



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Baptism of our Lord

January 23, 2022 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

As the Deer

Hymn No. 626

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gladys Chamberlayne

Leader: Come to the river of life.

People: Listen for the words of love.

Leader: Come to the waters of grace.

People: Receive the gift of acceptance.

Leader: Come to the river of love

People: Where all are known and welcomed by our Beloved One.

*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; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING MUSICAL HYMN

Baptized in Water

Hymn No. 482

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Loving One, when we forget that we are your beloved ones too, draw us ever closer to you. When we fail to hear your voice of love, whisper your words of reassurance. When we do not reflect your divine image within us, remind us. Let your mercy and grace wash over us and bathe us in your abundant love, so that we might remember who we are and to whom we belong, for we pray this in the name of Jesus, who is and was and always will be, our Christ. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . AMEN.

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: 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 grow in deeper likeness.

Beloved, believe this good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*MUSICAL RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Hymn No. 581

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING LOVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43: 1-7 (NRSV)

MUSICAL DEVOTION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 (The Message/NRSV)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Beloved, Claim the Love that Claims You"

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

MUSICAL RESPONSE

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed 1.2

Gladys Chamberlayne

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.

*MUSICAL RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn No. 609

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Michael Henderson

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

SENDING MUSICAL HYMN

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door

Hymn No. 728

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

POSTLUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

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

Lay Reader: Thank you to Gladys Chamberlayne and Michael Henderson for serving as our liturgists today.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day by Gladys and Marshall Chamberlayne to the glory of God and in memory of their son, Sid.

Baptism of our Lord: We are circling back to celebrate the Baptism of our Lord since it was not celebrated during Ann's absence. Typically, it is celebrated the first Sunday after Epiphany.

Passing of the Peace: You are invited **to stand and greet each other with air hugs and waves** in the name of our Beloved One to show forth your Laurel Love :)

Friendship Pads: Old and New friends, please take a moment to fill out the Friendship Pads. It is important that we have a way to contact you in the event we need to proceed with contact tracing for COVID. Even if you think we have your info, please provide a cell phone or email contact. Friendship Pads can be found at the end of the pews :)

Vison Team Meets Today: The Vision Task Force will meet today in the sanctuary right after worship.

New COVID-19 Protocols: The COVID Task Force is advising Session regarding next steps to keep us safe at worship. The Session has adopted these recommendations:

- Protective masks for all.
- Worship leaders will speak with a mask on.
- Pews are roped off in order for us to sit every other one; please allow ample distance between you and your neighbor.
- All doors to our worship space will remain open to allow for airflow and a touchless entry.
- We will refrain from hugging, handshaking, or close talking as hard as this is.
- We encourage everyone to stay home with even the slightest hint of cold symptoms or if you are immune compromised. Thankfully we can all participate in worship through our online streaming platform.

Hand sanitizers are available at both entrances, and we are researching freestanding units to replace the bottles. We will ride out this wave too and soon we will be on the other side of this.

COVID Notification: Please know that your safety is our first concern and if you have been at a church event or at the church when preschoolers are present and test positive for COVID, please let the pastor know or a member of the COVID Task Force (Ann Whitby, Brenda MacRae, Mary Scarce).

Please note that your name will not be mentioned, and you will be helping us to protect each other.

The COVID Task Force will then meet and advise the Session about our next steps.

One thing we have learned through this global pandemic is that we are all interconnected and that we all impact each other. The good news is that we are in this together and held together by Laurel Love, which is the Love of God.

Winter Weather: Should we experience winter conditions, we will most likely close out of an abundance of caution. Every attempt will be made to post this notification online, to send out a group email and to activate our phone tree.

New Officer Ordination and Installation: A service of installation and ordination for our new officers will be held on January 30th during our regular morning worship. Congratulations to Tod Balsbaugh, Duane Berger, Gladys Bowles, Michael Henderson, Brenda MacRae and Denis Ramdas. Until our new officers are installed and ordained, our current class of officers is still active.

Weekly Tithes and Our Offerings: We have placed a small church house on the table in the Narthex and invite you to leave your gifts to support God's work as you depart. You can also mail in your pledges and weekly offerings using our post office address: P.O. Box 1280, Glen Allen, VA 23060-1280

Our Small Group meets Thursdays at 1 pm: Led by **Chris Rhoden** of VCU, we will be reading *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen. This group is meeting in the fellowship hall. Masks are required. All are welcome.

Captain Needed to Lead Our Online Community: We need a captain to nurture and shepherd our online community. If this opportunity captures your imagination, please reach out to Ann Cherry. Thank you to Pete MacRae for taking point on our online giving initiative and Tod Balsbaugh for taking point on stewardship.

Faces of Laurel Love: Thanks to the ingenious work of our Worship Production Team, our projector is back in action. 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.

Choir Rehearsals: Please let David Clatterbuck, Director of Music, know if you are interested in joining us. We practice on Thursdays at 5:30 pm and will be wearing the Broadway Singing Masks.

Singing Alternatives: If you would like to sing during worship, please purchase the Broadway Singing Mask. Otherwise, feel free to participate by humming, tapping and clapping to show our love of God. The mask link: <https://www.broadwayreliefproject.com/singersmask>

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.

LIVE from Laurel Pres! You can virtually connect at our regular service time or any time thereafter. Go to laurelpres.com, choose the "worship" tab, and follow the link to our YouTube page.

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.

Armchairs in the Back: We have 2 dedicated spots in the back right in front of the sound booth for those who might prefer seats with arms.

January Shepherd of the Month: Bonnie Poff is our Shepherd of the Month for January. You can reach her at (804) 672-0911. Shepherds provide member care and TLC

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.

Call to Prayer: Let us be in prayer for all those who are suffering, who are marginalized, who are carrying heavy burdens, and for all those with COVID or treating COVID patients. Let us continue to pray that we will claim the Love that claims us in Christ as beloved ones of our Creator God.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister

Rob McBane, Treasurer

J. David Clatterbuck, Director of Music

Wayne Deisher, Bookkeeper

Chris Rhoden, Small Group Leader

Gladys Bowls, Elder, SP Team

Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team

Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team

Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team

Stephen Scarce, Elder, SP Team

Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

Duane Berger, Elder, WE Team

Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team

Michael Henderson, Elder, Clerk

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“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” Luke 3:22b (NRSV)

Let Love Be Known Here