

# Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

November 20, 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

## Thanksgiving Sunday

“...as you thankfully pray, let God in on all your needs.  
Then God’s peace, which is beyond anything you have ever  
experienced, will stand watch over your mind and emotions in  
Christ Jesus.”                      (Philippians 4:6b-7 Cotton Patch version)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)    “I owe ... a morning song”    651

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship                      Psalm 100                      (in Chinese and English)

\*Hymn                      “Now thank we all our God”                      86

\*Opening Prayer

Gospel Story                      John 6:24-38                      (*Laughing Bird* version)

Song                      “Prince of Peace (You are Holy)”                      (insert/screen)

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

Song                      “Joy in the Lord”                      (insert/screen)

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture                      Deuteronomy 26:1-11                      (from *The Message*)

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offering Hymn    “For the beauty of the earth”                      89  
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

\*Unison Offering Prayer                      751

Scripture Jam                      Philippians 4:4-9

Message                      “*The doorway of gratitude*”

\*Hymn                      “God, whose giving”                      383

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Rise in body or in spirit

\* \* \* \* \*

message to be posted at  
[www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2016/16-11-20.mp3](http://www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2016/16-11-20.mp3)

(note: our junior/senior high youth are our worship leaders today. One of them is here from China with his mother for two years as she studies English at a local college. His grandparents are visiting.)

# Call to Worship

Psalm 100

*Ethan Li:*

普世要向耶和华欢呼！

*Ethan Lane:*

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

*Ethan Li:*

你们要高高兴兴地事奉耶和华，到祂面前来欢唱。

*Ethan Lane:*

Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.

*Ethan Li:*

要知道耶和华是上帝，祂创造了我们，我们属于祂，  
是祂的子民，是祂草场上的羊。

*Ethan Lane:*

Know that the LORD is God.  
It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

*Ethan Li:*

要怀着感恩的心进入祂的门，唱着赞美的歌进入祂的  
院宇；要感谢祂，称颂祂的名。

*Ethan Lane:*

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him, bless his name.

*Ethan Li:*

因为耶和华是美善的，祂的慈爱千古不变，祂的信实  
世代长存。

*Ethan Lane:*

For the LORD is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations

*a youth:*

Please rise and sing:  
“Now thank we all our God”

Psalm 100

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# Now thank we all our God

# Opening Prayer

1. Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices,  
who, from our mothers' arms,  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
2. Oh, may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us safe in grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns with them  
in highest heaven -  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore,  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*(written by youth leader, Meghan)*

Hymnal #86  
words by Martin Rinkart, 1636  
translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1858  
music by Johann Crüger, 1647  
harmonized by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

# John 6:24-38

1 – Courtney

2 – Erin

3 – Beth

4 – Elise

5 – Ethan Lane

6 – Ethan Li

7 – Meghan

(1 & 2 speak from the lectern and pulpit.)

- 1 - In only a few hours, we will enjoy a feast!
- 2 - Can you smell it cooking?
- 1 - Our gospel story today follows another feast.
- 2 - At this feast, however, there was no turkey and mashed potatoes.
- 1 - No, there were only five loaves of bread and two fish.
- 2 - But that little bit of food fed five thousand people.
- 1 - And there were leftovers! Imagine that!
- 2 - Everyone was amazed.
- 1 - They wanted to make Jesus “King,” right then & there.
- 2 - But Jesus managed to get away.
- 1 - He and his disciples crossed the Sea of Galilee.
- 2 - This is where we enter the story. Listen...

(1 & 2 take their microphones and give them to 4 & 5, then go sit down. 4 & 5 stand facing each other between the lectern and pulpit. 3 stands below and to the (piano) side, with a microphone. When in place, 3 begins.)

