

Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

May 21, 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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

“If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Paraclete to be with you for ever...” (John 14:15-16, New Jerusalem Bible)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am) “O worship the King” 66

Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship Psalm 66:8-12 (NRSV)

Leader: *“Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living; and has not let our feet slip.*

People: *For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.*

Leader: *You have brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; you let people ride over our heads;*

People: *we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.”*

*Hymn “From all that dwell below the skies” 49

*Opening Prayer

Scripture Psalm 66:16-20 (NIV)

Leader: *“Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.*

People: *I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue.*

Leader: *If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;*

People: *but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.*

Leader: *Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!*

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

Hymn “Sweet hour of prayer” 11

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture 1 Peter 3:13-22 (Contemporary English Version)

The hand that steadies the plate (a video)

Returning our Tithes and Offerings Psalm 66:13-15 (Laughing Bird)

Leader: *“So now we come to this place in worship to fulfil our promises and offer our gifts.*

People: *All that we vowed to do if you got us out of trouble, we will now make good on with grateful hearts.*

Leader: *We will offer you whatever you ask; the best of all we have and all we are;*

People: *all you have given us, we offer back to you.” AMEN*

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

Gospel Reading John 14:15-21

Message “*With help from above*”

*Hymn “Lead us, O Father” 359

*Benediction

*Postlude

Call to Worship

*Rise in body or in spirit

* * * * *

message to be posted at
www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2017/17-05-21.mp3

Leader: Please stand in body or spirit and join me in reading this responsive call to worship.

(pause)

Leader: *“Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living; and has not let our feet slip.*

People: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

Leader: *You have brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; you let people ride over our heads;*

People: we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.”

Leader: Please remain standing and let us join our voices in our first hymn, “ ” in your hymnal.

*Psalm 66: 8-12 from the New Revised Standard Version Bible,
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National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America.
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Hymn - “From all that dwell below the skies” - #49

Opening Prayer

O living Christ, come to us in the glory of your risen power; come to us in the humility of your wondrous love. Come and reign among us! Let new life course Through our veins, new love bind us together, and new vision spur us on to follow you forever. Even so, come Lord Jesus. Amen.

Hymnal #677,
from The Iona Community, Scotland,
The New Book of Christian Prayers,
© 1986 Tony Castle. Edited by Tony Castle.
Crossroad/Continuum Publishing Company.

Psalms 66:16-20

Leader: *“Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.*

People: ***I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue.***

Leader: *If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;*

People: ***but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.***

Leader: *Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!*

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1 Peter 3:13-22

- 1 - We turn now to the first letter attributed to the apostle Peter.
- 2 - Half way through the third chapter we come upon the following, for which we are reading from the *Contemporary English Version*. Listen.

(pause)

- 1 - *Can anyone really harm you for being eager to do good deeds?*
- 2 - *Even if you have to suffer for doing good things, God will bless you.*
- 1 - *So stop being afraid and don't worry about what people might do.*
- 2 - *Honor Christ and let him be the Lord of your life.*
- 1 - *Always be ready to give an answer when someone asks you about your hope.*
- 2 - *As you do so, give a kind and respectful answer and keep your conscience clear.*
- 1 - *This way you will make people ashamed for saying bad things about your good conduct as a follower of Christ.*
- 2 - *You are better off to obey God and suffer for doing right than to suffer for doing wrong.*
- 1 - Remember this baptismal affirmation of faith:

(2 leaves pulpit and stands in center)

- 2 - *Christ died once for our sins.
An innocent person died
for those who are guilty.
Christ did this
to bring you to God,
when his body
was put to death
and his spirit
was made alive.*

(2 returns to pulpit, as 1 pauses)

- 1 - *Christ then preached to the spirits that were being kept in prison.*
- 2 - *They had disobeyed God while Noah was building the boat, but God had been patient with them.*
- 1 - *Eight people went into that boat and were brought safely through the flood.*
- 2 - *Those flood waters were like baptism that now saves you.*
- 1 - *But baptism is more than just washing your body.*
- 2 - *It means turning to God with a clear conscience, because Jesus Christ was raised from death.*
- 1 - *Christ is now in heaven, where he sits at the right side of God.*
- 2 - *All angels, authorities, and powers are under his control.*

from the *Contemporary English Version*®
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The hand that steadies the plate

(a video)

© from <http://www.theworkofthepeople.com/the-hand-that-steadies-the-plate>
(to purchase, or view in totality at <https://youtu.be/RhSKthN0dbw>)

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Leader: “So now we come to this place in worship to fulfill our promises and offer our gifts.

People: *All that we vowed to do if you got us out of trouble, we will now make good on with grateful hearts.*

Leader: *We will offer you whatever you ask; the best of all we have and all we are;*

People: *all you have given us, we offer back to you.*

Psalm 66:13-15 from the Laughing Bird version
©2001 Nathan Nettleton, LaughingBird.net

Benediction

Guide us, O Lord,
by your Word and Holy Spirit,
that in your light we may see light,
in your truth find freedom, and
in your will discover peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymnal #769, adapted from “Order of Worship,”
in *Worship the Lord*, Reformed Church in America
and Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1987