

# Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

March 26, 2017

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

## First Sunday of Lent

*“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,  
whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that  
the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”* (James 1:2-3)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)                      “Softly and tenderly...”                      491

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship                      Isaiah 51:1-3                      (*Common English Bible*)

One: Listen to me, you who look for righteousness, you who  
seek the Lord:

**All: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the  
quarry where you were dug.**

One: Look to Abraham your ancestor, and to Sarah, who gave  
you birth.

**All: They were alone when I called them, but I blessed them  
and made them many.**

One: The Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her ruins.

**All: He will make her desert like Eden and her wilderness  
like the Lord’s garden.**

One: Happiness and joy will be found in her - thanks and the  
sound of singing.

\*Song                      “Blessed be the name”                      (insert/screen)

\*Opening Prayer

Scripture                      Ruth 1:1-5

For Children                      “The Seagoing Cowboy”

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Video                      “Heifer Volunteer Story: Wanda Eason”  
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

Affirming our faith                      710

Greetings from the District                      Brian Bachman

Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise  
(please be brief, and aware of God’s listening presence)

Hymn                      “He leadeth me”                      599

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture                      James 1:2-8

Message                      “Perseverance”                      Meghan Knight

Quiet Meditation to a song                      “I Will Sing” by Kari Jobe

\*Hymn                      “How clear is our vocation, Lord”                      541

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Rise in body or in spirit

\* \* \* \* \*

message to be posted at

[www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2017/17-03-26.mp3](http://www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2017/17-03-26.mp3)

## Call to Worship

One: Listen to me, you who look for righteousness, you  
who seek the Lord:

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the quarry where you were dug.**

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ruins.

**All: He will make her desert like Eden and her  
wilderness like the Lord's garden.**

One: Happiness and joy will be found in her - thanks and  
the sound of singing.

Isaiah 51:1-3

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(motion for congregation to stand)

Blessed be Your Name

## Opening Prayer

Lord Christ,  
In this season of Lent,  
As we draw nearer and nearer to the cross,  
Give us courage.  
Our steps falter  
As we anticipate following your footsteps  
on the road to Calvary.  
Be strength for our weakness,  
be hope for our despair,  
be light for our darkness. Amen.

Hymnal Supplement #1006  
Copyright © 1997 Kenneth L. Gibble

Please be seated.

# Ruth 1:1-5

(B – Beth, S – Sharon)

B - We began worship with a reading from the prophet Isaiah, which invited us to

S - “Look to Abraham your ancestor, and to **Sarah**, who gave you birth.”

B - Now we turn to another scripture from the Hebrew portion of the Bible,

S - which shifts our focus to another important woman in the Bible.

B - A book is named after her.

S - Listen to how her story begins. *(pause)*

B - *In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land.*

S - *So a man from Bethlehem in Judah,*

B - *together with his wife and two sons,*

S - *went to live for a while in the country of Moab.*

B - *The man’s name was Elimelek,*

S - *his wife’s name was Naomi,*

B - *and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion.*

S - *They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah.*

B - *And they went to Moab and lived there.*

S - *Now Elimelek, Naomi’s husband, died, and she was left with her two sons.*

B - *They married Moabite women,*

S - *one named Orpah and the other **Ruth**.*

B - *After they had lived there about ten years,*

S - *both Mahlon and Kilion also died,*

B - *and Naomi was left without her two sons*

S - *and her husband.*

*(pause to indicate scripture has ended)*

B - Of course, there is much more to this story.

S - It’s quite an adventure, but it begins with a lament.

B - Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth, face bitter circumstances.

S - But that’s not the end of the story.

B - Perhaps we will hear more later on.

S - Yes, I think we will!

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For Children

## “The Seagoing Cowboy”

*(Pete reads)*

# Returning our Tithes and Offerings

We are approaching the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Heifer International* in 2019. Every year in our congregation we have a special emphasis on this mission begun within our own denomination. Last week, Ellis Shenk, our own “Seagoing Cowboy,” spoke about the ongoing work of *Heifer International*. While it is good to remember these early pioneers who helped the world recover from a major war, Ellis challenged us to think more about the current workers – who are involved in helping communities to develop.