\* \* \* \* \*

- 3 - *When the crowd who Jesus had fed realized that he and his disciples were gone, they piled into the boats and headed to look for him. When they tracked him down on the far side of the lake, they questioned him,*
- 4 - *“Rabbi, when did you arrive here?”*
- 3 - *Jesus took them to task, saying,*
- 5 - *“If the truth be known, you’re not looking for me because you saw signs of God in what I did, but simply because you got a free meal out of me. You’ll never satisfy your real hunger with a belly full of food, no matter how much effort you put into it. Put your energy instead into finding the life-giving food that will never stop nourishing you. The Son of Man will give it to you, and he has been guaranteed by God the Father.”*
- 3 - *Hearing that, they asked,*
- 4 - *“What do we have to do to get in on what God’s doing?”*
- 3 - *Jesus replied, saying,*
- 5 - *“This is all God asks: that you stake everything on the One he has sent.”*
- 3 - *But they began beating around the bush, saying,*
- 4 - *“Show us a sign. What proof can you give us so that we’ll know it is right to commit ourselves to what you say? Show us what you can do. Moses brought down bread from heaven for our ancestors to eat in the desert. It says so in the scriptures.”*
- 3 - *Then Jesus set them straight:*

5 - *“If the truth be known, Moses wasn’t the one who gave you the bread from heaven. It is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. The bread that God is offering you is the real stuff — bread direct from heaven that gives life to the world.”*

4 - *“We’ll take it, Sir!”*

3 - *they said.*

4 - *“Give us this bread from now on.”*

3 - *Jesus said to them,*

5 - *“It’s me. I am the bread of life. Anyone who comes on board with me will never hunger or thirst again. Put your trust in me and you will always be satisfied.”*

(4 & 5 come down the steps and give their microphones to 6 & 7, who speak at the bottom of the steps. When done, all the youth join them to lead the congregation in the song)

6.\*

耶稣说：“我就是生命的粮，到我这里来的人必定不饿，  
· 信我的人必永远不渴。

7.

“I am the bread of life,” Jesus said. To those who put their trust in him, he goes by many other names: Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, just to name a few. Please join in the following

song which sings out some of these names. Note that the first part is a call and response. The men sing a line and the women echo. Then, in the chorus, the men sing their lines while the women sing different words, rejoining to sing the last words together. If this is confusing, just follow us. We’ll sing it through twice.

*primary scripture text from the Laughing Bird version, adapted  
©2001 Nathan Nettleton, LaughingBird.net*

*\*John 6:35 from the Chinese Contemporary Bible  
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# Prince of Peace (You are Holy)

(Men)

(Women)

You are holy  
 You are mighty  
 You are worthy  
 Worthy of praise  
 I will follow  
 I will listen  
 I will love you  
 All of my days

(You are holy)  
 (You are mighty)  
 (You are worthy)  
 (Worthy of praise)  
 (I will follow)  
 (I will listen)  
 (I will love you)  
 (All of my days)

I will sing to  
 And worship  
 The King who  
 Is worthy  
 I will love Him  
 Adore Him  
 I will bow down  
 Before Him

You are the Lord of Lords  
 You are the King of Kings  
 You are mighty God  
 Lord of everything  
 You're Emmanuel  
 You're the great I Am  
 You're the Price of Peace  
 Who is the Lamb

I will sing to  
 And worship  
 The King who  
 Is worthy  
 I will love Him  
 Adore Him  
 I will bow down  
 Before Him

You're the living God  
 You're my saving grace  
 You will reign forever  
 You are ancient of days  
 You are Alpha Omega  
 Beginning and End  
 You're my Savior, Messiah  
 Redeemer and Friend

Together:

You're my Prince of Peace and I will live my life for you.

CCLI Song #2332149  
 By Marc Imboden & Tami Rhoton  
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# Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise

(2 youth take microphones to those who share)

## Joy in the Lord

based on  
 Philippians 4:4-7

*Refrain*

Re-joyce in the Lord al-ways, a - gain I will say re - joyce.

Re-joyce in the Lord al-ways, a - gain I will say re - joyce.

