

Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

Long Green and Kanés Rds., near Glen Arm, MD

October 2, 2016

Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am

Large print hymnals are available see an usher

This room is equipped with a sound loop for the hearing impaired

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Timothy 1:6-7 NKJV)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am) “Give to the winds thy fears” 561

Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship Psalm 37:1-9 (*Common English Bible*)

*Hymn “My life flows on” 580

*Awakening Prayer

The Gospel 2 Timothy 1:9-10 (*Laughing Bird version*)

Response (*refrain to*) “My life flows on” 580

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

Scripture Luke 17:1-6 (*The Message*)

Response (*refrain to*) “My life flows on” 580

Prayer for God’s deliverance and healing 697

Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise

Invitation to Love Feast

Hymn “You are salt for the earth” 226

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Response (*refrain to*) “My life flows on” 580

Message “*Not fear nor shame*”

*Hymn “I know not why God’s wondrous grace” 338

*Benediction

*Postlude

* Rise in body or in spirit
* * * * *

message to be posted at
www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2016/16-10-02.mp3

Call to Worship

- 1 - We begin with a Psalm of David.
2 - Remain seated until we ask you to rise... Listen...
1 - Don't get upset over evildoers;
2 - don't be jealous of those who do wrong,
1 - because they will fade fast, like grass;
2 - they will wither like green vegetables.
1 - Trust the Lord and do good;
2 - live in the land, and farm faithfulness.
1 - Enjoy the Lord, and he will give what your heart asks.
2 - Commit your way to the Lord!
1 - Trust him! He will act and will make your
righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like
high noon.
2 - Be still before the Lord,
1 - Be still!
2 - Be still before the Lord, and wait for him...
(pause)
2 - Please rise in body or spirit. *(when all are standing, continue)*
1 - Don't get upset when someone gets ahead—
2 - someone who invents evil schemes.
1 - Let go of anger and leave rage behind!
2 - Don't get upset—it will only lead to evil.

- 1 - Because evildoers will be eliminated,
2 - but those who hope in the Lord—
1 - they will possess the land...
2 - So, be still before the Lord,
1 - Be still!
2 - Be still before the Lord, and wait for him...
(pause)
1 - Our lives flow on in endless song.
2 - How can we keep from singing? #580

Awakening Prayer

Yes, Lord, how can we keep from singing? When our inner chaos quiets down at the sound of your voice, when your Word leads us to be still – we begin to hear your Creation and Redemption song. Our toes begin to tap with your rhythm. Like the beating of our hearts, we do not control it. Your eternal time signature sets our minds in motion, and we remember the tune and words:

“Jesus loves me this I know...”

“Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father...”

“Were you there when they crucified my Lord...”

“Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph o’er his foes...”

“Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart...”

How can we keep from singing? The music flows from deep within. Your Spirit moves and joy springs forth, even amid lamentation. You are the source of everlasting life and peace which passes understanding, Lord God. You work your salvation into our very bones and you awaken this body to rise in Christ on this resurrection day. We are your people gathered to worship and grow in grace and truth. We pray in the name of the One who leads us, Jesus Christ. Amen

The Gospel

2 Timothy 1:9-10

God rescued us from a living death
and called us to live for God alone
We had not earned this;
it was simply God’s plan,
carried out with great generosity.
Even before time began,
God’s extravagant generosity was ready for us;
a gift prepared for us in Christ Jesus.
Now it is out in the open,
lit up for all to see:
Christ Jesus has appeared as our lifesaver,
wiping out death
and announcing the fabulous message
of a life that death cannot touch.

from the *Laughing Bird* version
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Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Last night we opened the doors of our fellowship hall for an *Italian Dinner* served by our youth. Perhaps sometime while Ruoyun and her son, Ethan, are with us, we should have a *Chinese meal*. Or maybe, with Eugenia taking the lead, we could one day have a *Nigerian supper*. Wouldn't that be interesting? People around the world gather at their own tables and eat so many different foods.

