



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Pentecost 9

August 7, 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

Spirit of the Living God

Hymn No. 288

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Diane Jackson

Leader: The Spirit of God calls out to us.

People: Claiming us.

Leader: The Spirit of God calls out to us.

People: Loving us, and reminding us, that we are much more than we know.

*GATHERING HYMN

You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

No. 299

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous in love – God, give us grace! Huge in mercy – God, wipe out our bad record. Scrub away our guilt, soak out our sins in your laundry. We know how bad we have been; our sins are staring us down. Soak us in your laundry and we will come out clean; scrub us, and we will have a snow-white life. Tune us in to foot-tapping songs, set these once broken bones to dancing. God, make a fresh start in us, shape a Genesis week from the chaos of our lives so that we might honor the love from which we were made. For all these things we pray in the name of Jesus, who is and was and always will be our Christ (Adapted from Ps. 51, The Message).

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . Amen

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Beloved One, you commanded light to shine out of darkness . . . Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: We praise you, most holy God . . . All praise to you, Lord Jesus.

People: Dying you destroyed our death, Rising you restored our life, Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us . . . Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

No. 545

*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 Diane Jackson for serving as our liturgist today.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day to the glory of God by Glenda and Clint Miller in honor of their daughter, Laurel Miller Roeder, on her birthday.

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.

First Sundays: The Worship and Education (WE) Team is meeting today right after worship in the choir loft. The Stewardship and Property (SP) and the Member Care and Missions (MCM) Teams are enjoying their sabbath time and will convene again in September. All are welcome at our team meetings.

"Beloved" Small Group moves to Wednesdays: Please join this Wednesday at 1 pm in the Parlor as we continue reading *Falling Upward*, a book by Richard Rohr.

Hannah Miller Teaching Sunday School: Please Join Hannah as she digs into leading 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. 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.

Interested in Joining Laurel?: We would love to have you. The Session will receive new members at 9:30 am in the Parlor on August 28, 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.

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. Monthly Circle meetings are a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with other Christian women as we study God's word together.

To acquire your book for the fall: Just reach out to Carol Short (804) 922-6227 or email her at carolrshort@aol.com. 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.

Our Director of Music Celebration: We will be celebrating David Clutterbuck's 16 years at Laurel following his last service on August 21st. Please join us to make your love known for his generous heart and extraordinary gifts. Please see Mary Jane Bowlin with your questions about our celebration. She can be reached at (804) 672-6009 or maryjanebowlin@gmail.com

Interim Director of Music Appointed: An interim director of music has been appointed by the Session who will start on Sunday September 4. More details to come.

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 has been approved by the Personnel Team and is now posted. We will keep you updated as information is available. Please keep the Search Team in your prayers.

The Choir: The choir is on sabbath for the month of August. We will rehearse again in September on Sunday mornings.

Homeless Care Kits: Thank you to all who have been bringing in products for these kits. We are collecting items to create care kits for us to give out at intersections 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, 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.

Lunch Bunch: By special request, we will be gathering at 11:45 am at Little Angelo's on Tuesday August 9th. Little Angelo's is located in the Cross Ridge Shopping Center at 10246 Staples Mill Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060

Uncorked: We will meet again on Tuesday August 16th at 5:30 pm. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board to bring cheese, crackers, veggies and dip :). We are meeting a week earlier than usual.

Newsletter Love: It is that time of year when we need to regroup for a fall kick-off. Articles are due in to Brenda and Pete MacRae by August 19th :) You can email your info to them at pamacrae@comcast.net

Laurel Receives Small Church Grant: Our Therapist-in-Residence program received a \$5K church grant from the Presbytery of the James for this coming year. A big shout out to Linda Coulson and Chris for their research and writing. This grant will allow us to launch a pastoral care ministry that equips our people to care for others and to offer small groups and pastoral counseling at no cost to our members. Chris Rhoden is serving as our pastoral counselor. He will be graduating from VCU next month with a graduate degree in clinical counseling.

Office Manager Sought: We are seeking someone to manage our church office and administrative functions, from office supplies to bulletin love. This is currently an unpaid 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. Even if this sounds too big to tackle, but you are drawn to a small part of it, please let us know :)

Date Set for Sky Divers: Last call for sky divers. The date is set for the morning of August 16th. See Hannah Miller if interested. 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. Hannah can be contacted at hpmiller02@gmail.com

Masks Are Optional but Risk is High: As we know, the risk is high and COVID is still among us, so practice what is best for you. 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 monitoring 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. "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.

August Shepherd of the Month: Our Shepherd of the Month for August is Carolyn Stinger. You can reach Barbara at (804) 755-7150 .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.

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

Wayne Deisher, 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

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Let Love Be Known Here

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

9675 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060

1 Corinthians 13, *The Message*

13 If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate.

² If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing.

³⁻⁷ If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't strut,

Doesn't have a swelled head,

Doesn't force itself on others,

Isn't always "me first,"

Doesn't fly off the handle,

Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel,

Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

Puts up with anything,

Trusts God always,

Always looks for the best,

Never looks back,

But keeps going to the end.

⁸⁻¹⁰ Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day; praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit. We know only a portion of the truth, and what we say about God is always incomplete. But when the Complete arrives, our incompletes will be canceled.

¹¹ When I was an infant at my mother's breast, I gurgled and cooed like any infant. When I grew up, I left those infant ways for good.

¹² We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!

¹³ But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

1 John 18-20 *The Message*

¹⁸⁻²⁰ My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.