

Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

June 18, 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

Father's Day

Jesus held a briefing session and sent out the twelve...

"As you travel (he said), preach on the theme,

"THE GOD MOVEMENT IS HERE."

(Matthew 10:5a, 6 from the Cotton Patch Version)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am) "All people that on earth..." 42

Announcements

Prelude "Gloria in Excelsis" Polish carol

*Call to Worship Psalm 100

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Left: Worship the Lord with gladness!

Right: Come into God's presence with singing!

One: Know this! The Lord is God.

Left: Know this! We belong to the Lord who made us.

**Right: Know this! We are God's people,
and the sheep of God's pasture.**

One: So, enter God's gates with thanksgiving,

Left: Come into the holy courts with praise.

Right: Give thanks to God and bless God's holy name.

One: For the Lord is good;

Left: God's steadfast love endures forever,

Right: God's faithfulness is for all generations.

*Hymn "God of the earth, the sky, the sea" 53

*Opening Prayer Meghan Knight

Wisdom to Ponder Proverbs 4:1-9 from *The Message*

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Andante Sostenuto" Noble
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

A Father's Day Prayer (*unison*) (insert)

Scripture Romans 5:1-8 from the *Laughing Bird* version

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

Hymn "Lord, whose love in humble service" 369

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Matthew 9:35 - 10:15
from the *Common English Bible*

Response "Hamba Nathi" (insert)

Message "Be briefed"

*Hymn "Here I am, Lord" 395

*Benediction

God sends us out to bear witness to grace.

We will speak of all God has done.

Jesus sends us out into every neighborhood and community.

We will go to bear the burdens of everyone we meet.

The Spirit sends us out on a journey of faithfulness.

We will go to see everyone through the eyes of compassion.

*Postlude "Postludium" Christopher

*Rise in body or in spirit

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

Please stand and join in the Call to Worship, found in your bulletin. “Left” and “Right” are from your perspective, with the center aisle as dividing line between. Let us speak together Psalm 100.

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Left: Worship the Lord with gladness!

Right: Come into God’s presence with singing!

One: Know this! The Lord is God.

Left: Know this! We belong to the Lord who made us.

Right: Know this! We are God’s people,
and the sheep of God’s pasture.

One: So, enter God’s gates with thanksgiving,

Left: Come into the holy courts with praise.

Right: Give thanks to God and bless God’s holy name.

One: For the Lord is good;

Left: God’s steadfast love endures forever,

Right: God’s faithfulness is for all generations.

adapted from phrasing by Carolyn C. Brown,
a retired minister of Christian Education
in the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA),
from her blog, “Worshiping With Children”
based on the *NRSV* and the
Presbyterian Book of Common Worship, p. 492 & 724

Remain standing, and let us sing,
“God of the earth, the sky, the sea,” #53.

Opening Prayer

O Lord, maker of the heavens and the earth, come to us now in this place of worship. “We give thee thanks, thy name we sing! Almighty God, our praise we bring.” We are ready for and expectant of you. Open our hearts and minds so that we may praise you through worship and singing. For you are our Savior and reign over all. There is nothing you cannot do. You created us to live as you would live and to be disciples of Jesus. We are here now ready to follow you and glorify your name. Bless this congregation and this time of worship. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.

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Please be seated.

Wisdom to Ponder
Proverbs 4:1-9

We turn now to the book of Proverbs,
and find there some appropriate words for this
day. Let those who have ears, hear! ... *(pause)*

- 1-2 Listen, friends, to some fatherly advice;
sit up and take notice so you'll know how to live.
I'm giving you good counsel;
don't let it go in one ear and out the other.
- 3-9 When I was a boy at my father's knee,
the pride and joy of my mother,
He would sit me down and drill me:
"Take this to heart. Do what I tell you—live!
Sell everything and buy Wisdom!
Forage for Understanding!
Don't forget one word! Don't deviate an inch!
Never walk away from Wisdom—she guards your life;
love her—she keeps her eye on you.
Above all and before all, do this: Get Wisdom!
Write this at the top of your list: Get Understanding!
Throw your arms around her –
- believe me, you won't regret it;
never let her go—she'll make your life glorious.
She'll garland your life with grace,
she'll festoon your days with beauty."

from *The Message*
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Returning our Tithes and Offerings

"*Get wisdom,*" the writer of Proverbs says,
according to *The Message*. "*Sell everything and buy*" it.
"*Forage for*" it. "*Throw your arms around*" it. Once
you've done this, "*never let her go.*" "*Don't forget one
word! Don't deviate an inch. Never walk away...*"
... We're not talking about the latest model car, mind you,
or the most advanced (or the best vintage) computer. This
isn't about some "thing." No, it's **wisdom** that's
considered most valuable.

Truly, it's what the best of fathers long to pass on to
their offspring. Simple wisdom. Not 'simplistic' wisdom
which can be manipulated into justifying every whim, but
a deeper way of knowing that requires everything of us,
and takes a lifetime to fathom.

Yes, fathers want their children to be happy. I do.
Any father disagree? But more so, amid the downright
silliness – the selfish stupidity of a world that seems only
interested in short-term gains, we desire for our children
... wisdom.

Think about this as you return your offering now, on
this Father's Day. After you've placed your gift in the
plate, find the prayer on your bulletin insert. Read it
through, and be prepared to pray it out loud.

Ushers, please come and lead us in our offering.

A Father's Day Prayer

Join me as, with one voice, we lift up “A Father's Day Prayer,” found on the insert in your bulletin. ...

