



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Pentecost 12

August 28, 2022 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE	Clint Miller
RINGING OF THE HOUR	Janice Berger
WELCOME BELOVED ONES	The Rev. Ann D. Cherry
MINUTE FOR MISSION	MCM Team

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Spirit of the Living God* Hymn No. 288

*CALL TO WORSHIP Michael Henderson

Leader: Come to Christ . . .

People: Our inspiration and our strength.

Leader: Come to fly with God . . .

People: Our wisdom and our truth.

Leader: Come to live in the Spirit . . .

People: Our breath of life, itself.

*GATHERING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* No. 611

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Audacious God, you know our fears that hold us back from our living. We have a long list of reasons why we can't do what you ask us to do. It is not that we don't want to be your adventurous people; it is just that we are afraid of stepping out from our safe places to live from this fearless place. You want more for us, we fear, than we want

for ourselves. Free us from our places of bondages. Help us to let go of our endless anxiety. Empower us to live into this new heaven and new earth as your freed people with endless grace, 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.

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

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 1: 4-10 (NRSVue)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Clint Miller

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21: 1-5 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"God is Bigger than our Imaginations"

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

*HYMN

We Praise You, O God

No. 612

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith 11.2

Michael Henderson

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
PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS Michael Henderson, Documentarian
NEW MEMBERS PROFESSION OF FAITH Wayne Alvis, Linda Maddy, Roy Shore
BLESSING AND WELCOME
PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

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.

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* No. 744
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION The Rev. Ann D. Cherry
*POSTLUDE Clint Miller
*RECESSION AND GREETING The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

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

Lay Reader: Thank you to Diane Jackson for serving as our liturgist today.

Welcome Clint Miller: We are pleased to welcome Clint Miller back to the piano this Sunday. Clint is the son of Glenda and Clint Miller and grew up in our church. He is a vocal music teacher at J.R. Tucker High School and a section leader in the choir at Second Presbyterian. Clint is a graduate of James Madison University.

Welcome to our New Members: We are thrilled to officially welcome into our midst Wayne Alvis, Linda Maddy and Roy Shore. This trio were beloved and engaged members of Lakeside Presbyterian, and we are honored that they have found their new church home at Laurel. The

Session received them into our membership officially this morning before worship. If you also are interested in joining Laurel, please let our minister know.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day to the glory of God by Carol and Rick Short in memory of her mother, Corinne Augustine.

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 :)

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.

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

“Beloved” Small Group moves to Every Wednesday: Please join this Wednesday at 1 pm in the Parlor as we continue reading *Falling Upward*, a book by Richard Rohr. *We are now meeting every Wednesday.*

“Wednesdays at Laurel” moves to “2:30 pm”: Join us THIS Wednesday at 2:30 pm as we tackle another community service project and deepen Laurel Love. We are meeting every other week at 2:30 pm.

Interim Director of Music Appointed: We are pleased to announce that Nancy Newins is joining us as our Interim Director of Music and will start next Sunday, September 4. Nancy comes to us with a rich background in choral, organ and piano leadership and performance. She has passion and heart. We are excited that God led Nancy to us, and are thrilled to welcome her with Laurel Love.

The Choir: The choir will rehearse again on September 1, at 5:30 pm, with Nancy Newins, our new Interim Director of Music.

Director of Music Search Team: The Session has appointed Glenda Miller, chair, and Gladys Bowles, Vickie Chapman, and Denis Ramdas to serve as our Director of Music search committee. The job description is posted. We will keep you updated as information is available. Please keep the Search Team in your prayers.

School Supplies Needed: The MCM Team is collecting school supplies for The Academy at Virginia Randolph, an exciting alternative school for middle- and high- school students. Supplies needed include backpacks, spiral notebooks, highlighters, notebook paper, legal pads, and folders. You can drop your gifts in the box located in the hallway underneath the coat rack. The last day to contribute is September 11th.

More Gear Needed for Homeless Care Kits: 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, sneaker socks, cheese or peanut butter crackers, small hand sanitizers, small pack of wipes, small

tissue packs, washcloth, small soap or all -in-one soap, socks, mints, and Band Aids. We will post a sign so you can readily see what our needs are week to week.

Auto Kits are Available: Please feel free to take a kit for your car to hand out with our love and blessing. They are located in the Narthex.

Online giving Coming to Laurel: The Session approved an online giving option this past Spring. The project is nearing completion, and the opportunity to give online will be rolled out on October 2nd. Online giving allows a donor to make contributions using a credit or debit card through a safe portal. About half of the churches in the Presbytery already provide this option. Special thanks to Pete MacRae for researching and running point on this project.

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. "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 back of our outdoor worship 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

We want you to be comfortable: You are invited to stand, stretch, and move during our worship service or even to remain seated as the spirit moves you. Your comfort is key, so please make yourself at home.

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.

September Shepherd of the Month: Our Shepherd of the Month for September is Michelle McBane. You can reach Michelle at (804) 432-3760. 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, and all of us who are struggling to claim the love that claims us as beloved ones, and then trying to it out in this world, by making our love known.

Jeremiah 1: 4-10 *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

⁴The Lord spoke these words to me:

⁵“Before I made you in your mother’s womb, I chose you.
Before you were born, I set you apart for a special work.
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

⁶Then I said, “But Lord God, I don’t know how to speak. I am only a boy.”

⁷But the Lord said to me, “Don’t say, ‘I am only a boy.’ You must go everywhere that I send you. You must say everything I tell you to say. ⁸Don’t be afraid of anyone, because I am with you. I will protect you,” says the Lord.

⁹Then the Lord reached out with his hand and touched my mouth. He said to me, “See, I am putting my words in your mouth. ¹⁰Today I have put you in charge of nations and kingdoms. You will pull up and tear down, destroy and overthrow. You will build up and plant.”

Revelation 21: 1-5, *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home^[a] of God is among mortals.
He will dwell^[b] with them;
they will be his peoples,^[c]
and God himself will be with them and be their God;^[d]
⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for^[e] the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister
Nancy Newins, Interim Director of Music
Chris Rhoden, Pastoral Counselor-in-Residence
Duane Berger, Clerk, Elder, WE
Michael Henderson, Documentarian, WE
Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team
Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team

Rob McBane, Treasurer
Peter MacRae, Bookkeeper
Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team
Gladys Bowles, Elder, SP Team
Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team
Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team
Stephen Scarce, Elder, SP Team

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