



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Easter 6

May 22, 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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ Is Alive

Laurel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Short

Leader: God lives among us.

People: In work and in play.

Leader: God makes a home among us.

People: In sorrow and celebration.

Leader: Lift your voices in praise that our God is with us!

People: God is alive! Living in us, through us and among us.

*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 HYMN

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

No. 410

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Emmanuel, you dwell with us in all our humanness, in all our messiness, and we are so grateful. We desire to bear your good news, to keep your word, to love you with all our might; yet there are so many times when we fall short and do not bear your beams of love. We want to reflect your givenness of inherent dignity but sometimes we violate that just by not listening with openness, or not assuming positive intent or not seeing clearly your people before us. Despite your gift of peace, we remain timid about boldly embodying your good news as your church. Despite your presence, we would rather follow our own compass and not your directions. Forgive our clinging to old ways as if we were still entombed, and free us to be your risen people bearing this good news for all. For we pray all of these things in the name of the Risen One, who is and was and always will be, our Christ.

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 claim the love that claims us. Beloved, believe this good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*OUR 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

Psalm 67 (NRSVue)

ANTHEM

The Voice of God

Laurel Choir

SCRIPTURE

John 14: 23-29 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Last Things"

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

*HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (vs. 1,4,5)

No. 688

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed 1.2

Carol Short

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.

*OUR RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn No. 609

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Michael Henderson

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN

May the God of Hope Go With Us (Sing Twice)

No. 765

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

*POSTLUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

*RECESSION AND GREETING

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

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

Lay Reader: Thank you Carol Short and Michael Henderson for serving as our liturgists today.

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

Recession and Greeting: Rev. Ann will recess after the charge and benediction to greet us by the front door in the narthex area. She would like to have an opportunity to touch base with every one

of us before we leave for the day. Please take a moment to greet her. This is one pre-pandemic ritual that she would like to reinstate, with an ounce of physical distancing for as precaution :)

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day to the glory of God and in honor of the Vision Task Force for their courage to follow God.

Friendship Pads: Old and new friends, please take a moment to fill out our Friendship Pads. Please provide us with a (cell) phone or email contact. Friendship Pads can be found at the end of the pews :)

Sunday School Has Launched: We are gathering at 9 am in the parking lot on nice days and in the fellowship hall on rainy or hot days. All are welcomed. We are doing a series of “one-off” education programs so that we can dip in and out of class without worry.

Vision Task Force Meets Today: Our VTF will convene in the Parlor after the worship service.

“Dusk, Night, Dawn” Small Group Back in Session: Please join the conversation on Thursday, May 26, as we continue to unpack Parker Palmer’s book, “Let Your Life Speak” and reflect each other’s preciousness.

Choir Rehearsals: The choir will still be singing through July and will take a sabbath for the month of August. Thursday June 16th will be our last practice until the fall. Please let David Clatterbuck, Director of Music, know if you are interested in joining us. We practice on Thursdays at 5:30 pm.

Seminary Intern this Summer: Our Session is thrilled to host Hannah Miller this summer at Laurel. Hannah is completing her first year at Union Presbyterian Seminary. She will be with us from June 12 through August 14th. You will see her in the pulpit, making pastoral calls, and getting to know you as she learns the ropes and the practice of speaking love through this church. Our team to support Hannah is Duane Berger, Mary Jane Bowlin, Diane Jackson, Brenda MacRae and Judy Smith.

Community Groups at Laurel: Chris Rhoden is forming several groups that will begin this summer. You are welcome to participate as you feel led. You can sign up on the bulletin board, or text Chris at (804) 220-1583. If you would like to participate but cost is a factor, there are options: (1) pay what you can (2) pay it forward with community service (3) reach out to Rev. Ann for financial assistance.

1. **“Use Your Inside Voice – Writing for Creativity and Exploration”** will meet weekly starting June 23rd at 3 pm in our Parlor. The cost for this group is \$75 for 4 meetings.
2. **“Wednesdays at Laurel”** is designed to meet the needs of those with memory struggles and their caregivers. One group will meet with Chris and the other with Rev Ann. It will start on

June 1st at 1 pm. The first meeting will include lunch and conversation. The cost is \$30 a meeting.