Yes, “goats and sheep and cows and pigs,” along with a lot of other animals and plants, are given to families in need; and, yes, the basic concept of these people passing along the gift to others is still central. However, much has changed in the last 73 years. Would founder Dan West recognize this program he helped to start? Maybe. Maybe not. Would he rejoice in what God is still doing through it? What do you think?

We will be having a special offering emphasis, for you to give beyond your regular tithes and offerings to Heifer International... *(change this to reflect what Witness has planned)*

For now, I invite you to return to the Lord (and to this church) your gift toward our ongoing ministry. The apostle Paul once wrote, “*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver*” (2 Corinthians 9:7). Let’s give joyfully, as we listen to Heifer Volunteer, Wanda Eason.

Ushers, please come and receive our offerings.

# Offertory Video

“Heifer Volunteer Story: Wanda Eason”

<https://vimeo.com/156588096>

# Affirming our faith

Please join in an Affirmation of Faith,  
#710 in your hymnal, also projected upon the screen.

- Leader:** We affirm that the God  
of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
Miriam, Hannah, and Mary  
is our God.
- People:** **We affirm that God has come to us  
in our likeness, taking the form of  
a servant in Jesus of Nazareth.**
- Leader:** We believe that God, in Christ,  
suffered the pain and agony of the cross  
to provide for our salvation.
- People:** **We believe that God demonstrated  
power over sin and death  
by raising Jesus from the dead  
& declaring that the risen Christ is Lord.**
- Leader:** God has given us new life and freedom  
in the fullness of the Holy Spirit,  
who is the guide and power  
of the community of believers.
- ALL:** **We believe that in the end,  
God's rule of peace and justice  
will be fully established  
and that Jesus Christ will reign  
forever and ever.**

Hymnal #710, adapted from a liturgy of baptism  
by Assembly Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN  
*Baptism and Church Membership*, Worship Series 3,  
ed. James H. Waltner, copyright © 1979  
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# Greetings from the District

(brought by Brian Bachman, Conference moderator)



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

## Hymn

“He leadeth me” #599

## Pastoral Prayer

Message

“Perseverance”

Meghan Knight

*(there is no James 1:2-8 .ppt slide, since she will read it as part of her sermon)*

# Quiet Meditation to a song

“I Will Sing” by Kari Jobe

(title slide: 00: - 25)

I need to see You here, I need to know You're in control  
Though my heart is torn wide open  
I will trust, I will remember  
(:26 - :51)

I need to hear Your voice  
Speaking to silence all my doubts  
Your word won't return empty  
You will break through every darkness  
(1:52 - 1:15)

Even when my breath is weak      I will sing, I will sing  
Even in my suffering                I will sing, I will sing  
(1:16 - 1:38)

I need to feel Your hope Rising above my greatest fears  
Even death has been defeated  
I will trust, I will remember  
(1:39 - 2:02)

Even when the shadows fall      I will sing, I will sing  
Even when the night is long      I will sing, I will sing  
(2:03 - 2:25)

Hallelujah      I surrender all to You  
Hallelujah      You are God, You won't be shaken  
Hallelujah      I surrender all to You  
Hallelujah      You are God, You won't be shaken  
(2:26 - 3:12)

Instrumental  
(3:13 - 3:57)

I need to see You here, I need to know You're in control  
Though my heart is torn wide open  
I will trust, I will remember  
(3:58 - end)

by Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding, Kari Jobe  
©Kari Jobe Carnes Music  
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
CCLI# 1347096

to listen, see: <https://youtu.be/sPD1X5Mue7w>

# Benediction

# Postlude

- M - “Lord, whatever comes  
Be my bedrock, keep me steady.
- P - “Loyal to Your throne, whatever stands against me  
Whatever comes.
- M - Be my bravery when I am trembling  
Be my courage when my heart is caving in.
- P - “Be the fireside when I am wandering  
Be my Father, whatever comes.” \*
- M - May the God of goodness and mercy  
guard your hearts.
- P - Let him wrap his loving arms around you  
and keep you safe.
- M - For we know He will help us to persevere  
through any trials we face.
- P - Go out now with joy and peace!  
And all God’s people said:
- Congregation - Amen!*

*written by Meghan Knight*

*\* from the song “Whatever Comes,” by Rend Collective*