

Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

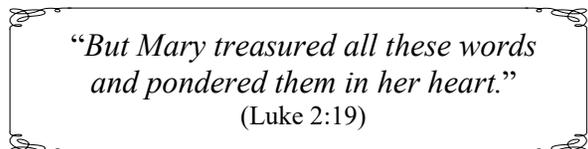
December 25, 2016

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

Christmas Day



Announcements

Through children’s eyes **“The Christmas Story”** (a video)

Call to Worship “Earthed” *a poem by Jeremy Williams*

*Rise and Whisper to your neighbor “Christ is born,
Joy to the World”

*Hymn “Joy to the World” 318

*Christmas Morning Prayer (*ends with Lord’s Prayer*)

Scripture Isaiah 52:7-10

Carol “Go Tell it on the mountain” (*on screen*)

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

Hymn “I heard the bells on Christmas day” (*on screen*)

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Titus 2:11-14 from *The Message*

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Video “Some children see him”
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

Scripture Luke 2:1-20

Message *“To treasure and ponder”*

*Hymn “Children, go where I send thee” (*on screen*)

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Rise in body or in spirit

* * * * *

message to be posted at

www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2016/16-12-25.mp3

Call to Worship

“Earthed”

Ring a bell,
call a parade,
get this on the evening news.

Let everything on earth,
and beneath the earth and above it,
and everything in the sea too,
from the oak to the octopus,
bees, bears, birds, buffalo, bacteria,
and human beings,
take notice.

We have an announcement.
The waiting is over.
The gap is breached.

Tell the lame they will dance
and the blind they will see rainbows.
Tell the oppressed they will be free
and the poor they will be rich.
Tell the meek their earth is ready.

Tell darkness its days are numbered
and its minions to flee,
tell the warmongers
that peace will overtake them
and cover their battletanks in dust.

Let the wind shake the forest,
and ripple praise across the grasslands.
Let the mountaintops sparkle with joy.
Your God is for you; your God is with you,
Let all creation sing his welcome.

But whisper it,
the baby is sleeping.

a poem by Jeremy Williams
engageworship.org/ideas/Two_Christmas_Poems

Ssssh!
Let us begin with whispers.
Please rise and turn to your neighbor.
To those on your left and on your right,
those behind you and those in front of you,
quietly say, “Christ is born, Joy to the World.”

(when folks have done this, click ppt to slide with baby’s cry.)

I guess he is no longer sleeping.
In that case, let’s sing our
“Joy to the world, the Lord has come!”

Christmas Morning Prayer

Let's pray.

Grace dawned this morning,
streaking our bleary eyes
with bright shafts
of beauty and goodness.

Joy sang us awake
with carols of wonder
written by the shepherds,
the tunes composed by children
who could not sleep.

Hope was fixing breakfast
for us while we slept,
toasting the Bread and
slathering it with jam,
pouring us a cuppa
steaming grace.

We rejoice and give thanks
God in Community, Holy in One,
our Grace, our Joy, our Hope,
even as we pray as your Child taught us,
(*Our Father, who art in heaven....*)

written by Rev. Thom M. Shuman,
currently interim Pastor at
Galloway Presbyterian Church near Columbus, Ohio.
from: lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/

Please be seated.

Isaiah 52:7-10

From the prophet Isaiah we hear this. Listen.

- ⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
⁹ Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

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Pastoral Prayer

*prayed in the moment,
as led by the Spirit*

Titus 2:11-14

In Paul's letter to Titus, he wrote the following. Listen.

God's readiness to give and forgive is now public. Salvation's available for everyone! We're being shown how to turn our backs on a godless, indulgent life, and how to take on a God-filled, God-honoring life. This new life is starting right now, and is whetting our appetites for the glorious day when our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, appears. He offered himself as a sacrifice to free us from a dark, rebellious life into this good, pure life, making us a people he can be proud of, energetic in goodness.

from *The Message*
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Returning our Tithes and Offerings

As children of God, let's seek to be "*energetic in goodness*" or, as another translation (NIV) puts it, "*eager to do what is good.*" ... Ushers, please help us return our Christmas offering.

Offertory Video

"Some children see him"

https://youtu.be/r_3-haTEFrU

Luke 2:1-20

One:

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Everyone:

All went to their own towns to be registered.

One:

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Everyone:

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

One:

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

Another:

“Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the

Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

One:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

Everyone:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

One:

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

Everyone:

“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

One:

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

Everyone:

But Mary treasured all these words
and pondered them in her heart.

One:

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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Benediction

Go now, and join your voices
with the song of joy in all creation.
Announce peace.
Herald salvation.
Let the earth know that God reigns.

And may God sustain you with his powerful Word.
May Christ Jesus be born as Savior within you.
And may the Spirit reveal to you the glory
of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

from *Laughing Bird* worship resources
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