

# Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

April 22, 2018

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

# Good Shepherd Sunday

*“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...”* (Psalm 23:1)

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)      “Praise him, praise him”      100

## Announcements

# Prelude

\*Call to Worship 662

\*Hymn      “The King of love my shepherd is”      170

\*Opening Prayer

Scripture 1 John 3:16-24 (NIV)

## Returning our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory**

**“Only Love”**  
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

In unison: Psalm 23 814

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

Hymn            “Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us”            352

## Prayer

Scripture                      John 10:11-18                      (NRSV)

## Message

*"The Good Shepherd"*

\*Hymn “He lives” (insert)

\*Benediction      Hebrews 13:20-21    *(adapted from The Message)*

## \*Postlude

\*Rise in body or in spirit

\* \* \* \* \*

sermon is posted at

<http://rockhay.tripod.com/sermons/2018/18-04-22.htm>

# Gathered together to worship God

# Announcements

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)

## “Praise him, praise him”

1. Praise him, praise him! Jesus, our blessed redeemer!  
Sing, O earth, his wonderful love proclaim!  
Hail him, hail him! Highest archangels in glory!  
Strength and honor give to his holy name!  
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard his children.  
In his arms he carries them all day long.  
*Refrain:* Praise him, praise him! tell of his excellent greatness.  
Praise him, praise him! ever in joyful song.
2. Praise him, praise him! Jesus, our blessed redeemer!  
For our sins he suffered and bled and died.  
He our rock, our hope of eternal salvation,  
hail him, hail him! Jesus, the crucified.  
Sound his praises, Jesus who bore our sorrows,  
love unbounded, wonderful, deep, and strong. *(refrain)*
3. Praise him, praise him! Jesus, our blessed redeemer!  
Heavenly portals loud with hosannas ring!  
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever!  
Crown him, crown him! prophet, and priest, and king!  
Christ is coming, over the world victorious.  
Power and glory unto the Lord belong. *(refrain)*

## Prelude

Hymnal #100  
words by Fannie Crosby  
music by Chester G. Allen  
1869

# Call to Worship

*(motion for all to rise)*

Leader: Come, let us worship

**People: For we are the people of God's pasture.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down,

**People: For we are the sheep of God's hand.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down,  
before the Lord, our Maker.

**All: For the Lord is our God,  
and God desires our worship!**

Hymnal #662

by Earle W. Fike, Jr., from *We Gather Together*,  
©1979 Brethren Press.

## “The King of love my shepherd is”

1. The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never.  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and, where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

5. And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

Hymn #170  
based on Psalm 23  
text by Henry W. Baker, 1868  
sung to an Irish folk tune

## Opening Prayer

Good Shepherd ... King of Love, we come to you as we are, not as we pretend to be. In truth, Guide and Guardian, when we lift our heads above our path, we - like sheep - often discover ourselves wandering aimlessly amid a maze of choices.

We confess from the very beginning of this worship that we are lost... Were it not for you,

Great Seeker of our souls,  
Patient Parent to our childhood,  
Joyful Host to our homecoming;

Were it not for you, O Lord, we would be lost forever. But, because of what you have done and continue to do, there is room for us at your table.

Good Shepherd ... King of Love, as we seek you this hour, remind us that you have first sought and found us, just as we are, not as we pretend to be; that you patiently guide and guard us through dark valleys toward green pastures, and teach us how to live along the way. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*(motion for all to sit)*

Peter Haynes, pastor  
Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren  
Glen Arm, Maryland  
from Church of the Brethren *Living Word* bulletin  
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# 1 John 3:16-24

Meghan:

*<sup>16</sup> This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.*

*<sup>19</sup> This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup> If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.*

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\* \* \* \* \*

The following idea came by way of Carolyn C. Brown,  
a retired minister of Christian Education  
in the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA),  
from her blog, "Worshiping With Children"  
Her idea involved heart stickers.

# Responding with Offerings

Pete:

*"Love one another as I have loved you"* (John 13:34).  
That's what Jesus said, his Spirit nudging us, prodding us, empowering us to love as he loves every step along our way. As a visible reminder of our inward calling to live love outwardly, I invite you during our time of offering to stamp a heart on the top of the hand you use the most, whether it be your right or your left. If you're ambidextrous, stamp it on both hands.

For this endeavor, we'll need some young people to come forward and be guided by Meghan to pass the stamps and stamp pads through the congregation, following behind the ushers who will first pass the offering plates down each aisle. You'll be the first ones to stamp your hands, by the way.

*(Meghan receives and quietly instructs children/youth up front)*

*"Love one another as I have loved you."* That's what Jesus said. He laid down his life for us – an act of love, showing us the way. Through the rest of this service, as well as after you leave this place, look at the back of your hand. May it remind you that the Spirit is always nudging us, prodding us, empowering us to love others as Christ has loved us.

