



*Bright
Hope
Laurel
United
Methodist
Church*

271 Laurel Valley Road • Mars Hill, NC 28754 • (828) 689-9586
mail@brighthopelaurelumc.org • brighthopelaurelumc.org

Rev. Shonnie Streder, Pastor • (212) 729-8826 • sstreder@wnccumc.net
Scott Sprinkle, Music Director • scottsprinkle@gmail.com
Jane Patterson, Pianist

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Chimes of the Trinity

Prelude and Lighting the Altar Candles

Welcome and Call to Worship

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Open the doors and shout greetings to the church across the street.

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Carry greetings across the railroad tracks to those we never meet.

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Send messages and e-mails to Good Christian Friends in Africa and Asia, South America and Europe!

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Extend your hand of fellowship to both the shelters and the mansions, to the projects and the gated communities.

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Reach out your arms to gather in the little ones and the not-so-little, the vulnerable and the ones who think they have to do it all on their own.

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

P: Remember that we are one HUGE family!!!

L: How good and pleasant it is for Christians to live together in unity!

Adapted from Safiyah Fosua, The Africana Worship Book, Year B (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007), 237.

Passing the Peace

*Welcoming Hymn “Revive Us Again” Cokesbury Hymnal (1&4)

Prayer of Confession

Great indeed is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not so reliable. We wander. We argue. We forget. We divide ourselves with anger and bitterness and falsehood. Let’s try to come back together again, and let’s start with the truth. Let’s confess our sins, to God, and also, to each other.

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world

goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

Written by Matt Gaventa, "PC(USA) World Communion Sunday Liturgy," Presbyterian Mission Agency, 2016, page 2, <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/PGW16-World-Communion-Sunday-Worship-resource.pdf>.

Prayers of the People

Patricia Petchin; Frances Powell; Nathan Woody; Eddie Leindecker; Glenn White;

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgiving.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymns of Thanksgiving *"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"* #133 (all)
 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" #526 (all)

*Scripture Reading *Ephesians 4:1-6* NIV

Handbell Choir *“Jesus Shall Reign”*

Children's Sermon and The Lord's Prayer

Sermon *“Telling Our Story”*

Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

Offering and Response

- What is one thing you heard today that stands out?
- What part of this brings hope for you?
- What part of this is challenging for you?
- What are you being asked to trust God with today?

Doxology #94

Closing Hymn “Precious Name” #536 (*vs.* 1 & 4)

Announcements

Tuesdays at 10am - Spiritual Support - BHL Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays at 6:30pm - Handbells - BHL Sanctuary

First Sundays at 12:15pm - Fellowship Potluck - BHL Fellowship Hall

Second Saturdays at 8am - Men's Breakfast - Little Creek Cafe

Monday, October 6 - Happy Birthday Tom Wrenn!

Tuesday, October 7 - Happy Birthday Sue Miller!

Thursday, October 9 - Happy Birthday Mary Ann Reeley!

Benediction

Postlude