

Order of Worship

8:00 AM:
Song Leader: Mike Wilson
745 Humble Yourself
Call to Worship: Bernard Foster
 — **Whose Side are You Living On**
S-85 Wonderful Merciful Savior
Bread: Aaron Springer
Fruit of the Vine: Ian Huckabey
Giving: Palmer Young
 — **The River is Here**
Scripture Reading: John 6:60-71
Kevin Taylor
412 Jesus, Hold My Hand
Sermon: Ricky Cook
83 God is So Good
Prayer Requests/Announcements
315 I'll Live in Glory (PFL)
Closing Prayer: Palmer Young
Usher 1: Shaun Holt
Usher 2: Kweku Asiedu
Projectionist: Byron Vaughan
Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.

10:30 AM:
Song Leader: Kevin Caldwell
72 Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty
 — **How Great is Our God**
Call to Worship: Alan Bobo
2 We Praise Thee, O God
797 Lord We Come Before Thee Now
 — **Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted**
Bread: Emagii Graves
Fruit of the Vine: Jesse Frerot
Giving: Chris Forand
180 Jesus is Lord
Scripture Reading: John 6:60-71
Ethan Graves
528 I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Sermon: Ricky Cook
904 Have You Been to Jesus?
Prayer Requests/Announcements
 — **Salvation Belongs to Our God**
Closing Prayer: Chris Forand
Usher 1: Joe Ford
Usher 2: Neal Wilkins
Projectionist: Chuck Morris
Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.

Sunday Evening Worship
Song Leader: Rodney Philyaw
Call to Worship: Allen Pratt
Scripture Reader: John Jones
Speaker: Ricky Cook
Lord's Supper: Carl Wamble
Closing Prayer: Allen Pratt
Projectionist: Kwesi Asiedu

We would like the men scheduled to serve in the worship service meet in the copier room at 7:45 and 10:15 to prepare for the service.
Wednesday, March 20th
Song Leader Antoine Johnson
Devotional Leader Jeff Watson
Closing Prayer Mike Wilson



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 give it to one of the ushers.
- Communion cups are on the welcome table in the foyer.

Serving Next Week: March 24th

8:00 Service

Brother of the Month	Jeff Watson
Song Leader	Carl Wamble
Call To Worship	Jeff Watson
Bread	Kwesi Asiedu
Fruit of the Vine	Eric Gilbey
Giving	Reggie Oliver
Scripture Reader	Yaw Asiedu
Closing Prayer	Reggie Oliver
Usher 1	Kevin Hogg
Usher 2	Reggie White
Projectionist	Kevin Caldwell

10:30 Service

Brother of the Month	Joe Ford
Song Leader	Antoine Johnson
Call to Worship	Vaughn Harvey
Bread	Steve Koziol
Fruit of the Vine	Demetrius Morris
Giving	Jerry Prestridge
Scripture Reader	Cornelius Morris
Closing Prayer	Jerry Prestridge
Usher 1	Bob Ozomah
Usher 2	John Jones
Projectionist	Allen Pratt



March 17, 2024

Sunday:

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

Wednesday:

Bible Classes: 7 pm

Shepherds:

elders@laurelchurch.net
 Bernard Foster: 410-782-9091
 Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460
 Allen Pratt: 410-730-1075
 Steve Thornton: 301-362-6785
 Michael Wilkins: 410-480-4365

Ministers:

Ricky Cook - 443-521-4307
 Ricky.Cook@laurelchurch.net
 Jesse Frerot - 318-477-9038
 Jesse.Frerot@laurelchurch.net
 Manuel Martinez - 201-667-1391
 Manuel.Martinez@laurelchurch.net

Deacons:

Kwesi Asiedu Steve Jones
 Kerry Clark Del Meadows
 Chen Colunga Demetrius Morris
 Eric Gilbey Bob Ozomah
 Chris Forand Ronald Rivera
 Joe Ford Bruce Robins
 Antoine Johnson

Secretary: Susan Ray
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“Say What?”

“Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?” *John 6:60*

The reaction of the Jews in John 6:60 could well be summed up by the question, “Say what?” These disciples chaffed at the idea of having to eat Jesus’ flesh and drink His blood. The word translated “hard” does not mean “difficult to understand.” It means “harsh” or “unpleasant.” Thus, the idea conveyed is not that the people did not understand what Jesus meant so much as they did not care for what He taught. His words were not unintelligible, the crowd found His words offensive. The crowd found His teaching offensive not because they could not understand or misunderstood, they were offended because they understood. The words of Jesus called them to total submission.

The teachings of Jesus challenge everyone at some point and on some level. It is when we are thus challenged that we can know how committed we are to the Lordship of Jesus. If we are only willing to obey the things that do not push us to deny ourselves or sacrifice it begs to question the depth of commitment. This was the case with the rich, young ruler (*Matthew 19:16-22*). He fully understood what the Lord commanded him to do. However, he found the call of Jesus unpleasant. For him, giving up his material wealth to follow Jesus was a “hard saying.”

The apostle Paul exhorted the Corinthian Christians – *2 Corinthians 13:5* “Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless indeed you are disqualified.” The best inspection is introspection. May the great God of heaven bless us each to examine ourselves and submit to His will lest we balk at a hard saying. To God be the glory! Amen!

Because He lives,
 Ricky Cook