



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Welcomes You to Worship!

Pentecost 17

World Communion Sunday

October 2, 2022 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE	<i>Monastery Chat</i>	Don Moro
RINGING OF THE HOUR		Janice Berger
WELCOME BELOVED ONES		The Rev. Ann D. Cherry
MINUTE FOR MISSION		Pete MacRae, Sue Bell, Gladys Chamberlayne

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>Come Christians, Join to Sing</i>	Don Moro
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Duane Berger

Leader: Throughout the world, people from north and south, and east and west, are gathering around the table as one family to celebrate the gift of communion.

People: We join together to share the bread of life and to drink the cup of salvation.

Leader: May we go forth from this place to see Christ in one another . . .

People: For in Christ, there are no longer distinctions, for all are one in Christ Jesus.

Leader: To God be all the praise and the glory!

People: May the Love of God be broken open this day and shared with abundantly with all.

*HYMN	<i>I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord (vs. 1, 4, 5)</i>	No. 310
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RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION		The Rev. Ann D. Cherry
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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the Possible, we really want to have faith, but our knees buckle and our resolve fades when we are asked to put our faith into practice. You ask us to trust your bigger mystery even if it means that we need to let go of controlling the outcome. We want to be your church that is relevant, alive, and responsive to your people's needs – but we are afraid of anything but business as usual. We want to be good and faithful guardians of your treasure but change, rocks our boats, and unsettles our nerves. You continue to remind us that faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains, but we only see the obstacles as insurmountable. Help us to trust you more than our fears, so that we might have the faith of a mustard seed to step into your future for us, for we pray this in the name of Jesus, who is and was and always will be, our endless 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 in Christ. Friends, believe this good news!

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

2 Timothy 1: 1-14 (The Message)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Fugue in G Minor

Don Moro

SCRIPTURE

Luke 17: 5-6 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Enough . . . Faith"

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

RESPONDING IN LOVE

*HYMN

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken (vs. 1, 3, 4)

No. 498

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Confession of 1967 (The Love of God)

Duane Berger

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals *God's* love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in the receiving of sinful *people*.

The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who make all things to serve the purpose of *God's* Love.

God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of *God's* dealings with *humankind*. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith, the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

*OUR RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn No. 607

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

*HYMN

Take My Life (vs. 1 - 3)

No. 697

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Von Kimmel kam der Engel Schar

Don Moro

*RECESSION AND GREETING

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

Lay Reader: Thank you to Duane Berger for serving as our liturgist today.

Welcome to Don Moro: Today we are pleased to welcome to Laurel Don Moro. Don has been a substitute organist in the Richmond area for over 14 years. He studied at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, where he received organ lessons from Dr. David Craighead. He lives in North Chesterfield with his wife, Deborah, and three sons.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given this day to the glory of God by Janice and Duane Berger in honor of their granddaughter, Vivienne's, first 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 :)

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.

Today is World Communion Sunday: In solidarity with Christians, we are celebrating at the table with those around the globe. When you receive communion this day, think of all the others who are joined with us at the table. Truly, Love is truly broken open here.

Peace and Global Witness Offering Received Today: The Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety, fear, discord, and division, and to embrace God's

reconciling mission with those around the world (2 Thessalonians 3:16). Please earmark your checks with "Peace Offering."

Good Samaritan Offering Received Today: This is our small way to show some love to those in a pinch.

First Sundays: Our three teams will meet right after worship today. The Worship and Education Team will meet in the choir loft, the Member Care and Missions Team will meet in the Parlor, and the Stewardship and Property Team will meet in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcomed

"Finding God in the Cracks of Loss" Meets Tomorrow Night: Come and join us tomorrow night at 6 pm in the Parlor as we continue our 8-week journey to find God in the cracks of our losses. This small group will dive into what makes us so human and vulnerable, and yet surprisingly, what also opens us up to the fresh movement of the Spirit.

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

Faith and Blue: Join us right after church on Sunday, October 30, to linger with Henrico County Police officers to better understand their work in our community.

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.

Annual Church Directory Update – Not just for "Members": The directory will be updated in October. If you have any changes to your information or would like to be added to our directory, please send your information to marcia.deisher@comcast.net or provide this data to Marcy Deisher in person on Sunday mornings. This information is also needed for our regular visitors who will be listed as friends of the church. The directory includes your name, address, email address and phone number (cell and home). You can decide what information you would like listed with your name. This information is for church contact purposes only and is not distributed outside the church family. Please submit by Halloween.

Online giving Rolled Out Today: 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.

Big Shout-Out from the Virginia Randolph School: VRS would like to thank Laurel Church for the generous amount of school supplies donated. They will all be used by "our kids," the school told Margaret Fitch.

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

Interested in Joining Laurel?: We would love to have you. If you are interested in joining this sweet church, please contact Rev. Ann Cherry at (804) 508-3850.

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.

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 Ian, the Ukraine/Russian war or violence, fighting addiction, battling cancer, carrying heavy burdens, grieving, or suffering, and for all of us who are struggling to claim the love that claims us as beloved ones, and to live it out in this world.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister
Chris Rhoden, Kettle o'Fish Counselor-in-Residence
Duane Berger, Clerk, Elder, WE
Michael Henderson, Documentarian, WE
Linda Coulson, Elder, MCM Team
Diane Jackson, Elder, MCM Team
Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

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

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

You can reach Chris Rhoden at (804) 220-1583 or at chris@kettleofish.com

You can reach Gingerbread Cottage Preschool at (804)755-1667 or gingerbreadcottagepreschool@gmail.com

Where Love Is Known

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2 Timothy 1:1-14, *The Message*

1 ¹⁻² I, Paul, am on special assignment for Christ, carrying out God's plan laid out in the Message of Life by Jesus. I write this to you, Timothy, the son I love so much. All the best from our God and Christ be yours!

³⁻⁴ Every time I say your name in prayer—which is practically all the time—I thank God for you, the God I worship with my whole life in the tradition of my ancestors. I miss you a lot, especially when I remember that last tearful good-bye, and I look forward to a joy-packed reunion.

⁵⁻⁷ That precious memory triggers another: your honest faith—and what a rich faith it is, handed down from your grandmother Lois to your mother Eunice, and now to you! And the special gift of ministry you received when I laid hands on you and prayed—keep that ablaze! God doesn't want us to be shy with his gifts, but bold and loving and sensible.

⁸⁻¹⁰ So don't be embarrassed to speak up for our Master or for me, his prisoner. Take your share of suffering for the Message along with the rest of us. We can only keep on going, after all, by the power of God, who first saved us and then called us to this holy work. We had nothing to do with it. It was all *his* idea, a gift prepared for us in Jesus long before we knew anything about it. But we know it now. Since the appearance of our Savior, nothing could be plainer: death defeated, life vindicated in a steady blaze of light, all through the work of Jesus.

¹¹⁻¹² This is the Message I've been set apart to proclaim as preacher, emissary, and teacher. It's also the cause of all this trouble I'm in. But I have no regrets. I couldn't be more sure of my ground—the One I've trusted in can take care of what he's trusted me to do right to the end.

¹³⁻¹⁴ So keep at your work, this faith and love rooted in Christ, exactly as I set it out for you. It's as sound as the day you first heard it from me. Guard this precious thing placed in your custody by the Holy Spirit who works in us.

Luke 17: 5-6, *The New Revised Version, Updated Edition*

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a^[d] mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.