Ushers, please come forward  
and receive what we have to share.

Offertory  
"Only Love"

# Only Love

(Only Love - page 2)



On - ly Love finds the tears to ex -  
On - ly Love wan - ders in to our  
On - ly Love lets us cope with all the



plain when a trust has been bro - ken, let it flow free - ly.  
lives and ex - pos - es all that is there, see it more clear - ly.  
pro - blems, trials, and sor - rows, that we may sing, voice - u - nit - ing.



On - ly Love calms the fears for a  
On - ly Love tru - ly wins to set us  
On - ly Love gives us hope to see a



harsh word does not mean to-day has end - ed, let it go eas - ly.  
free from the chains that en - cum - ber, feel it so near - ly.  
dawn in the dusk that a day brings, God's Love a - bid - ing.



If we give our - selves to Love, Love will guide us.



For in Love we tru - ly see deep in - side us:



what needs to change, what needs to go;



what we must do to let it show. Let it show!



We are re - luc - tant to let it go, let it go.



But if we give our - selves com - plete - ly, let it take ov - er,



we'll be free to be our - selves, ov - er and ov - er.



This is the par - a - dox we face:



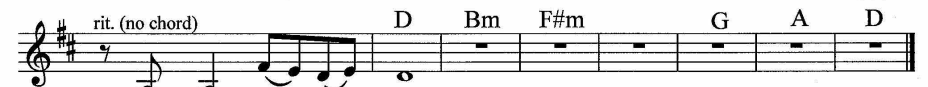
that to sub - mit is not to waste,



for it and free - dom Love does em - brace. There is no race!



We are re - luc - tant to let it go,



We must let it go.

In unison:  
Psalm 23

Let us read, our voices united, a very familiar scripture.

In case you cannot read the screen,  
it is also in your hymnal, #814.

Shall we speak the Shepherd Psalm?

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;  
he makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I fear no evil;  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff,  
they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
thou anointest my head with oil,  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life;  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Hymnal #814  
from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible,  
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National Council of the Churches of Christ  
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Sharing a joy, a concern,  
a word of testimony or praise

“Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us”

Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,  
for we need you to help us find our way.  
Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us,  
for we need your strength from day to day.  
There's no other we can turn to  
who can help us face another day.  
Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,  
for we need you to help us find our way.

Hymn #352  
copyright © 1971 William J. Gaither

# Prayer

O God, whose people have called by so many different names: Yahweh, Elohim, Father. We thank you that somehow the metaphor of “shepherd” also became such a powerful description for you because it evokes feelings of calm, security, and gentleness within us. We thank you that you also sent us Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Make us faithful followers of this Good Shepherd.

When we stray keep us from serious danger and lead us gently back to you. Lead us to the places in life where there is enough calm and quiet that we find renewal, but provide us enough challenge to bring out the best in us. In those places of life where we become fearful and anxious be with us, keep us safe from danger, and lead us through the valleys of the deep shadows. In those times when we face economic uncertainty and worry about tomorrow remind us that “you prepare a table before us.” Give us the ability to trust your faithfulness to us. And in those times when we take a longer look at life and beyond help us to trust that “*goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life*” and to know that we are yours forever.

We pray for those with special needs.

Shepherd those who...

*(adapt from joys and concerns)*

This we pray in the name of the One whom we follow through the “*valley of the shadow*” toward the far off green pastures of your heavenly realm. Amen

adapted from ***Prayers of the People:***  
*Pastoral Prayers for Worship and Personal Devotion*  
by Rev. Richard Einerson ©2006 (first 2 paragraphs)

# John 10:11-18

<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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Message

*“The Good Shepherd”*

## “He lives”

1. I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say.  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him He's always near.  
*Refrain:* He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives),  
Christ Jesus lives today  
He walks with me and talks with me  
along life's narrow way  
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives),  
Salvation to impart  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart
2. In all the world around me I see His loving care;  
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair.  
I know that He is leading, thru all the stormy blast;  
The day of His appearing will come at last. *(refrain)*
3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!  
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,  
None other is so loving, so good and kind. *(refrain)*

by Alfred H. Ackley  
©1933, renewed 1961  
The Rodeheaver Co.

## Benediction

May God,  
who puts all things together,  
who makes all things whole,  
who made a lasting mark  
through the sacrifice of Jesus,  
the sacrifice of blood  
that sealed the eternal covenant,  
who led Jesus, our Great Shepherd,  
up and alive from the dead,  
May God now put you together,  
provide you with everything  
you need to please him,  
Make us into  
what gives him most pleasure,  
by means of the sacrifice of Jesus,  
the Messiah.  
All glory to Jesus forever and always!  
Oh, yes, yes, yes.

Hebrews 13:20-21, adapted  
from *The Message*  
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## Postlude