 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 in Christ.
Friends, believe this good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

CHORAL RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Hymn No. 581

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING LOVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 7:31-38 (NRSV)

ANTHEM

Here Am I, Lord, Send Me

Laurel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

James 2: 1-8 (NRSV)

SERMON

"Be Opened"

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

MUSICAL OFFERING

In Christ There Is No East Or West Vs. 1-3

Hymn No. 317

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Michael Henderson

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father; from thence he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Come to the Table of the Lord

Laurel Choir

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Beloved and Creator God, you commanded light to shine out of darkness, divided the sea and dry land, created the vast universe and called it good . . . Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: We praise you, most holy God . . . As you raised our Lord from death and call us with him from death to life, we give ourselves to you to live for him in joy and grateful praise. All praise to you, Lord Jesus:

People: Dying you destroyed our death, Rising you restored our life, Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us . . . Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

SENDING CHORAL HYMN

Live Into Hope Vs. 1 & 4

Hymn No. 772

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

*POSTLUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

***Please feel free to stand during our worship service.**

**Adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021, Karin Ellis, liturgist author for September 5, 2021.

Lay Reader: Thank you to Michael Henderson for serving as our liturgist today.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day by Rob and Michelle McBane to the glory of God and in honor of Meghan's birthday.

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

Invitation to Move or Not: You are invited to stand, stretch, and move during our worship service or even to remain seated. Your comfort is key, so make yourself at home.

Passing of the Peace: You are invited to greet each other with air hugs and waves in the name of our Beloved One.

Refugee Love: We are partnering with Gregory Memorial and First Presbyterian churches to respond to the refugees who have arrived at Fort Lee. See the insert in the bulletin for the urgent needs of this group. We would like to collect gifts for the Afghan refugees by next Sunday. Mary Scarce and Carolyn Stinger are running point on this project for us.

Small Groups Happening at Laurel: Small groups are one way that we can grow together in our practice of Christianity and in our love as a beloved community. We are offering two ways for us to form even deeper connective tissue with each other. All are welcome.

Our First Small Group kicks off Thursday at 1pm: This group led by Chris Rogen of VCU will be reading *Dusk, Night, Dawn* by Anne Lamott. The focus will be tackling our thinking

around the third third of life, and the perceptions (and misperceptions of) beauty. We will be intentionally identifying meaning and purpose in our lives.

Our Second Small Group Starts on Tuesday October 5th at 4 pm: We will be reading *The Way to Love* by Anthony De Mello and we will talk about how we claim the image of God inside of us, which De Mello suggests is everything we need to be content. This group will learn how to practice contemplation and will be led by Ann Cherry.

Meet Chris Rogen: Chris, the small group leader of *Dusk, Night, Dawn*, will be outside by our ramp entrance after worship today to greet you.

Mask On or Mask Off? Given the uptick of the highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19 (this is not the same variant we dealt with this past winter), your Session is now recommending that we encourage masking indoors. This recommendation is made regardless of our vaccination status. Please sit every other pew and make use of the hand sanitizing stations at the front and back of the church.

Singing: You can tap and clap without a mask, and hum if you have a mask on. You can also sing if you use one of the Broadway masks like those that that David Clatterbuck, our Director of Music, ordered for our choir last fall. The website URL for ordering these masks is: broadwayreliefproject.com/singersmask

Call for Pictures: We are going to begin featuring the faces of Laurel Love before worship each Sunday. Send your pictures to Duane Berger at otm88@rcn.com.

Mission Completed: Thank you for your generosity – your love for Coal Pit Learning Center was amazing and appreciated. Special thanks to Judy Smith for running point, and to Jim Smith and Jim Clark who delivered our haul. 93 books in all were donated from Laurel.

Choir Rehearsals Resume on Thursday Sept. 9th at 5:30 pm: All those interested in singing in the choir, please join us on Thursday nights. We will be wearing the Broadway singing masks.

Bulletin Announcements Best Guide: Please use this as your church event planner for our life together. Sometimes the schedule needs to shift from what is posted in our newsletter.

Our Tithes and Our Offerings: Please mail in your tithes and offerings using our post office address: P.O. Box 1280, Glen Allen, VA 23060-1280.

Friday, Dedicated Day Off: Rev. Ann is taking Fridays off and one other day during the seven-day week that will flex depending on the needs of our congregation for the week.

Pastoral Care: Please call or text Rev. Ann at **804-508-3850** or email her at laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com. Please feel free to use her personal cell to reach out at 804-873-1990 if she misses a call/text on the church cell. She wants to be present to us :)

September Shepherd of the Month: Michelle McBane is our Shepherd of the Month for September. You can reach Michelle at (804) 432-3760. Shepherds provide member care and TLC.

LIVE from Laurel Pres! Whether at Laurel or from home, we can all worship together. To connect virtually at our regular service time, go to our website (laurelpres.com), choose the “Worship” tab, and follow the link to our YouTube page. The service should play automatically.

Call to Prayer: Let us be in prayer for the Afghan refugees who are a displaced people starting their lives once again.

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 Scearce, 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

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Let Love Be Known Here

“Be Opened” Mark 7:34 b