1. Joy is like a gen - tle - ness which flows from deep with - in;  
 2. Joy is like a thank - ful - ness which comes a - mid our fears;  
 3. Joy is like a peace - ful - ness, sur - pass - ing all we know;

*D.C. al Fine*

Share this joy with ev - 'ry - one so God's reign may be - gin.  
 When we fo - cus on the Lord joy trans - forms our tears.  
 May this joy sur - round our lives, in Je - sus we shall grow.

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# Pastoral Prayer

*(spoken in the moment)*

## Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Four youth (voices 3,4,5, & 6) start in the back, two of whom carry offering plates. When the pastor finishes his introduction, and two other youth (1 & 2, standing at the lectern & pulpit) begin reading the scripture, the four youth in the back begin processing forward. By the time it is their turn to read, they should be standing at the bottom of the steps, facing the worship table. #3 should have a microphone which they will pass and use for their reading.

### Pastor:

In the Torah, the Law of God handed down to Moses, is found the following instruction for giving an offering of the first fruits of the harvest. It lies at the heart of the Jewish festival known as Sukot, upon which our national holiday of Thanksgiving is based. In the middle of it is found a statement of faith – a creed, if you will, which tells the story of what God has done. Listen to Deuteronomy 26:1-11...

- 1 - *Once you enter the land that GOD,*
- 2 - *your God,*
- 1 - *is giving you as an inheritance*
- 2 - *and take it over and settle down,*
- 1 - *you are to take some of all the firstfruits  
of what you grow*
- 2 - *in the land that GOD,*
- 1 - *your God,*
- 2 - *is giving you,*
- 1 - *put them in a basket*

2 - and go to the place GOD,  
1 - your God,  
2 - sets apart for you to worship him.  
1 - At that time, go to the priest who is there and say,

3 - "I announce to GOD,  
4 - your God,  
5 - today that I have entered the land  
6 - that GOD promised our ancestors  
3 - that he'd give to us."

2 - The priest will take the basket from you  
1 - and place it on the Altar of GOD,  
2 - your God.  
1 - And there in the Presence of GOD,  
2 - your God,  
1 - you will recite:

3 - Ah-rah-me oh-bed ah-be <sup>1</sup> (אֲרַמִּי אֲבָד אֲבִי)  
4 - 我们的祖先原是到处流浪的亚兰人。 <sup>4</sup>  
5 - Mon père était un Araméen nomade. <sup>2</sup>  
6 - Mi padre fue un arameo errante. <sup>3</sup>

**Pastor:**

*A wandering Aramean was my father,  
he went down to Egypt and sojourned there,  
he and just a handful of his brothers at first, but soon  
they became a great nation, mighty and many.  
The Egyptians abused and battered us,  
in a cruel and savage slavery.  
We cried out to GOD, the God-of-Our-Fathers:  
He listened to our voice, he saw  
our destitution, our trouble, our cruel plight.  
And GOD took us out of Egypt  
with his strong hand and long arm, terrible and great,  
with signs and miracle-wonders.  
And he brought us to this place,  
gave us this land flowing with milk and honey.  
So here I am. I've brought the firstfruits  
of what I've grown on this ground you gave me, O GOD.*

2 - Then place it in the Presence of GOD,  
1 - your God.  
2 - Prostrate yourselves in the Presence of GOD,  
1 - your God.  
2 - And rejoice!  
1 - Celebrate all the good things that GOD,  
2 - your God,  
1 - has given you and your family;  
2 - you & the Levite & the foreigner who lives with you.



# Returning our Tithes and Offerings

**Pastor:**

“Arami obed abi” – *An Aramean ... lost and wandering ... was my father*. With those three words begins one of the oldest creeds in the Bible, an ancient statement of who we are, where we have been, and whose we are. For the children of Israel, thanksgiving began with remembering their ancestor Jacob, whom God renamed Israel.

How do we begin our thanksgiving? This week is about traditional meals shared by family and friends, surrounded by other traditions – some old, some new. At the heart of it all lies gratitude, and remembering where we once were, how we got from there to here, and who made it all possible.

Now is a time for bringing firstfruits – our tithes and other offerings – to the Lord. I invite you to do so. As the plates are passed, let’s sing together a great thanksgiving hymn, “For the beauty of the earth,” #89 in the hymnal. The words will also be on the screen...