This is ***World Communion Sunday***, when we recall that millions of Christians around this globe break bread and drink from the cup of Christ in their own way. Their tables, like ours, are the Lord's table. We come in so many different colors, but we are one people of God. There are a variety of ways to prepare and serve this meal, but Jesus, nevertheless, is present in all. There are so many names we go by – Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant; so many denominations – Brethren, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, or just plain Christian, yet we are one church, regardless of what is officially recognized.

As you return your offering just now, try to imagine worshipping in a culture very different from our own; being in a room, for instance, with a dirt floor surrounded by believers who look and speak different from you, but who love the Lord with heart, mind, and soul. That is what ties you and them together: the love of God in Christ. We will know we are Christians by our love. Offer your gift out of this love, which is bigger than the entire world. And as a global Christian, be thankful.

Ushers?

Luke 17:1-6

¹⁻² Jesus said to his disciples, “Hard trials and temptations are bound to come, but too bad for whoever brings them on! Better to wear a millstone necklace and take a swim in the deep blue sea than give even one of these dear little ones a hard time!

³⁻⁴ “Be alert. If you see your friend going wrong, correct him. If he responds, forgive him. Even if it's personal against you and repeated seven times through the day, and seven times he says, ‘I'm sorry, I won't do it again,’ forgive him.”

⁵ The apostles came up and said to the Master, “Give us more faith.”

⁶ But the Master said, “You don't need *more* faith. There is no ‘more’ or ‘less’ in faith. If you have a bare kernel of faith, say the size of a poppy seed, you could say to this sycamore tree, ‘Go jump in the lake,’ and it would do it.

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Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Prayer for God's deliverance & healing

Hymnal #697

Leader: O Prince of peace,
from peace that is no peace,
from the grip of all that is evil,
from a violent righteousness...

People: **deliver us.**

Leader: from paralysis of will,
from lies and misnaming,
from terror of truth...

People: **deliver us.**

Leader: From hardness of heart,
from trading in slaughter,
from the worship of death...

People: **deliver us.**

Leader: By the folly of your gospel,
by your choosing our flesh,
by your nakedness and pain...

People: **heal us.**

Leader: By your weeping over the city,
by your refusal of the sword,
by your facing of horror...

People: **heal us.**

Leader: By your bursting from the tomb,
by your coming in judgment,
by your longing for peace ...

People: **heal us.**

All: *Grant us peace. AMEN*

Invitation to Love Feast

I was talking to an older couple who come regularly to our pancake breakfast. They mentioned how important it was to them to receive communion every Sunday. That is the practice of many churches. I grew up in a Baptist congregation which shared the bread and cup on the first Sunday of every month. Many churches do that, also. As Brethren, our treasure is Love Feast, which we celebrate twice a year. In this service, we pull together other aspects of what Jesus shared in the upper room with his disciples on the night he was betrayed. They washed feet, so we do also. It was in the middle of a meal that Jesus broke bread and said “this is my body,” and passed a cup saying, “this is my blood, so we likewise enjoy a simple meal.

On this *World Communion Sunday*, when we recognize how big and diverse is this body we called *The Church*, I invite you to come and participate in this precious jewel we Brethren offer to the global church. Our Love Feast will begin at 5pm here in this sanctuary, eventually ending up in our fellowship hall. There is a place set for you around the table. You are welcome to fully join in, or just observe portions of it. Last Spring, more folks came than we expected. It was a joy to set up an extra table. In tonight’s service we will allow the beatitudes of Jesus (Matthew 5:1-12) to shape our time together. Won’t you join us?

Please turn now to #226 in your hymnal, and prepare for prayer with this reminder: “You are salt for the earth, O people, salt for the kingdom of God.”

Benediction

Go forth, not in fear,
but with God’s love and power,
gifted as you are with a sound mind.
May the Holy Spirit rekindle this gift,
and fill you with joy.
Amen!