



Laurel Presbyterian Church

Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

Welcomes You!

10th Sunday After Pentecost

August 2, 2026, 10:00 AM

Where Love is Known

PRELUDE

James Sudbury

RINGING OF THE HOUR

Janice Berger

WELCOME BELOVED ONES

Gladys Chamberlayne

GATHERING AROUND LOVE

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

James Sudbury

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gladys Chamberlayne

Leader: Anyone who thirsts, come and drink!

People: If you have no money but you're hungry, come and receive wine and milk without a price tag.

Leader: Why do you spend money on what does not nourish you?

People: Why do you work for what does not nurture you?

Leader: Listen, come and eat healthy food that will delight you.

People: Come and partake in the Spirit that will give you life.

Leader: Become a witness of God's free gift of grace to all people.

People: They will come running to you because our Covenant God will raise you up, transform you, and make you shine!

*HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

No. 39

RECEIVING LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Dan Wiard

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice and mercy, we admit that we are not always free of deceit. We are fooled by the false promises of the world into pursuing things that do not truly nourish us. Hear our cry and save us, dear God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION. . . AMEN.

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Leader: Here is good news for everyone: God is gracious, merciful, and abounding in steadfast love, and gives us forgiveness and grace.

People: **We do not have to earn it with sacrifice because it is a free gift from a generous God!**

*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

Dr. Dan Wiard

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-5 (CEB)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

MUSICAL DEVOTION

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Madeline Clore

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:13-21 (CEB)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"More Than Enough"

Dr. Dan Wiard

RESPONDING IN LOVE

*HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

No. 450

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Belhar Confession

Gladys Chamberlayne

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

*OUR RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn No. 606

SATURATED IN LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Dan Wiard

Leader: Compassionate God, you are good to all. Help us to trust in you and to share what we have with a hungry world. We pray for your church universal, that our relations with other religions, especially your people, the Jews, may be respectful and abounding in steadfast love. Enable us to join with people of all faiths to work for the well-being of all your children.

People: Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

Silence

Leader: We pray for the earth and all the creatures who look to you for their food in due season. May we do our part in restoring the balance of your creation and deepen our commitment to follow Jesus in ministries that feed and serve others.

People: Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

Silence

Leader: We pray for all the people of the world, for their ethnic groups, nations, and leaders, that wars will cease, that the hungry will be fed, and that refugees will return home in safety and peace.

People: Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.”

Silence

Leader: We pray for all those who suffer from physical ills and for all those who wrestle with you for personal identity and spiritual peace. May they find their truth without money and peace without cost.

People: Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.”

Silence

Leader: Gracious and merciful God, abounding in steadfast love, we join our voices with all that you have made in speaking your praises and blessing your name, for, with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you are just in all your ways and kind in all your doings. And now we pray the prayer your taught us, saying,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BEARING LOVE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

Here I am, Lord

No. 69

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

Dr. Dan Wiard

*POSTLUDE

James Sudbury

*RECESSION AND GREETING

Dr. Dan Wiard

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

****Please wait to greet each other until the minister have recessed down the aisle.**

A Hearty Laurel Welcome to Dr. Dan Wiard: Dan may be new to our Presbytery, but he is not new to the church. He is an accomplished nationally known educator and will be with us today and next Sunday while Ann is on vacation. Dan brings a wealth of experience to the church. He is a retired Certified Christian Educator with forty-two years of ministry. Dan has served congregations in VA, PA, DE, SC, and NC. He also served on presbytery staff in PA. He has an earned doctorate in Educational Ministries (D.Ed. Min) from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA; a Master of Arts in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA; and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Dan was a member of the Association of Partners in Christian Education and has been an APCE presenter, workshop leader, and regional president. Dan is an avid cyclist and enjoys pickleball and photography.

Gratitude to our Liturgist: Thank you to Gladys Chamberlayne for serving as our liturgist today.

Gratitude for the Steady Presence of Laurel Love: Thank you to Mary Searce for her copy editing, Billy Shepherd for tending to our church sign, Mary Searce, Beverley Shepherd and Carolyn for our printing, Brenda MacRae, our website master, and Tod Balsbuagh, Marshall Chamberlayne, Glenda Miller, Billy Shepherd, and Fran Tredway for tending to our building and grounds.

All Are Welcome! The signature gift of Laurel Love is our affection and love for God and for one another.

Isaiah 55:1-5, *Common English Bible*

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water!

Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat!

Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!

Why spend money for what isn't food,

and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?

Listen carefully to me and eat what is good;

enjoy the richest of feasts.

Listen and come to me;

listen, and you will live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,

my faithful loyalty to David.

Look, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a prince and commander of peoples.

Look, you will call a nation you don't know,

a nation you don't know will run to you

because of the LORD your God,

the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you.

Matthew 14:13-21, Common English Bible

When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to me." He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

Laurel Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Ann D. Cherry, Minister

James A. Sudbury, Director of Music

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Growing Deeper Together

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"You are precious in my sight and honored and oh so loved." Isaiah 43:4