

# Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

March 4, 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

## Third Sunday of Lent

*"For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,  
and God's weakness is stronger than human strength."*

(1 Corinthians 1:25)

Preparing for Praise (9:50 am)

Announcements

Prelude

Entering into Worship

Psalm 19:1-4

*One: Heaven is declaring God's glory;*

**All: the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.**

*One: One day gushes the news to the next,*

**All: & one night informs another what needs to be known.**

*One: Of course, there's no speech, no words - their voices  
can't be heard - but*

**All: their sound extends throughout the world; their words  
reach the ends of the earth.**

\*Hymn                      "Behold what God has made"                      (insert)

\*Opening Prayer

The Lord's Instruction                      Exodus 20:1-17 and Psalm 19:7-14

Response                      "Alleluia"                      (insert)

Responding with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory                      (Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)  
*youth and children head to the back of the sanctuary*

The Foolishness of the Cross

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Response                      "Alleluia"                      (insert)

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

Hymn                      "When I survey the wondrous cross"                      259

Prayer

The Gospel of Jesus                      John 2:13-22

Response                      "Alleluia"                      (insert)

Message                      *"The web of God's design"*

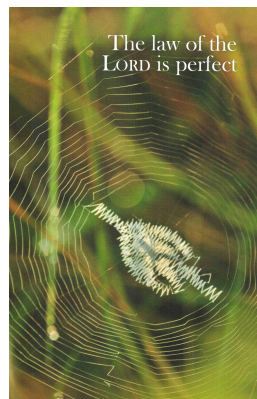
\*Hymn                      "God of grace and God of glory"                      366

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Rise in body or in spirit

\* \* \* \* \*



sermon is posted at  
<http://rockhay.tripod.com/sermons/2018/18-03-04.htm>

←bulletin cover  
(photo ©2018 Beverly Vogel)

# Entering into Worship

*One: Heaven is declaring God's glory;*

**All: the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.**

*One: One day gushes the news to the next,*

**All: and one night informs another what needs to be known.**

*One: Of course, there's no speech, no words - their voices can't be heard – but*

**All: their sound extends throughout the world; their words reach the ends of the earth.**

Psalm 19:1-4

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## Behold what God has made

The musical score is written for a single voice on a treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. It begins with a 'refrain' section marked with a double bar line and repeat dots. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the staff. Chord symbols (D, G, A, Bm, F#m) are placed above the staff to indicate accompaniment. The score includes a 'fine' marking at the end of the first line of the main body. There are three numbered verses for the first line of the main body, and the lyrics continue for several more lines.

*refrain:* Be - hold what God has made, and then pro -

claimed as good; for the earth is a won - der we shall

not tear a - sun - der. Re - joice, be glad, and sing. *fine*

1. From the ground that sur - rounds cast an eye to the  
2. From one day to the next comes a sound, full and  
3. In the sky is the sun, which brings light to the

sky, let your heart leap with - in as you start won - d'ring  
free, to the One who breath'd life and caus'd all things to  
world, and the clouds all ar - rayed like a blan - ket un -

why the land and the sea and the crea - tures that crawl have a  
be. And this song with - out words goes through - out all the earth speak - ing  
furled. And be - neath and up - on all this splen - dor are we, who, like

rhyme and a rhy - thm that flows through them all.  
wis - dom and glo - ry and val - ue and worth.  
ev - 'ry - thing else were cre - a - ted by Thee.

derived from Genesis 1 and Psalm 19  
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*worship powerpoint at:*

<http://rockhay.tripod.com/worship/orders/2018/18-03-04-ppt.pdf>

[http://rockhay.org/worship/music/ behold\\_what\\_God\\_has\\_made.htm](http://rockhay.org/worship/music/ behold_what_God_has_made.htm)

# Opening Prayer

The joy of your coming kingdom erupts all around us,  
O Creator and Ruler,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
You fill our days with goodness and mercy,  
O Provider and Sustainer,  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
By the light of moon and stars,  
O Guide and Deliverer,  
your promises inspire faith  
amid our doubts and fears.  
Rise within us,  
O Savior and Redeemer,  
that we might worship you  
in spirit and in truth.  
Overturn our false hopes and lies,  
O Son of Man and Son of God,  
that we might seek your Word  
and live in your Light.  
Amen!

originally written for March 11, 2012

## The Lord's Instruction

Take a moment and examine the picture on the front of your bulletin, which is also projected upon the screen. Notice the design of the spider in the spinning of its web. Intricate, purposeful, even beautiful is the work of this insect. As one of God's creatures, knowledge of how to do this is somehow woven into its DNA, a word silently passed on from one generation to the next.

In this season of Lent, we have thus far received in our “Biblical DNA” knowledge of the promises God made with forebearers Noah and Abraham. While written and spoken, these covenants work quietly within. Today, we turn to Moses and the Torah, the Law he received, exemplified by the “Ten Words” (or commandments). We will speak them together – I reading each one individually; you responding with a verse from Psalm 19. All will be projected on the screen. As we speak, may God's Spirit be at work weaving us together intricately, purposefully, even beautifully.

