

Order of Worship	
8:00 AM: Song Leader: Kevin Caldwell 362 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee Call to Worship: Steve Jones 154 Give Me the Bible — Goodness of God 514 On the Cross of Calvary Bread: Byron Vaughan Fruit of the Vine: Chris Forand Giving: Wayne Dellinger 895 Thy Word Scripture Reading: Hebrews 3:7-15 John Jones 404 Looking to Thee Sermon: Ricky Cook 207 Hark the Gentle Voice Prayer Requests/Announcements — All to Us Closing Prayer: Wayne Dellinger Usher 1: LeRoy Bell Usher 2: Kevin Hogg Projectionist: Carl Wamble Our songs today are from Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.	10:30 AM: Song Leader: Kevin Taylor 986 Kum Ba Yah 827 Sweet Hour of Prayer Call to Worship: TBA 875 Home of the Soul 742 When Upon Life’s Billows 431 Break Thou the Bread of Life Bread: Steve Koziol Fruit of the Vine: Kerry Clark Giving: Demetrius Morris S-33 A Mansion Robe and Crown Scripture Reading: Hebrews 3:7-15 Cornelius Morris 973 Everybody Will Be Happy Over There Sermon: Ricky Cook 464 Because He Lives Prayer Requests/Announcements S-88 Give Thanks to the Lord Closing Prayer: Demetrius Morris Usher 1: Joe Ford Usher 2: Michael Ozomah Projectionist: Kevin Caldwell Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.
Sunday Evening Worship	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.
Song Leader: Rodney Philyaw	
Call to Worship: TBA	
Scripture Reader: Del Meadows	
Lord’s Supper: Palmer Young	
Closing Prayer: TBA	
Projectionist: Kevin Caldwell	
Wednesday, July 29th	
Song Leader	Antoine Johnson
Devotional Leader	Jesse Frerot
Closing Prayer	John Jones
Projectionist	Carl Wamble

A Warm Welcome 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 available in the foyer. <u>The cups will be picked up by the ushers after communion.</u>	
Serving Next Week: August 2nd	
8:00 Service	
Brother of the Month	Wayne Dellinger
Song Leader	Charles Hamilton
Call To Worship	Jeff Watson
Bread	Kevin Taylor
Fruit of the Vine	Reggie Oliver
Giving	Calvin Mitchell
Scripture Reader	Teddy Williams
Closing Prayer	Calvin Mitchell
Usher 1	LeRoy Bell
Usher 2	Bob Ozomah
Projectionist	Carl Wamble
10:30 Service	
Brother of the Month	Joe Ford
Song Leader	Kevin Caldwell
Call to Worship	Michael Wilkins
Bread	Jerry Prestridge
Fruit of the Vine	Del Meadows
Giving	Antoine Johnson
Scripture Reader	Michael Ozomah
Closing Prayer	Antoine Johnson
Usher 1	Elijah Prestridge
Usher 2	Neal Wilkins
Projectionist	Bruce Robins



July 19, 2026

Sunday: Worship: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, Spanish service 12:15 pm Bible Classes: 9:30 am Spanish Bible Classes: 11:00	
Wednesday: Bible Classes: 7 pm	
Shepherds: elders@laurelchurch.net Kerry Clark: 240-278-6006 Bernard Foster: 410-782-9091 Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460 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: Chen Colunga Del Meadows Chris Forand Jerry Prestridge Joe Ford Bob Ozomah Emagii Graves Bruce Robins Antoine Johnson Palmer Young Steve Jones	
Secretary: Susan Ray office@laurelchurch.net 410-608-1177 7111 Cherry Lane Laurel, MD 20707 301-490-0777 https://www.facebook.com/LaurelmdCOC/ https://www.youtube.com/@laurelchurchmd www.laurelchurch.net	

Joy In Jail
“For to me, to live <i>is</i> Christ, and to die <i>is</i> gain.” <i>Philippians 1:21</i>
If one word is used to sum up the message of Philippians surely that word is “joy.” To be sure, one would never know that the letter was penned while Paul was incarcerated except that he so indicates the fact (e.g. - <i>Philippians 1:12-14</i>). Being incarcerated typically does not produce joy. The societal stigma and harsh realities of being imprisoned lead to many reactions, but usually not pleasant ones. One of the great lessons we learn from Paul’s experience and example is that children of God are to live above their circumstances. This does not mean that we view the unpleasant as pleasant or that our sorrows make us glad. It does mean that when we trust and have confidence in God our perspective changes and our prospects are heightened.
Consider these things that can be observed about Paul:
1) The will of God had become Paul’s will and priority. <i>Philippians 1:18</i> “What then? Only <i>that</i> in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.” Paul does not want us to believe that jail had suddenly become a happy place to be. Rather, we learn that when God’s will and pleasure become our will and pleasure, it is not the price but the result on which we focus. When one focuses on the price rather than the result, discouragement will rule, and the heart will fail.
2) Paul embraced that the fact that not only does God exist, but He is also actively working in our lives. <i>Philippians 4:13</i> “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” This is not “feel good” theology, this is a heavenly fact. God is working in a mighty way (daily) enabling and empowering us to accomplish His will and purposes. Paul additionally declared, <i>Philippians 4:19</i> “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” There is no trial too severe, no burden too heavy and no sorrow too great that God has not already equipped us to triumph over in Christ Jesus.
To have faith in God is to understand how Paul possessed such great joy even in times of trial and trouble. We serve the same God that he served and have access to the same grace. Surely, we should be a people of joy because our God is able. May we ever remember the words of Hanani, <i>2 Chronicles 16:9</i> “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of <i>those</i> whose heart <i>is</i> loyal to Him...” To God be the glory! Amen!
Because He lives, Ricky Cook