3. “Tatoos On Your Heart: A book group for men.” We will read “Tatoos On your Heart” written by Fr. Greg Boyle. This group is facilitated by Chris. **Sign-up sheet on bulletin board** or you can text Chris at number above. Group time to be determined after we know who is participating.
4. “Co-Habiting with Grief.” A six-week group to explore how we live on and live through the loss of a beloved one. This group will be facilitated by Chris and Ann. **Sign up on the bulletin board** or text Chris or Ann. Group time to be determined after we know who is participating. Cost is \$30 a session.

Uncorked: Rev. Ann is organizing a group of women to meet Tuesdays once a month at 5:30 pm to mull over contemporary issues with a faith lens. Wine and cheese will be served. We will meet for the first time on May 31 in the parlor.

Thank you for Feeding the Police! Your love is precious and generous. A special thank you to Sue Bell, Duane Berger, Mary Jane Bowlin, Jim Smith, and Mary and Steve Scarce for organizing and delivering our Laurel Love.

NRSVue: After 30 years, the NRSV has been updated to reflect the writings of the Dead Sea Scrolls, which are roughly 2000 years old. Thirty scholars were commissioned by Friendship Press, the National Council of Churches, and the Society for Biblical Literature to create as literal and unencumbered an English translation as possible. We will be using this latest translation as it makes sense in worship.

Masks are Now Optional: Our Session adopted the recommendations of our COVID Task Force and masks are now optional. We want you to feel supported in whatever choice is right for you :)

Update: Masks continue to be optional in worship and at all church gatherings; however, please be mindful that the numbers are rising in the county. Currently Henrico County is in the medium risk category, and our mask policy is appropriate. The Task Force will continue to monitor the numbers and provide updates as needed.

Lots of gratitude to the COVID Task Force of Brenda MacRae, Mary Scarce and Ann Whitby.

Ukraine Love: Many of you have wondered how we might support peace efforts in Europe, displaced and disrupted families, and medical aid for those impacted. The first thing we can do is to keep praying. The second thing we can do is to help fund relief efforts. You can do this through:

- The Presbyterian Church (Missions): pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000156/
- The Red Cross: redcross.org/donate/donation.html/
- St. Jude’s Research Hospital (coordinating care and evacuation of children undergoing treatment): stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html

Transportation Love: Our MCM Team is coordinating rides for those unable to attend our in-person worship. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway if you would like to be a Laurel “uber” driver. Contact Gladys Chamberlayne or Mary Jane Bowlin if you would like to request a ride or for more information. Gladys can be reached at either sidneychamberlayne@comcast.net or 1-804-755-6172 and Mary Jane can be reached at either maryjanebowlin@gmail.com or 1-804-221-1072.

Kettle o’Fish Counseling: Each of us is created by God with purpose and infused with meaning no matter our season of life. If you are interested in exploring yours, please reach out to Chris Rhoden at (804) 220-1583. If you would like to participate but cost is a factor, there are options: (1) pay what you can (2) pay it forward with community service (3) reach out to Rev. Ann for financial assistance. “Be known. Be loved.”

The Lamb Basket: The Circle has asked that we think outside of the pantry box and bring in canned or boxed items that we find on sale to refill our Lamb basket. The donation box is located in the Narthex.

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

Documentarian Sought: If you are a detail person, love to organize, like to track data, please let Rev. Ann know. We are seeking a Documentarian for our Clerk of Session to maintain our church records.

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.

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.

May Shepherd of the Month: Our Shepherd of the Month for May is Judy Smith. You can reach Judy at (804) 272-6007. Our shepherds provide member care and TLC.

Call to Prayer: Let us be in prayer for all those fleeing from Ukraine, for all those providing support and supplies to refugees, and for all those working for peace. Let us be in prayer for all those fighting addiction, battling cancer, carrying heavy burdens, grieving, and who are suffering,

forgotten or marginalized in any way. Let us continue to pray that we will claim the Love that claims us in our Risen One, by making love known through seeing our own and each other's belovedness.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister

J. David Clatterbuck, Director of Music

Chris Rhoden, Small Group Leader/Therapist-in-Residence

Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team

Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team

Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team

Rob McBane, Treasurer

Wayne Deisher, Bookkeeper

Gladys Bowles, Elder, SP Team

Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team

Stephen Searce, Elder, SP Team

Duane Berger, Elder, WE Team

Michael Henderson, Elder, Clerk

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Let Love Be Known Here