(pause)

We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives. Fatherhood does not come with a manual and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail. We ask for your blessings for them all and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families and the ways both big and small they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach. So too we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent - grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches - and the women of our families. For those of us who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give us the strength to do well by our children and by you. In your Holy name, O God, we pray. Amen.

by Rev. Chuck Currie

Director of the *Center for Peace and Spirituality*
and University Chaplain at *Pacific University*

http://chuckcurrie.blogs.com/chuck_currie/2011/06/a-prayer-for-fathers-day.html

Romans 5:1-8

It was our faith that put us back in the good books with God. We put our trust in Jesus Christ our Lord and we can rest assured that he has cleared up everything with God for us. Christ got us in on the extravagant generosity of God, and that generosity has given us a safe place to plant our feet. We don't just stand there, though. We hold our heads up high and announce, with pride, that we confidently expect to be sharing the glory that is coming to God. Actually, it's not just what's coming in the future that makes us feel so good. Even now, when life seems to be giving us a raw deal, we can stand proud. We know that going through suffering can make us tough enough to survive the worst of times. This ability to tough things through will in turn generate new depths of integrity and maturity within us. And that brings us full-circle because it is this integrity and maturity that gives us our confidence about the future. Our confidence is not in vain either. We are sure about that because of what we have already experienced: a flood of love surging into our hearts from the Holy Spirit who God has given to us.

Christ got us on track at the cost of his own life. He did it right when we most needed it; when we were way off course and too weak to ever get ourselves back. It's hard to believe, but true. You rarely hear of people putting their lives on the line for others, even for innocent children. Perhaps we might be able to imagine finding the courage to die for someone who we deeply admired and loved. But if you need proof of how much God loves us, just look at what Christ did. While we were still showing no signs of ever offering God anything but contempt, Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Matthew 9:35 – 10:15

(M speaks at the top of the steps, in the center.
P is off to the side, with guitar or drum ready to lead
the response afterward)

P - Matthew, chapter 9, starting with verse 35 – where Jesus sends his disciples out on a ‘practice run’ of their future mission. Listen...

M - ³⁵ *Jesus traveled among all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, announcing the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.* ³⁶ *Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

P - (to congregation) Please stand.

M - ³⁷ *Then he said to his disciples, “The size of the harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers.”* ³⁸ *Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest.”*

P - (to congregation) Please sit... We are in need of 12 volunteers. (recruit/draft them – involve as many children as possible. Line them up in front, facing M) You are the 12 disciples.

(as M reads the next four verses, she pauses after the name of each disciple and points to one of the 12 standing up front. p.s. make sure “Judas” is someone who can take being so named, perhaps an adult.)

M - ^{10:1} *He called his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to throw them out and to heal every disease and every sickness.* ² *Here are the names of the twelve apostles:*

first, Simon, who is called Peter;
and Andrew his brother;
James the son of Zebedee; (Zeh-beh-dee)
and John his brother;
³ *Philip;*
and Bartholomew; (Bar-thah-low-mehw)
Thomas;
and Matthew the tax collector;
James the son of Alphaeus; (Al-fee-us)
and Thaddaeus; (Thad-aye-us)
⁴ *Simon the Cananaean; (Kay-nan-knee-an)*
and Judas, who betrayed Jesus.

P - ⁵ *Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them,*

M - *Don’t go among the Gentiles or into a Samaritan city.* ⁶ *Go instead to the lost sheep, the people of Israel.* ⁷ *As you go, make this announcement: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’* ⁸ *Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with skin diseases, and throw out demons. You received without having to pay. Therefore, give without demanding payment.* ⁹ *Workers deserve to be fed, so don’t gather gold or silver or copper coins for your money belts to take on your trips.* ¹⁰ *Don’t take a backpack for the road or two shirts or sandals or a walking stick.* ¹¹ *Whatever city or village you go into, find somebody in it who is worthy and stay there until you go on your way.* ¹² *When you go into a house, say, ‘Peace!’* ¹³ *If the house*

is worthy, give it your blessing of peace. But if the house isn't worthy, take back your blessing. ¹⁴ If anyone refuses to welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet as you leave that house or city. ¹⁵ I assure you that it will be more bearable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on Judgment Day than it will be for that city."

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P - leads "Hamba Nathi"

HAMBA NATHI

Ham - ba na - thi nku - lu - lu - we - thu, ham
Come walk with us, the jour - ney is long, come.

- ba na - thi mku - lu - lu - we - thu,
- walk with us, the jour - ney is long,

Mku - lu - lu, mku - lu - lu, mku - lu - lu - we - thu, mku -
The jour - ney, the jour - ney, the jour - ney is long, the

lu - lu, mku - lu - lu, mku - lu - lu - we - thu,
jour - ney, the jour - ney, the jour - ney is long,

- v.2 Share our burden, and join in the song
- v.3 Come, uplift us, and bring us new life
- v.4 Give us peace when the journey is done

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Benediction

P - Please join in the Benediction printed in your bulletin.

M - Your words are in bold. May the Lord empower you
to boldly live them out...

(pause)

P - God sends us out to bear witness to grace.

C - **We will speak of all God has done.**

M - Jesus sends us out into every neighborhood
and community.

C - **We will go to bear the burdens
of everyone we meet.**

P - The Spirit sends us out on a journey of faithfulness.

C - **We will go to see everyone
through the eyes of compassion.**

M - Go in peace!

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

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message to be posted at
www.lgvcob.org/sermons/2017/17-06-18.mp3