



LAUREL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*Welcomes You to Worship!*

*Christ the King*

November 20, 2022 10:00 AM

*Where Love is Known*

PRELUDE

Mary Campbell

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Tod Balsbaugh

*GATHERING AROUND LOVE*

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Campbell

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Michael Henderson

Leader: The Word of God is near.

**People: The Reign of God is at hand.**

Leader: Come, let us gather at his cross.

**People: This is the One who does not puff himself up.**

Leader: Come, let us gather by this King's side.

**People: This is the One who pours himself out.**

Leader: Indeed, the Word of God is very near.

**People: Yes, the Reign of God is at hand.**

\*HYMN

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

No. 305

*RECEIVING LOVE*

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus, remember us when we come into your kingdom. We exalt you as King because you did not stoop to the level of those who mocked you, even as you suffered on a cross. When they taunted and tempted you to fight back, you overcame their hate**

**with love. Forgive us for all the times where we have succumbed to our meaner instincts. Teach us to answer acts of hate with greater expressions of love. Forgive us, and free us from our fears, from our primal instincts, and our knee-jerk reactions to return fire when attacked, until your grace reigns in our hearts, and in our actions, for we pray this until your kingdom comes on earth as in heaven . . .**

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

Colossians 1: 11-20 (NRSVue)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mary Campbell

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23: 33-43 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

*"Poured Out – Not Puffed up"*

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

## *RESPONDING IN LOVE*

\*HYMN

*To God Be the Glory*

No. 634

\*PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The Nicene Creed 1.2*

Michael Henderson

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

\*OUR RESPONSE

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Hymn No. 606

RECOGNITION OF OUR VETERANS

Michael Henderson/Bernie Cheatham

LITANY PRAYER FOR VETERAN'S DAY

One: Beloved, you have blessed us with men and women of faith.

**All: People who have heard your call to serve God and country.**

One: People who have bravely fought and given their love,

**All: to secure our land as a free and open society.**

One: We ask that you bless those who currently serve,

**All: and bring them back home safely to us.**

One: Bless those whose wounds have never healed,

**All: that they may be cared for and appreciated.**

One: Bless those whose wounds are not visible,

**All: may they know peace and wholeness inside.**

One: And for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice,

**All: may we never forget their gift of love.**

One: Grant that all of us might be filled with gratitude and love,

**All: that we might be Your peace on earth.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

### *BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD*

\*HYMN

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

No. 307

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

\*POSTLUDE

Mary Campbell

\*RECESSION AND GREETING

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

**Lay Reader:** Thank you to Michael Henderson for serving as our liturgist today.

**Welcome to Mary Campbell:** Today we are pleased to welcome Mary Campbell as our organist. Mary is a retired Kindergarten teacher (32 years) and has been married for 38 years. She has her Service Playing Certificate from the American Guild of Organists and a Church Music Certificate from Leadership Program for Musicians. Mary has held numerous full-time church positions and has been subbing since May.

**Sanctuary Flowers:** The flowers are given this day by Glenda & Clint Miller and Howard Lawrence to the glory of God and in honor of Mary Lawrence 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 : )

**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.

**Veterans Celebrated Today:** It is an honor to recognize the service of our veterans today who put their lives on the line so that we might know peace at home. We are grateful to these brave heroes for their love of neighbor as themselves, which Jesus told us is the greatest commandment of them all, Matthew 22:39.

**United States Army:** **Jake Anderson**, Korea; **Tod Balsbaugh**, Vietnam; **Jim Clark**, H&HC 4<sup>th</sup> Psych Operations Group, 1968-1969; **Wayne Deisher**, Sergeant/E5 1971-1972, Vietnam; **Jim Smith**, Colonel 1959-1989, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, 2nd Airborne Battle Group, 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Combat Team.

**United States Air Force:** **Eugene L Jackson**, Sergeant, 1969-1973; **Mary Scarce**, Captain 1989-1996, served stateside during Desert Storm; **Rick Short**, Sergeant/E4 1966-1970, Vietnam.

**United States Navy:** **Chris Rhoden**, Commander, 1987-2009; **Larry Runyon**, Petty Officer First Class, 1964-1971 Submarine Division.