Leader: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:2-3)

Congregation: “The Lord's Instruction is perfect, reviving one's very being.” (Psalm 19:7a)

Leader: “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.” (Exodus 20:4-6)

Congregation: “The Lord's laws are faithful, making naive people wise.” (Psalm 19:7b)

Leader: “You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.” (Exodus 20:7)

Congregation: “The Lord's regulations are right, gladdening the heart.” (Psalm 19:8a)

Leader: “Remember the sabbath day, & keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the 7<sup>th</sup> day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work - you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven & earth, the sea, & all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day & consecrated it.” (Exodus 20:8-11)

Congregation: “The Lord’s commands are pure, giving light to the eyes.” (Psalm 19:8b)

Leader: “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.” (Exodus 20:12)

Congregation: “Honoring the Lord is correct, lasting forever.” (Psalm 19:9a)

Leader: “You shall not murder.” (Exodus 20:13)

Congregation: “The Lord’s judgments are true. All of these are righteous!” (Psalm 19:9b)

Leader: “You shall not commit adultery.” (Exodus 20:14)

Congregation: “They are more desirable than gold - than tons of pure gold!” (Psalm 19:10a)

Leader: “You shall not steal.” (Exodus 20:15)

Congregation: “They are sweeter than honey - even dripping off the honeycomb!” (Psalm 19:10b)

Leader: “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” (Exodus 20:16)

Congregation: “No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them.” (Psalm 19:11)

Leader: “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.” (Exodus 20:17)

Congregation: “But can anyone know what they’ve accidentally done wrong? Clear me of any unknown sin and save your servant from willful sins. Don’t let them rule me. Then I’ll be completely blameless; I’ll be innocent of great wrongdoing. (Psalm 19:12-13)

Everyone: Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, Lord, my rock and my redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

Exodus 20:1-17  
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Psalm 19:7-14  
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## Alleluia



by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan  
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# Responding with our Tithes and Offerings

Indeed, may our words, our thoughts, as well as our actions, be pleasing to the Lord. Now is a time set aside to respond to the Lord's instruction with our monetary offerings. As the ushers come forward to receive what we have to give, I invite any youth and children here to join me in the back of the sanctuary to help bring forward and set up a cross.

*(Meghan then prepares them to carry it together, which they will do after the offertory, while the next scripture is read. p.s. the cross stand should already be placed up front.)*

## Offertory

*The Foolishness of the Cross*

### 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*(youth and children begin to slowly carry the cross forward. Then the reader begins. When the cross is placed, they return to their seats.)*

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

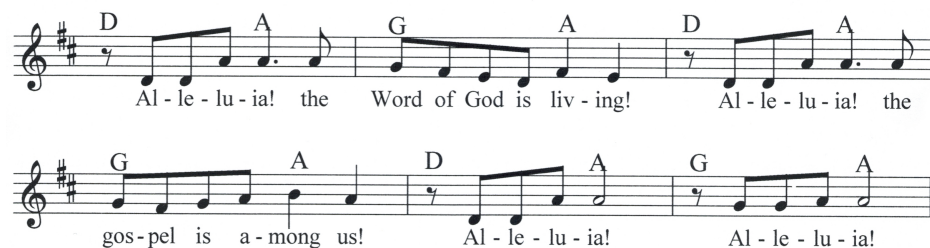
<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was

pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

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## Alleluia



by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan  
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# Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise

Hymn #259

## “When I survey the wondrous cross”

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them through his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did ever such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

## Prayer

We come to you gracious God, ancient of days, awed by your steady unveiling depicted by the biblical story. Episode after episode unveil a greater awareness and a greater understanding of your relationship with your people. We thank you for your ancient covenant which began with Moses. Remind us anew this day that our covenant with you also involves both consequences and commitments on our part.

Help us to experience enough of your awesome holiness so that we will worship and serve and adore you... Help us not to confuse the things or the causes of earth or to value them above you... Help us provide you appropriate honour and find room in our lives for worship, solitude, and healing renewal.

May we also find it within ourselves to take seriously your commands which relate to our brothers and sisters.

Help us to honor not only our parents but all others whom you place in our paths... Help us to respect others and to have a firm commitment not to violate them in any way but always to treat them with dignity as your children... Help us to work for and maintain integrity and honesty in all of our dealings with others and to refuse to take advantage of others in any way... Help us to find satisfaction in the good things in life you have granted to us and not succumb to covetousness, envy, and wanting what others have.

Make new and exciting our journey of the spirit and help us to know that you have sealed your covenant with us by making Jesus not our judge but our friend. Amen

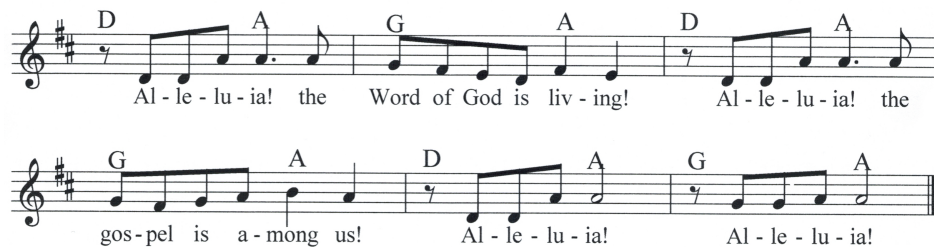
by Rev. Richard Einerson ©2006  
from *Prayers of the People: Pastoral Prayers for Worship and Personal Devotion*



## John 2:13-22

<sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup> Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup> The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

### Alleluia



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message:

*"The web of God's design"*

## God of grace and God of glory

1. God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power.  
Crown thine ancient church's story,  
bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.
2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that  
long have bound us,  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.
3. Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control.  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
4. Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the search for thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

Hymnal #366 - words by Harry E. Fosdick, 1932  
music by John Hughes, 1905

# Benediction

Go now, with God's foolishness and weakness  
as your only wisdom and strength.

Proclaim Christ crucified,  
and seek riches only in the love of God's Word  
and in zeal for God's house.

And may God's just demands be your nourishment & delight.  
May Christ be the power and wisdom of God to you.  
And may the Holy Spirit keep you, thought and word,  
in God's good grace.

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# Postlude