*primary scripture text from The Message*  
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<sup>4</sup> Chinese, from the *Chinese Contemporary Bible*  
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# “For the beauty of the earth”

1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:  
*refrain:* Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.
2. For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light: .....(*refrain*)
3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight: .....(*refrain*)
4. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild: .....(*refrain*)
5. For thy church that evermore  
lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore  
her pure sacrifice of love: .....(*refrain*)

# Unison Offering Prayer

Please rise and join in praying together  
#751 from the hymnal.

*(when it seems all are ready, begin)*

Generous God,  
you gave us life;  
now we give our lives back to you.  
We present ourselves:  
our work and play,  
our joys and sorrows,  
our thoughts and deeds,  
our gifts and resources,  
to be used by you  
for the sake of all people everywhere,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Hymnal #751, from First University United Methodist Church,  
Minneapolis, Min.. adapted from Ventures in Worship, Vol. 1,  
ed. David J. Randolph, copyright © 1969 Abingdon Press.

Hymnal #89  
Words by Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864  
Music by Conrad Kocher, 1838,  
adapted by William H Monk, 1861

# Philippians 4:4-9

(a scripture jam)

1 - 你们要喜乐！

2 - Rejoice!

3 - *Rejoice in the Lord always;*

4 - *again I will say, Rejoice.*

1 - 你们要喜乐！

2 - Rejoice!

3 - *Let your gentleness be known to everyone.*

4 - *The Lord is near.*

3 - *Do not worry about anything,*

4 - *but in everything*

3 - *by prayer*

4 - *and supplication*

3 - *with thanksgiving*

4 - *let your requests be made known to God.*

3 - *And the peace of God,*

4 - *which surpasses all understanding,*

3 - *will guard your hearts*

4 - *and your minds*

3 - *in Christ Jesus.*

4 - *in Christ Jesus.*

1 - 你们要喜乐！

2 - Rejoice!

3 - *Finally, beloved, whatever is true,*

4 - *whatever is honorable,*

3 - *whatever is just,*

4 - *whatever is pure,*

3 - *whatever is pleasing,*

4 - *whatever is commendable,*

3 - *if there is any excellence*

4 - *and if there is anything worthy of praise,*

3 - *think about these things.*

4 - *Keep on doing the things that you have learned*

3 - *and received*

4 - *and heard*

3 - *and seen in me,*

4 - *(the apostle Paul wrote)*

3 - *and the God of peace will be with you.*

4 - *God will be with you.*

1 - 你们要喜乐！

2 - Rejoice!

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Message - *“The doorway of gratitude”*

# God, whose giving

1. God, whose giving knows no ending  
from your rich and endless store -  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
costly cross, grave's shattered door -  
gifted by you, we turn to you,  
offering up ourselves in praise.  
Thankful song shall rise forever,  
gracious Donor of our days.
  2. Skills and time are ours for pressing  
toward the goals of Christ your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom,  
races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants  
fit to answer at your throne.
3. Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
gain through powers your grace conferred-  
ours to use for home and kindred,  
and to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
as we heed Christ's ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
serving you by serving all.

Hymnal #383  
words by Robert L. Edwards  
text copyright © 1961, renewal 1989 The Hymn Society  
music by Rowland H. Prichard, 1830  
arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906  
arrangement copyright © 1951 Oxford University Press, London

# Benediction

(The youth line up around the front half of the sanctuary. Meghan, youth leader, speaks every line completely. The rest of the youth echo the last words of each line, one after another, in order.)

May the Lord bless you.

bless you.

bless you.

bless you.

bless you.

bless you.

bless you.

May the Lord keep you.

keep you... *(etc.)*

May God's face shine upon you.

shine upon you... *(etc.)*

May God's Grace flow to and through you.

to and through you... *(etc.)*

May God give you Peace.

Peace... *(etc.)*

*all youth in unison: Amen!*

a variation on Numbers 6:24-27