



September 30, 2018

Sunday:

Worship: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Bible Classes: 9:30 am

Wednesday:

Bible Classes: 7 pm

Shepherds:

elders@laurelchurch.net

Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460

Allen Pratt: 410-730-1075

Steve Thornton: 301-362-6785

Jody Venkatesan: 301-483-8390

Michael Wilkins: 410-480-4365

Ministers:

Ricky Cook

443-521-4307

Ricky.Cook@laurelchurch.net

Office Hours on Monday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bren White

301-676-5420

Bren.White@laurelchurch.net

Office Hours on Wednesday, 12-6 p.m.

Tim Wood

308-765-8941

Tim.Wood@laurelchurch.net

Deacons:

Kwesi Asiedu

Joe Ford

John Birus

Eric Gilbey

Steve Brosey

Calvin Hunt

Kerry Clark

Steve Jones

Phillip Cummings

Del Meadows

Chris Forand

Brandon Porter

Secretary: Susan Ray

office@laurelchurch.net

410-608-1177

7111 Cherry Lane

Laurel, MD 20707

301-490-0777

www.laurelchurch.net

Expecting The Best

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height--to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:14-21

There are two approaches to life and each one of us afforded choice as to which approach we take. We can be optimists or pessimists. We can live in fear or walk by faith. The words of the apostle (cited above) encourages us to expect the best. The word "expect" in this context does not speak of a sense of entitlement or making demands. Rather, in this context "expect" has reference to a sure hope. Faith and confidence that the fidelity and power of God will always provide.

Christians, of all people, have reason to expect the best. How could this be otherwise in light of the promises of God? Jesus declares that He came to give life in abundance – *John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."* When we expect the best, we honor God. Our faith and obedience declare that He is trustworthy.

Moreover, expecting the best increases our capacity to be used by God. In the days of the reign of king Saul, the Israelites were challenged by Goliath, the Philistine champion. An evil expectation (prompted by fear) moved the Israelites to flee (*1 Samuel 17:11, 24*). One among them (David) relied on the fidelity and power of God and thus, expected the best (*1 Samuel 17:37*). God used David to slay the giant Philistine and deliver Israel from the menace and oppression of their enemy.

God is able and desires to use us to His glory even as He used those of whom we read in scripture. If we will trust that His will must and will be done, God can and will use us according to His purpose. To expect the best is to know the God we serve. His love, His power and His faithfulness. To God be the glory! Amen.

In Him,
Ricky Cook

Order of Worship

Welcome to Worship

8:00 AM:

Song Leader: Mike Wilson

167 Hosanna

Call to Worship: Paul Wharton

484 You Are My All in All
S-85 Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Assistant 1: Shaun Holt

Giving: Calvin Mitchell

Bread: Carl Wamble

Fruit of the Vine: Kevin Caldwell

Assistant 2: Jason Blankenship

Assistant 3: Jonathan Anglin

— **The Storm is Passing Over**

Scripture Reading: 2 Tim. 3:10-17
Will Evans

959 Just a Little Talk with Jesus

Sermon: Ricky Cook

— **How Great is Our God**

Prayer Requests/Announcements

315 I'll Live in Glory (PFL)

Closing Prayer: De Morris

Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise, Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.

10:30 AM:

Song Leader: Calvin Hunt

S-117 Here I am to Worship

Call to Worship: Alan Bobo

555 Seek Ye First
176 Lamb of God

Assistant 1: Emagii Graves

Assistant 2: Ross Thian

Giving: Kerry Clark

Bread: Steve Koziol

Fruit of the Vine: Wayne Dellinger

Assistant 3: Zane Huckabey

Assistant 4: Teddy Williams

Assistant 5: Jason Kane

S-84 Open the Eyes of My Heart

Scripture Reading: 2 Tim. 3:10-17
Del Meadows

— **How Great is Our God**

Sermon: Ricky Cook

902 Nothing But the Blood

Prayer Requests/Announcements

— **We Will Stand**

Closing Prayer: Floyd Fowler

Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.

Guest Guide:

- Nursery and Training room are upstairs.
- Children's classes are downstairs.
- Looking for a church home? We'd love to tell you about this congregation.
- Please fill out a guest card and drop it in the collection basket.
- Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in all classes and services in the auditorium. Stop by the sound booth to get one.

Leaders	Location	Time
Demetrius Morris	Church Building	1:30 PM
Ricky Cook	Church Building	12:30 PM
Farin Crone	Crone 8050 Harriet Tubman Ln. Columbia, 21044	6 PM
DuBois Murphy & Tim Wood (Teens)	Church Building	1:30 PM
Curtis Madeley	Madeley 1036 Meandering Way Odenton, 21113	12:30 PM
Carl Wamble	Wamble 3006 Berrywood Ln. Springdale, 20774	TBA
Calvin Hunt	Dockendorf 8736 Cardinal Forest Cr. Laurel, 20723	4 PM
Bren White	Gregg 103 Sanderling Ct. Glen Burnie, 21060	2 PM
Brent Smith	Paugh 7921 Rustling Bark Ct. Ellicott City, 21043	6 PM
Mike Wilson	TBA	

Others Serving this morning:

Ushers: (1) Sean Semple,
(2) Ben Anglin

Others Serving this morning:

Ushers: (1) Alex Ray,
(2) Charles Pratt

Wednesday, October 3rd

Devotional	Calvin Mitchell
Singing	John Landrum
Closing Prayer:	Steve Brosey



Please remember to turn off, mute or set to vibrate all cell phones and electronic devices during services.



Where Faith Meets Life!