



LAUREL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*Welcomes You to Worship!*

*Pentecost 3*

June 26, 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

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATE

Michael Henderson

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Sue Bell

*GATHERING AROUND LOVE*

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*Spirit of the Living God*

Laurel Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Whitby

Leader: For Love that never ceases,

**People: For Joy that defies all reason,**

Leader: For Peace and Patience to weather the storm,

**People: For Kindness and Generosity to bind us together,**

Leader: For Faithfulness and Gentleness, and the Self Control to discern your will,

**People: We give God thanks, God! Let us worship God.**

\*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

*O Day of Rest and Gladness*

No. 393

## RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Hannah P. Miller

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Beloved God, we long to be close to you, and to experience your presence in our lives. Yet when Jesus calls us to follow him, we find every excuse to wait. We cling to our usual comforts and our habitual patterns. We take direction from our daily tasks and our familiar routines. Forgive us for the times we keep our focus so narrow that we don't hear you when you call. Call to us again and again. Open our hearts and help us find the space to let you in. Direct our minds toward the needs of your world, toward the justice and compassion that will bring your kingdom to earth. Empower us in our actions to meet one another with the love that you have for us.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . Amen

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: Hear the good news:

No matter how strong our resistance, no matter how hurtful our mistakes, God has not, and will not, give up on us. God's love is beyond measure, and we are included in God's abounding grace.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\*OUR 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

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5: 1, 13-25 (NRSVue)

ANTHEM

*Down By the Riverside*

Laurel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9: 51-62 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

*"Getting to Yes, Letting Go of Convention!"*

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

## *RESPONDING IN LOVE*

\*HYMN *I've Got Peace Like A River* No. 623

\*PROFESSION OF FAITH *A Brief Statement of Faith 11.2* Michael Whitby

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

\*OUR RESPONSE *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Hymn No. 609

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Hannah P. Miller

## *BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD*

\*SENDING HYMN *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* No. 700

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

\*POSTLUDE J. David Clatterbuck

\*RECESSION AND GREETING

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

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

**Sanctuary Flowers:** The flowers are given this day to the glory of God by Laurel Love in honor of Karen Johnson for her dedicated service as the Captain of our Sanctuary Flowers. Thank you for all the love.

**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:** Ann and Hannah will recess after the charge and benediction to greet us by the front door in the narthex area.

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

**Flower Love:** A big shout-out to Karen Johnson who has faithfully served as our Flower Captain these last several years. What this means is that she tracked who has ordered flowers and arranged for their pick-up, and has during the summer months picked them up herself. We are so grateful for her excellent organizational gifts and ministry.

**Recognition of our Graduates:** We are pleased to recognize three graduates in our congregation this year. Shelby McBane has earned a Master of English degree from East Tennessee State University. Jacob Scarce will be graduating from George Mason University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. Michael Whitby has graduated from Glen Allen HS and will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall. High-fives for your hard work and lots of love as you transition into this journey that God has prepared for you.

**Session:** Our Session will meet after worship in the Parlor for our stated meeting.

**“Uncorked:”** Join us this Tuesday at 5:30 pm to mull over contemporary issues with a faith lens. Wine and cheese will be served. This is a small group for women meeting the last Tuesday of the month in the Parlor.

**Our Thursday Small Group:** Please join the conversation on Thursday, at 1 pm, as we continue to unpack Parker Palmer’s book, *Let Your Life Speak*, and reflect each other’s preciousness. This is the meeting when we are to bring a one-word adjective for each member of the group.

**“Use Your Inside Voice – Writing for Creativity and Exploration:”** continues this Thursday at 3 pm in the Parlor. Just bring who you are and some paper to explore your preciousness. The cost for this group is \$18.75 per session. Light snacks will be provided. Text or call Chris at (804) 220-1583 for more information. Scholarships are available.

**First Sundays:** Our teams that are meeting during July will convene right after worship next Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have asked that each team choose a month for their sabbath time.

**Bruster’s Love:** Join us **next** Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm for the love of Laurel and the love of ice cream. Does it get any better than this? 9101 Staples Mill Road.

