



LAUREL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*Welcomes You to Worship!*

*Pentecost 19*

October 16, 2022 10:00 AM

*Where Love is Known*

PRELUDE

Margie Heath

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

*GATHERING AROUND LOVE*

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Margie Heath

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pete MacRae

Leader: Hope against Hope, God is for the Beloved!

**People: Like the widow, we persist to know.**

Leader: Hope against Hope, God awakens the Beloved!

**People: Like Ruth, Tamar, Naomi we respond to Love.**

Leader: Hope against Hope, the kingdom of God has come near!

**People: And Love will not be denied.**

\*HYMN

*O God, Who Gives Us Life*

No. 53

*RECEIVING LOVE*

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the Long Game, we confess our impatience that the “kingdom is now and not yet” and for hope so we don’t lose heart. Forgive us when we do not have enough faith to recognize you in this world. Forgive us when we think you are “too small” to do “big things” even for our “small church.” Forgive us when we put you in a box and keep you there except for Sunday worship. We can so easily confuse our dreams, with**

**your dreams, which are always so much bigger than we could ever imagine. Empower us to trust you for all the seasons of our lives. Enable us to develop the staying faith so that we can believe in your “long game,” where your love will not be denied. Embolden us to live in this transitional place where we point to your love in us and around us, and our lives organically telegraph that “you are our God,” 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. Friends, believe this good news!

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

\*OUR RESPONSE

*Gloria Patri*

Hymn No. 581

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

### *PROCLAIMING LOVE*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31: 31-34 (NRSVue)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Margie Heath

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18: 1-8 (J.B. Phillips/The Message hybrid)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

*“The Long Game”*

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

### *RESPONDING IN LOVE*

\*HYMN

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

No. 833

\*PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The Confession of 1967*

Pete MacRae

**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***



**Presbytery of the James:** Denis Ramdas represented us yesterday at the 112<sup>th</sup> Stated meeting of the Presbytery, along with our minister. Two candidates were presented for ministry as well as two creative ideas were shared about how churches in the Presbytery might work more efficiently to share resources. A big high five to Denis for showing love in this way.

**“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.

**“Untapped” Meets Tuesday:** Our men of the church will meet on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 pm at JJ’s Grille at Cross Ridge Shopping Center for connection and a deeper look at our culture from a faith lens.

**“Beloved” Small Group Meets Wednesday:** Our Beloved Group will meet on Wednesday at 1 pm in the Parlor as we continue reading *Falling Upward*, a book by Richard Rohr.

**Made in God’s Image? Come and Explore:** Most of us easily affirm that all people are made in God’s image, but as our society and church definitions of family and marriage change, we may feel challenged by how these new definitions fit within the context of church leadership. Join us for pizza and an open conversation exploring these questions on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 am in the Parlor.

**Church Picnic:** Join us this Saturday October 22, 2022, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at our annual church picnic. Denis Ramdas has graciously offered to host the event again this year. Please bring your appetite, drinks, lawn chairs, **and** a side dish **or** brownies. Duane Berger will be smoking pork for a pulled pork lunch. Hot dogs will also be available. For dessert, brownies topped with ice cream will be served. All paper products and utensils will be provided. If it rains, we will host an indoor picnic in our fellowship hall. Please sign up on the sheet posted near the coat racks with your name, and side dish or brownie selection. The address for Denis is 11133 Mill Place Court, Glen Allen.

**Clay Pots:** Please dig out those unused clay planter pots lying around your house and bring them to the Parlor. We are collecting for our Christmas service project. Our hope is to paint the pots and grow paperwhites to share with those who are not able to join us for in person worship.

**Faith and Blue:** Join us right after church on Sunday, October 30, to linger and chat with Henrico County Police officers in order to cultivate a better understanding and appreciation of their work in our community.

**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](mailto: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 is Active:** The Session approved an online giving option this past Spring. 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. You can use the QR code (quick response) by opening your camera app on your phone and scanning it. The QR code is found in the pews and on the back of this bulletin and it will link you to the secure donation site. You may also choose the new "Online Giving" tab at [LaurelPres.com](http://LaurelPres.com) and follow the link there, or the instructions for downloading the giving app. Special thanks to Pete MacRae for running point on this project.

**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.

**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

**Ian Help:** If you would like to help those impacted by Hurricane Ian, please consider donating to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Here is the link: <https://pda.pcusa.org/>

**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.

**October Shepherd of the Month:** Our Shepherd of the Month for October is Carol Short. You can reach Carol at (804) 922-6227. 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, those that are 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  
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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](mailto:laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com)

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

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

### **Where Love Is Known**

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

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[laurelpres.com](http://laurelpres.com)



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