



LAUREL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*Welcomes You to Worship!*

Easter 5

May 7, 2023 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE *Nocturne (John Field)/Largo (Edward Elgar)* Peter Edison

RINGING OF THE HOUR Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

*GATHERING AROUND LOVE*

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Carol Cummins

Leader: Gather us in, O God.

**People: For, there is room for us all.**

Leader: Dwell with us, O God

**People: And show us the way.**

Leader: Guide us, O God.

**People: For you are our way, truth and the life** (adapted from the Presbyterian Outlook).

\*HYMN *God Is Here!* No. 409 (vs. 1,2,4)

*RECEIVING LOVE*

CALL TO CONFESSION The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of new beginnings, we come to you as a people eager to live as your resurrected ones. Yet, we have become so deadened to new possibilities that we miss out on the life you have set before us. God of budding trees and new life, we thirst for rebirth, and hunger to live your dreams and visions. Yet, we have become so pre-occupied with getting through the day that we overlook the nudgings of the Spirit of change, of**

**adventure, of the kingdom come. Awaken us O Lord and open our eyes and our hearts to receive your vision of our “it” factor, and the gift of your presence within us and around us. And open our lips and our hands to share who we are, and who you are, with all your people. For we pray this in the name of that one you stood up from the grave, who is and was and always will be our Christ.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . Amen

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: Beloved Ones, hear the good news: We are formed from Love, to be love, 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: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### *PROCLAIMING LOVE*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 2: 2-6, 9-10 (NRSVue)

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Little Shepherd (Claude DeBussy)* Peter Edison

SCRIPTURE John 14: 1-14 (NRSVue)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon *“Trust”* The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

### *RESPONDING IN LOVE*

\*HYMN *O Jesus, I Have Promised* No. 724 (vs. 1,2,4)

\*PROFESSION OF FAITH *Philippians 2: 5-11* Carol Cummins

**We profess that Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,**

**being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even on a cross.**

**Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!**

\* OUR RESPONSE *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Hymn No. 606

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, Beloved God . . . All praise to you, Lord Jesus.

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

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## *BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD*

\*HYMN *Why Should I Feel Discouraged?* No. 661

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

\*POSTLUDE

*Rigadoun (Andre Campre)*

Peter Edison

\*RECESSION AND GREETING

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry

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

**Lay Reader:** Thank you to Carol Cummens for serving as our liturgist today.

**Welcome to Peter Edison, our Guest Organist:** Peter studied piano at the Julliard School of Music in New York, followed by regular college in New York, and then law school in Boston. He was hired by the government as an aviation lawyer and worked in DC for approximately 9 years, then became a judge for the Social Security Administration for 35 years, first in Nashville, TN, and then in Maryland. He and his wife Marie and dog Dazzle retired here 5 years ago, and now live in Cross Ridge.

**Sanctuary Flowers:** The flowers this day are given by Laurel Love to the Glory of God and in honor of Ann Whitby for her insight that a fresh tagline was needed for our church, and for her organization of our ideas and the poling to identify it. Ann is the chair of the Vision Task Force.

**Passing of the Peace:** You are invited to stand and greet each other in the name of our Beloved One to greet each other with 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.

**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. Please linger and know that your voice is wanted and needed. The gift of a small church is that we can have a BIG impact.

**Circle on Tuesday:** Please join us at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall as we continue to unpack what Sabbath means. Carol Short is our study leader, Gladys Chamberlayne is our chairperson, Carolyn Stinger is our secretary, and Judy Smith is our treasurer. Carol Short will also be our study leader next year.

**Laurel Love Goes to Lunch on Tuesday:** Join us for some Laurel Love on Tuesday at 11:30 am at Arianna's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria 5107 Lakeside Ave, Henrico. Please let the pastor know if you can attend. We are planning for 15. You can text, email or let her know in person.

**Beloved on Wednesday:** We will convene on Wednesday at two times, at 1 pm and 3 pm, with our comingling between groups at 2:30-3 pm. Please come to the group that best fits your schedule. We are unpacking *Hope: A User's Manual*, written by Presbyterian minister, MaryAnn McKibbens Dana. We first listen to the piece we are going to discuss before we discuss it. No need to have read the passage before we meet. Books can still be ordered. See Chris or Ann.

**We Wonder: Healing through Community and Awe:** This is a 10-week group led by Chris Rhoden and Susan Cromer that invites people who have lost loved ones to share their stories with one another in facilitated groups and to experience the wonder of creation in a series of group walks. The group will meet in the Parlor on Wednesday nights (most likely at 6:30 pm) from May 15-July 26. The cost is \$250 payable in advance. To register go to [chris@beachcottagecounseling.com](mailto:chris@beachcottagecounseling.com) or call Chris at (804) 220-1582. If you would like to participate but cost is a barrier, please reach out to Chris or to Ann. Scholarships are available.

**“Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve:”** Introducing our new tagline and a fresh new dove design designed by Colleen MacRae Lannetti. This is the tagline that received the most votes this past year. Look for the refrigerator magnets coming soon. Look also for a way to make love known through your worship and service as Laurel Love.

**Backpack Lawn Blower:** If you borrowed the backpack lawn blower, please return it to the shed. It is that time of year again : )

**Coal Pit Learning Center:** Margaret Fitch of the Member Care and Missions Team has organized a program for reading to Coal Pit Learning Center children. Anyone can sign up to read to the kids. Any Tuesday or Thursday at 9:30 to 10:00am or 3:30-4:00pm. The children are four and five years old and Maria, the Director, suggested two stories or a craft. We would love to have men go too— just let Margaret know if you want to volunteer. You can reach Margaret at (804) 402-5737.

**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. You can also give using our QR code on the back of the bulletin by opening your camera and focusing on the code.

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.

**Another Seminary Intern Coming this Summer!** The Session has voted to welcome David McDowell to our church this summer. He is a second-year student at Union Theological Seminary. He is a friend of Hannah Miller, who was our seminary intern last summer. Look for more information in May.

**Interested in Joining Laurel?** 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.

**May Shepherds of the Month:** Our May Shepherd of the Month is Judy Smith. You can reach Judy at (804) 273-6007. Our shepherds provide member care and TLC.

**Call to Prayer:** Let us be in prayer for our political system, for all those impacted by the gun violence, including for the shooters and their families; let us be in prayer for the stability of the banking market and for our global infrastructure, for those rebuilding from the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, from the misuse of power, for those suffering in the Ukraine/Russia war, for those who are fighting addiction, battling cancer, carrying heavy burdens, grieving, or suffering. We pray also for our Director of Music Search, for Laurel to embody the bold vision God has set for us, for all of us to claim our gifts in God and to live them out in this world as “salt” and “light.”

## **Laurel Presbyterian Church**

The Rev. Ann D. Cherry, Minister  
Peter MacRae, Bookkeeper  
Duane Berger, Clerk, Elder, WE  
Michael Henderson, Documentarian  
Margaret Fitch, Elder, MCM Team  
Brenda MacRae, Elder, MCM Team

Rob McBane, Treasurer  
Linda Maddy, Elder, MCM Team  
Tod Balsbaugh, Elder, SP Team  
Ann Whitby, Elder, Vision Task Force  
Denis Ramdas, Elder, SP Team  
Wayne Alvis, Elder, SP Team

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### **Where Love Is Known**

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