**Join our Sunday School:** 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.

**Choir Rehearsals:** The choir will still be singing through July and will take a sabbath for the month of August. We will not rehearse again until September.

**Community Groups at Laurel:** Chris Rhoden has formed several groups this summer. You are welcome to participate as you feel led. You can sign up on the bulletin board, or text or call 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 Ann Cherry for scholarships.

1. “Use Your Inside Voice – Writing for Creativity and Exploration” will meet weekly starting June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm in our Parlor. The cost for this group is \$75 for 4 meetings of \$18.75 per session.
2. “Wednesdays at Laurel” will meet every other Wednesday at 1 pm and is designed to meet the needs both of those with memory struggles and their caregivers. One group will meet with Chris and the other with Ann. The cost is \$30 a meeting. Contact Chris or Ann if interested.
3. “Tattoos On Your Heart: A book group for men.” We will read *Tattoos 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 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.

**Masks are Still Optional BUT Risk is High: COVID Update June 1:** Masks continue to be optional in worship and at all church gatherings; however, Henrico County is currently in the High Risk category, and the CDC is recommending masking at indoor public spaces.

*Please stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines, get tested if you have symptoms, and if you are at high risk for severe illness, take the necessary precautions advised by your healthcare professional.*

Lots of gratitude to the COVID Task Force of Brenda MacRae, Mary Scarce and Ann Whitby who are remaining vigilant to monitor COVID developments.

**Hannah Miller Has Joined Us :** Hannah Miller, our summer seminary intern, has begun her internship with us through August 17. She has just completed her first year at Union Presbyterian Seminary. You will see her in the pulpit, making pastoral calls, and getting to know us as she learns the ropes, and the practice of speaking love through this church. Our support team for Hannah is Duane Berger, Mary Jane Bowlin, Diane Jackson, Brenda MacRae and Judy Smith.

**Shout out to Hannah:** Hannah Miller, our seminary intern, was responsible for writing the content of the bulletin this week.

**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, see the options below. “Be known. Be loved.”

**Chris Rhoden, Important Update:** Chris is transitioning from a student to a professional practitioner this summer. However, he is not a paid staff member of Laurel, as much as we love him and have created space to support his ministry. He will soon be able to accept private insurance plans, or you can opt to pay what you can, pay it forward with community service, or reach out to Ann for scholarships. Please don't be shy about asking Chris about what insurance plans he accepts or his fees. Our well-being is an important part of our stewardship of self and telegraphs that we are invested in cultivating our own unique belovedness (as given to us by God).

**225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PCUSA news:** The Rev. Ruth Santana-Grace and the Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis were elected as co-moderators at the 225<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly. Santana-Grace is the executive presbyter of the Presbytery of Philadelphia and Starling-Lois is the pastor of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**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.

**Five Cents a Meal Offering Today:** This is our small way to help eliminate poverty.

**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

**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.

**We want you to be comfortable:** 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. We have 2 dedicated armchairs 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.

**June and July Shepherds of the Month:** Our Shepherd of the Month for June is Mary Jane Bowlin. You can reach Mary Jane at (804) 672-6009. Our Shepherd of the Month for July is Barbara Rose. You can reach Barbara at (804) 749-3209. Our shepherds provide member care and TLC.

**Call to Prayer:** Let us be in prayer for all those impacted by violence, fighting addiction, battling cancer, carrying heavy burdens, impacted by the Ukraine/Russian war, grieving, suffering, forgotten, or marginalized in any way. Let us continue to pray that we will claim the Love that claims us by our Beloved One, by making love known through our belovedness.

## **Laurel Presbyterian Church**

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister

J. David Clatterbuck, Director of Music

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

Hannah P. Miller, Seminary Intern

Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team

Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team

Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

Rob McBane, Treasurer

Wayne Deisher, Bookkeeper

Gladys Bowles, Elder, SP Team

Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team

Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team

Stephen Scearce, Elder, SP Team

Duane Berger, Elder, WE Team

Michael Henderson, Elder, Clerk

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### **Let Love Be Known Here**

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