

Order of Worship			<div>A Warm Welcome</div>		
8:00 AM: <i>Song Leader: Kevin Caldwell</i> 501 O Worship the King <i>Call to Worship: Carl Wamble</i> S-44 Firm Foundation 118 Count Your Blessings 452 Night with Ebon Pinion <i>Bread: Chris Forand</i> <i>Fruit of the Vine: Calvin Mitchell</i> <i>Giving: Eric Gilbey</i> 328 In the Hour of Trial <i>Scripture Reading: Mark 4: 35-41</i> <i>Kevin Taylor</i> 425 Master, the Tempest is Raging <i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i> 771 Will You Come? <i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i> 345 It is Well with My Soul <i>Closing Prayer: Eric Gilbey</i> <i>Usher 1: Bob Ozomah</i> <i>Usher 2: LeRoy Bell</i> <i>Projectionist: Byron Vaughan</i> <i>Our songs today are from Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.</i>		10:30 AM: <i>Song Leader: Antoine Johnson</i> 296 We Have Come Into His House <i>Call to Worship: Alan Bobo</i> 346 He Lives — Holy Spirit Dwell in Me <i>Bread: Steve Koziol</i> <i>Fruit of the Vine: Del Meadows</i> <i>Giving: Rodney Philyaw</i> 945 Kneel at the Cross 543 Wonderful Words of Life <i>Scripture Reading: Mark 4: 35-41</i> <i>John Birus</i> S-33 Mansion Robe and Crown <i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i> 902 Nothing But the Blood <i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i> 881 Mansion Over the Hilltop <i>Closing Prayer: Rodney Philyaw</i> <i>Usher 1: Joe Ford</i> <i>Usher 2: Henry Jenkins</i> <i>Projectionist: Bruce Robins</i> <i>Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise and the Supplement.</i>		Guest Guide: <ul style="list-style-type: none">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. The cups will Be picked up by the ushers after communion.	
		Serving Next Week: August 10th			
		8:00 Service			
		Brother of the Month	Reggie White		
		Song Leader	Lester de Caires		
		Call To Worship	Calvin Mitchell		
		Bread	Shaun Holt		
		Fruit of the Vine	Zane Huckabey		
		Giving	Steve Jones		
		Scripture Reader	Bill Roberts		
		Closing Prayer	Steve Jones		
		Usher 1	Kellen Gibson		
		Usher 2	Kevin Hogg		
		Projectionist	Kevin Caldwell		
		10:30 Service			
		Brother of the Month	John Jones		
		Song Leader	Bruce Robins		
		Call to Worship	Allen Pratt		
		Bread	Jerry Prestridge		
		Fruit of the Vine	Mark Williamson		
		Giving	John Jones		
		Scripture Reader	Kevin Nash		
		Closing Prayer	John Jones		
		Usher 1	Michael Ozomah		
		Usher 2	Elijah Prestridge		
		Projectionist	Antoine Johnson		
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:	Aaron Springer				
Call to Worship:	Alan Bobo				
Scripture Reader:	Joe Ford				
Lord’s Supper:	Alan Bobo				
Closing Prayer:	Alan Bobo				
Projectionist:	Kevin Caldwell				
		Wednesday, August 6th			
		Song Leader	Antoine Johnson		
		Devotional Leader	Ricky Cook		
		Closing Prayer	Kerry Clark		



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: 301-317-3977
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:
Chen Colunga Steve Jones
Chris Forand Del Meadows
Joe Ford Bob Ozomah
Eric Gilbey Ronald Rivera
Antoine Johnson Bruce Robins
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

Handling Doubt In Difficult Times

I cried out to God with my voice—To God with my voice; And He gave ear to me. In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; My hand was stretched out in the night without ceasing; My soul refused to be comforted. I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed.” *Selah Psalm 77:1-3*

The mood of the psalmist, at least at the outset of this psalm, is quite different from the mood of other psalms (e.g. – Psalm 8, 23, 34, 95, 107, et al.). Asaph (author of this psalm) experienced doubt and anxiety over the distress of the nation of Israel. Scholars date this psalm to the Babylonian captivity. Life, by virtue of what it is, is such that we have all experienced doubt or anxiety at some point.

Through retrospect we have an advantage over Asaph. We know that it was the sinful and wicked ways of Israel that led to their sufferings. God is a loving and merciful God. Yet, He is also a God of justice. When faced with the continued rebellion of Israel, God did what was necessary. It was not that God had forgotten to be gracious that brought about Israel’s troubles. It was the response of a loving and just God to the gross wickedness of His people. The righteous minority of that day did not have the benefit of retrospect as we do today. Thus, we have this terrible expression of doubt from the psalmist.

Everyone faces difficult times in life, times that put our faith and patience to an extreme test. To acknowledge this fact is but to add our names to a long list that includes many of the greats from the Bible (e.g. – Job, Elijah, John the baptizer, et al.). Like those in the days of yore, there are times when our lot in life moves us to doubt and questions arise in our minds about the very foundation of our faith. When tough times arise in our lives it is not God that we should doubt. God never allows His children to suffer unduly. Whenever doubt creeps into our minds we need to remember some foundational truths about our Heavenly Father. First, He loves us – *Psalm 103:13-14*. Second, He is faithful – *1 Corinthians 10:13*. Third, He is just and true – *Revelation 15:3*.

As we grow in faith and patience, we understand more fully and are more appreciative of God’s mercy. It is not our lot to know and understand all that happens. It is our lot to have faith in the One who is ever deserving to be trusted. To God be the glory! Amen!

Because He lives,
Ricky Cook