



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Pentecost 6

July 17, 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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Duane Berger

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit of the Living God

Laurel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pete MacRae

Leader: Come, all who are burdened.

People: Our God provides a space for rest and renewal.

Leader: Come, all who are weary.

People: Our God provides a safe place to drop our baggage.

Leader: Come, all who are fatigued.

People: Our God will fill us up and rejuvenate our spirits.

*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

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (vs. 1,2,3)

No. 275

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors, God of our personal histories, we go about our lives thinking that the world depends upon us to go around. We would laugh at the idea that the sun would not rise or set without our help. Yet, we work ourselves into a tizzy, addressing our endless “to do” lists, and running ourselves into the ground as if it does. You tell us to align our priorities with yours, to love with your love and to lead through your heart. But we don’t seem to understand that following you means letting go of running our lives our way. Help us to drop our baggage so that we might pick up your refreshing breeze, your easy laughter, and your joy-packed moments, for we pray this in the name of Jesus, 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 grow in deeper likeness. Beloved, believe this good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*OUR RESPONSE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (vs. 4)

Hymn No. 275

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING LOVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40: 28-31 (NRSVue)

ANTHEM

I Need Thee Every Hour

Laurel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11: 28-30 (NRSV)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Got Baggage? Let Go Here”

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

*HYMN

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

No. 418

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Belhar Confession

Pete MacRae

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

*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

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

No. 649

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

*POSTLUDE

J. David Clatterbuck

*RECESSION AND GREETING

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

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

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day to the glory of God by Laurel Love in honor of Rob McBane for his wonderful service as our Treasurer. Thank you Rob for all the love.

Passing of the Peace: You are invited to stand and greet each other 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.

Church Love Yesterday: Thank you to all of you who came out to be part of our air filter cleanse day! We were successful at getting our building ready for the winter months. You all rocked it :)

Vision Task Force: The Vision Task Force will meet after worship in the Parlor.

Lunch Bunch: Please join us for lunch on Tuesday July 19th at 11:30 at Potro's Mexican Restaurant, 9074 Staples Mill Road.

Henrico Police Love - Wednesday: The Member Care and Missions Team is hosting another lunch for Central Station this Wednesday, July 20th. We will be feeding approximately 38 people. Our menu is ham, ham salad and chicken salad, biscuits, snacks, small cold salads, fruit in covered containers, cookies, cupcakes, bottled water, and lunch-sized fruit drinks. Want to contribute? Contact one of the following: Sue Bell (804) 266-9429, Mary Jane Bowlin (804) 672-6009, or Duane Berger (804) 405-1894.

"Wednesdays at Laurel:" We will meet this Wednesday at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall and start working on a service project to put together *Care Kits* for the homeless. Our hope is to provide community and purpose as one Beloved Community for those with memory challenges and their caregivers. To that end, we are looking for church members who want to join this ministry. To participate, just attend the meeting. **We would love to see you there!**

"Beloved" on Thursday: Please join us this Thursday, July 21st at 1 pm in the Parlor as we begin reading *Falling Upward*, a book by Richard Rohr. This is an excellent time to jump in and join this group. No prior group experience is needed :)

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.

Hannah Miller to teach Sunday School: Starting next Sunday, join Hannah as she digs in to lead us to think more deeply about *Unity in Christ*. We will be discussing what it means to find unity in our Christian faith while honoring and exploring the different lenses through which we all view the world. We'll look at insiders and outsiders in the Bible and consider the boundaries that keep us separate today. Hannah is teaching this 4-part series from July 24th – August 14th.

July 31st Outdoor Worship Singing and Ice Cream Social: Join us on July 31st for an outdoor service under the trees (back of parking lot) filled with our favorite hymns, followed by an ice cream social.

Women's Bible Study/Circle: Next year's Women's Circle Bible Study is *Celebrating Sabbath and Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*. Select passages from the Old and New Testaments will be included. We meet at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall on the second Tuesday of each month starting in September. The regular-print study book is \$11 and the large print book is \$16.50. We need to place our book order for the fall now.

To order a book, please contact Carol Short (804) 922-6227 or email her at carolrshort@aol.com if you wish to order a book or have questions. Monthly Circle meetings are a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with other Christian women as we study God's word together.

The Belhar Confession: The Belhar Confession was added to the PC (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions by the 222nd General Assembly in 2016. It was a statement of faith written in 1982 to reflect the union of the Dutch Reformed Mission Church and the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa.

Our Director of Music: With deep regret David Clatterbuck, has announced he will be leaving our church. His last Sunday is August 21st. David has served in this role for the last 16 years and his extraordinary gifts match his extraordinary heart. The Session accepted his resignation with regret and sad hearts. We are trusting God with our next steps. We will be recognizing David in August.

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

Director of Music Search Committee Appointed: The Session appointed Glenda Miller, chair, and Gladys Bowles, Vickie Chapman, and Denis Ramdas to serve. We will keep the congregation updated. Please feel free to share your thoughts with them.

Interested in Joining Laurel?: Next Sunday July 24th, the Session will receive new members before worship at 9:30 am in the Parlor, and during worship, our new members will be welcomed. If you are interested in joining this sweet church, please contact Rev. Ann Cherry at (804) 508-3850.

Homeless Care Kits: The Member Care and Missions Team is collecting items to create care kits for us to give out at streetlights to those needing some extra love. A box has been placed under the coat rack in the hallway for these items: Large Ziplock bags, bottled water, toothbrush and paste, protein bars, cheese or peanut butter crackers, small hand sanitizer, small pack wipes, small tissue packs, washcloth, small soap or all -in-one soap, socks, mints, and Band Aids.

Office Manager Sought: We are seeking someone to manage our church office and administrative functions, from office supplies to bulletin love. Right now this is an unpaid volunteer position. If you are a detail person and enjoy working with others, please contact Diane Jackson at 804-747-6315, of Personnel, or Duane Berger, our Clerk, at 804-876-3414.

Interested in Sky Diving? Calling all thrill seekers. Hannah Miller is organizing a group that might like to give sky diving a whirl, or another whirl. The cost is \$230 a jump and a video can be purchased for \$70. The company is No Limits Skydiving, located in West Point, VA. If this interests you, reach out to Hannah at hpmiller02@gmail.com

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. There is no cost for Laurel Members.

Masks are Still Optional BUT Risk is High: **COVID Update July 11:** 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.

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."

Session Endorses Chris Rhoden Transition to Professional: Chris is transitioning from a student to a professional practitioner this summer. The Session has created space for him at the church to support his ministry. However, as much as we love him, he is not a paid staff member of Laurel, and the Session is encouraging Chris to receive payment for his services. 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).

Ginger Lanier has Moved: 1712 Fox Creek Circle, Henrico VA 23238. Her phone number is (804) 658-0613 :)

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

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.

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.

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.

July Shepherd of the Month: 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

Duane Berger, Clerk, Elder, WE

Michael Henderson, Documentarian, WE

Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

Rob McBane, Treasurer

Peter MacRae, Bookkeeper

Gladys Bowles, Elder, SP Team

Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team

Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team

Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team

Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team

Stephen Scearce, Elder, SP Team

You can contact Rev. Ann Cherry at (804) 508-3850 or at laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com

laurelpres@verizon.net

laurelpres.com

Let Love Be Known Here

P.O. Box 1280, Glen Allen, VA 23060-1280