**United States Marine Corps:** **Bernie Cheatham**, Sergeant/E5 1963-1967.

**Thanksgiving Community Worship:** After a 3-year pandemic pause, the Glen Allen Ministerial Association is holding a community Thanksgiving Service this Tuesday night at 7 pm at Glen Allen Baptist Church. Glen Allen is hosting this event and all that is needed is our gratitude and presence. All of the pastors in this association have a small role in the service. Glen Allen Baptist is located nearby at 3028 Mountain Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060

**Advent Decorating on Saturday:** Please join us this Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 am to bring Advent love to our sanctuary.

**Advent Wreath Making (for our homes) with Pizza:** Sign-up in the hallway to join us after worship next Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, to create our own Advent wreath. Candles, greens, and PIZZA will be supplied. All you need to bring is your Advent ring and your creativity. Please sign up in the hallway so we have an idea of how many are interested. One pro tip for an inexpensive DIY Advent ring is to use your cake pan from home and fill it with a Styrofoam ring from Michaels; or, order one online. They run about \$10.

**Two Advent Devotional Small Group Start-Ups:** Starting the week of November 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting two small groups to dig into Advent for a more impactful journey. Please come and savor this “thin space” as we anticipate the birth that changed all others. Ann is leading both groups and Chris will co-leading the in-person group.

**Tuesday Nights at 7:30 pm:** We will gather by Zoom. A link will be sent out to all on our email “listserv” to participate.

**Wednesdays at 1 pm:** We will offer an in-person group meeting in the Parlor. This is the Beloved group.

**The cost for a devotional book is \$8.** Books will be left in the parlor on the table with a box for you to drop a check (or cash) to Chris Rhoden.

**Have a Favorite Christmas Carol?** Let us know. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent we will have a service of Lessons and Carols. Submit your requests to Glenda Miller at [g1313g@aol.com](mailto:g1313g@aol.com) or Ann Cherry at [laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com](mailto:laurelpres.cherry@gmail.com). We need your input by December 4<sup>th</sup>.

**We Need your Input:** What has been your experience of Laurel church? Rev Ann will be asking Session this same question today. To record your response, please go to the Parlor and use the Expo Markers (for white boards only) and leave your responses under each of these headings (one question per white board). No need to identify yourself, we just want you to identify your experience of this church in three areas. All people are welcomed to participate. If you are a new attendee or member then you would start on the second white board with the question, *The way we are*.

The way we were:

The way we are:

The way we want to be:

**Beholding with Spirit:** As we approach the new year, we are looking for “Beholders” – those interested in learning how to actively “see and behold” Christ in the other. The goal is to equip “beholders” with “seeing” and “listening” skills in order to walk alongside others in our church. There will be an informational meeting on this emerging ministry on Wednesday, December 14, at 3:00 pm in the Parlor. Both Ann and Chris will be coordinating this ministry. Please consider joining us even if you think that you cannot meet people in person. Telephone, text, and email conversations are powerful tools for walking alongside and beholding another.

**Stewardship Ahead:** Look for a packet to arrive in the mail soon. We are asking that pledge cards be returned to us by December 4<sup>th</sup>. Extra pledge cards will be available next Sunday near where you pick up bulletins. This year we are making a big ask – that you consider adding 9% to your pledge amount over last year’s gift in order to continue our ministry funding at the same level. We know that inflation has impacted all of us, so pray about how you might rethink your home budget so that we can continue to invest in God’s vision for us at Laurel. For additional information, please touch base with Tod Balsbaugh, our Stewardship Lead, and Ann Whitby.

**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

**Online Giving is Active:** Online giving allows a donor to make contributions using a credit or debit card through a safe portal. 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.

**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.

**A COVID PSA:** The COVID Task Force would like us to remember that if we do test positive, to let the people around us know, specifically the people we had contact with at church, and sat around at worship.

**Newsletter Deadline:** Yes, it is that time of the month again. December articles are due on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> to Brenda and Pete MacRae at [bmacrae1961@gmail.com](mailto:bmacrae1961@gmail.com).

**Clay Pots Still Needed:** 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.

**Interested in Joining Laurel?:** We will be receiving new members on December 11. We would love to have you as part of this group. If you are interested in joining this sweet church, please contact Rev. Ann Cherry at (804) 508-3850.

**Director of Music Search Team:** The Session has appointed Glenda Miller, chair, and Gladys Bowles, Vickie Chaplin, 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."

**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.

**November Shepherd of the Month:** Our Shepherds of the Month of November are Margaret and Reggie Fitch. You can reach the Fitches at 804-755-7201. 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  
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](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**

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