Order of Worship

8:00 AM:

Song Leader: Allen Pratt

 Give Thanks to the Lord Let Us Worship

Call to Worship: Alan Bobo

— Agnus Dei - Here I am to Worship - Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Bread: Steve Koziol Fruit of the Vine: Aaron Springer Giving: Rodney Philyaw

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-9 Bruce Robins

Sermon: Ricky Cook

- My Only Hope is You

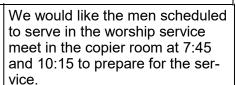
Prayer Requests/Announcements

Lord Reign in Me

Closing Prayer: Kevin Taylor

Usher 1: LeRoy Bell Usher 2: Reggie White Projectionist: Kevin Caldwell

Our songs today are from the Praise and Harmony series.

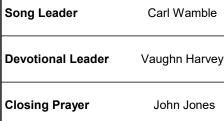


Wednesday, October 1st

Song Leader Carl Wamble

Life Groups Meet Today

Where Faith Meets Life!





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 fover. The cups will be picked up by the ushers after communion.

Serving Next Week: October 5th

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8:00 Service	
Brother of the Month	Carl Wamble
Song Leader	Carl Wamble
Call To Worship	Calvin Mitchell
Bread	Shaun Holt
Fruit of the Vine	Zane Huckabey
Giving	Jeff Watson
Scripture Reader	Byron Vaughan
Closing Prayer	Jeff Watson
Usher 1	Bob Ozomah
Usher 2	LeRoy Bell
Projectionist	Kevin Caldwell
10:30 Service	
Brother of the Month	Joe Ford
Song Leader	Bruce Robins
Call to Worship	Vaughn Harvey
Bread	Emagii Graves
Fruit of the Vine	Neal Wilkins
Giving	Kevin Nash
Scripture Reader	John Birus
Closing Prayer	Kevin Nash
Usher 1	Ethan Graves
Usher 2	Joe Ford
Projectionist	Chuck Morris



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 Gilbev Ronald Rivera Antoine Johnson Bruce Robins

> Secretary: Susan Ray office@laurelchurch.net 410-608-1177

> > 7111 Cherry Lane Laurel, MD 20707 301-490-0777

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Purposefully Thankful

"in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

It is not always easy to be thankful. Life is full of trying times and difficult circumstances. We remember the witness of the patriarch Job – *Job 14:1* "Man *who is* born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble." To the words of Job our own experiences agree. Yet, it must be remembered that life is a mixture of rain and sunshine, valleys and mountains, and adversity and prosperity. Our pursuit should not be the vain attempt to eliminate the rain, valleys, and adversity from our living. Such is beyond our control. It also flies in the face of the exhortation noted above.

Inherent in the apostle's charge noted above is the fact that there will be times when we must be thankful for trouble and/or trial. Not for trouble itself. Rather, thankful for the grace of God that sustains us and the mercy of God that delivers us. Being thankful is more than saying "thank you." It is an attitude of appreciation for the providence and faithfulness of God. It is an attitude of submission that embraces that what God allows needs to be. Consider the following two things concerning thankfulness:

- 1. **Thankfulness is a choice** Inasmuch as we are commanded to be thankful it lies within us to choose so to be. Circumstances are the things that happen around us. They are never the things that dictate what is going on inside us – *Philippians 4:11* "Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:"
- Thankfulness is not restricted to things that are pleasant - Many mistakenly hold thankfulness as being linked with happiness. While we may find it easier to be thankful for pleasant experiences, let us not overlook the fact that we are often matured through trying experiences (e.g. – Paul and his thorn in the flesh 2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

One of the many things for which we should be thankful is the fact that God knows our lack but is merciful to our condition. He blesses us in our joys and our distresses. To God be the glory! Amen!

> Because He lives, Ricky Cook