

# Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

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

June 24, 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

*He woke up and ordered the wind to calm down,  
and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!"... (Mark 8:39a)*

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)                      "Shout to the North"                      (insert)

Announcements

Prelude

\*Call to Worship    (based on Psalm 107:1-3)

*One: O give thanks to the Lord.*

**All: Yes! God is good! His love is steady and enduring!**

*One: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.*

Left: When in trouble, we have been set free.

*Right: When lost in the wilderness, we have been gathered in,*

Left: From east and west

*Right: from north and south.*

**All: O give thanks to the Lord!**

\*Hymn                      "Wonderful grace of Jesus"                      150

\*Opening Prayer

Summer Sunday School Activity                      (see insert)

A song of the sea                      Psalm 107:23-32                      (from *The Message*)

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory                      "England"                      (by *Great Big Sea*)  
(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it on)

On pulling together                      2 Corinthians 6:1-13                      (CEV)

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

Gospel song                      "Peace, be still and know that I am God"                      (insert)

Prayer

A gospel sea story                      Mark 4:35-41                      (*Common English Bible*)

Message                      "*Kon Tiki*"

\*Hymn                      "When the storms of life are raging"                      558

\*Benediction

*One:* Go now into a world beset by storms of worries and fears.

**All: Let us go to the far side of despair,  
bringing God's hope to all huddled on that shore.**

*One:* Go now into all the places where people are afraid.

**All: Let us set out from the shore of our comfortable lives,  
bringing the good news of Jesus' grace to all.**

*One:* Go now to the distant shores  
torn apart by violence and oppression.

**All: Let us set out with the Spirit as our guide,  
crying out to all, "Peace! Be still!"**

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\*Postlude

\*Rise in body or in spirit

\* \* \* \* \*

sermon is posted at  
<http://rockhay.tripod.com/sermons/2018/18-06-24.htm>

# Gathered together to worship God

# Announcements

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)  
**Shout to the North**

1. Men of faith, rise up and sing of the great and glorious King  
You are strong when you feel weak, in your brokenness, complete.

*Chorus:*

Shout to the north and the south. Sing to the east and the west.  
Jesus is Savior to all, Lord of heaven and earth.

2. Rise up women of the truth. Stand and sing to broken hearts  
Who can know the healing power of our glorious King of love  
*(Chorus)*

*Bridge:* We've been through fire, we've been through rain.  
We've been refined by the pow'r of His name  
We've fallen deeper in love with You.  
You've burned the truth on our lips. ...*(Chorus x2)*

3. Rise up church with broken wings; fill this place with songs again  
of our God who reigns on high. By His grace again we'll fly  
*(Chorus x2)*

Words and Music by Martin Smith  
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## Prelude

## Call to Worship

Please rise and join in the Call to Worship. Where it says "left," you on the piano side of the center aisle (your left) speak up. Where it says "right," that is where you on the organ side (your right) read. Let us be invited into God's presence with a psalm.

*One: O give thanks to the Lord.*

**All: Yes! God is good! His love is steady and enduring!**

*One: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.*

*Left: When in trouble, we have been set free.*

*Right: When lost in the wilderness, we have been gathered in,*

*Left: From east and west*

*Right: from north and south.*

**All: O give thanks to the Lord!**

(based on Psalm 107:1-3)

Continue standing, and let us sing of  
the "Wonderful grace of Jesus,"  
#150 in our hymnal.

# “Wonderful grace of Jesus”

1. Wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;  
how shall my tongue describe it,  
where shall its praise begin?  
Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free,  
for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.  
*Refrain:*  
Wonderful the matchless grace of Jesus,  
deeper than the mighty rolling sea,  
higher than the mountain, sparkling like a fountain,  
all-sufficient grace for even me;  
broader than the scope of my transgressions, sing it!  
greater far than all my sin and shame.  
O magnify the precious name of Jesus, praise his name!
2. Wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching to all the lost,  
by it I have been pardoned, saved to the uttermost.  
Chains have been torn asunder, giving me liberty,  
for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me. *Refrain*
3. Wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching the most defiled  
by its transforming power making me God's dear child,  
purchasing peace and heaven for all eternity,  
for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me. *Refrain*

Hymnal #150  
by Haldor Lillenas, 1922

# Opening Prayer

O God,  
you rule the world from end to end  
and for all time.  
You alone are God. In you alone we hope.

Forgive our sins.  
Heal our diseases.  
Save our lives from destruction.

We repent of our stubbornness and pride.  
We desire to yield ourselves more fully to your will.

Keep us in your presence  
that we might serve and witness in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Hymnal #692 - written by Ernest Fremont Tittle,  
adapted from *A Book of Pastoral Prayers*,  
Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, New York and Nashville, © 1951

Please be seated.

# Summer Sunday School Activity

P - The scriptures for this day revolve around the sea. Well, at least two of them do, and we'll try to listen to the one that doesn't with a bit of salt air and ocean breeze in the background. Summer is a time when many families get away for vacation, sometimes to the beach or to an inland body of water. One component of Sunday School for children is to be involved in some sort of craft that helps a lesson sink in. Maybe Sunday School for adults should have some similar kind of activity that aids in getting beneath the surface. Are you catching my water metaphors? ("sinking in," "getting beneath the surface").

M - So that we don't get out of the Sunday School habit over our summer break from it, we invite you today to listen creatively to these scriptures from the sea. On your bulletin insert is an open space for drawing. It doesn't matter how good an artist you are. Simply draw a picture of the sea that somehow connects with the scripture you hear. Your artistry may be more like doodling, or it could be very realistic. The bulletin cover, you might have noticed, has a picture of a sailboat on a calm sea. The scriptures, of course, involve more than smooth sailing.

P - Just set your imagination free as we worship and draw to your heart's content. Listening involves more than sheer concentration, as we engage not our ears and minds, but also our hearts and hands. Pay attention now to a portion of Psalm 107, which we are calling, "a song of the sea." Listen...

## A song of the sea

Psalm 107:23-32

read by M

*Some of you set sail in big ships;  
you put to sea to do business in faraway ports.  
Out at sea you saw God in action,  
saw his breathtaking ways with the ocean:  
With a word he called up the wind—  
an ocean storm, towering waves!  
You shot high in the sky, then the bottom dropped out;  
your hearts were stuck in your throats.  
You were spun like a top, you reeled like a drunk,  
you didn't know which end was up.  
Then you called out to God in your desperate condition;  
he got you out in the nick of time.  
He quieted the wind down to a whisper,  
put a muzzle on all the big waves.  
And you were so glad when the storm died down,  
and he led you safely back to harbor.  
So thank God for his marvelous love,  
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves.  
Lift high your praises when the people assemble,  
shout Hallelujah when the elders meet!*

from *The Message*  
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# Returning our Tithes and Offerings

M - “A song of the sea” ... As you return your tithes or offering just now, set your drawing hand free. Let your imagination sail. Draw a scene somehow connected to scripture – realistic or impressionistic, stick figure or doodle – it doesn’t matter. Ponder the Word with your hand as you listen to another song of the sea.

Ushers, please guide our giving as we do so.

## Offertory

“England” - by *Great Big Sea*

[ <https://youtu.be/QUPBesOdax8> ]

On pulling together

## 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

P - The following scripture from the apostle Paul’s 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the church in Corinth is not really about sailing on the sea. However, one could make a case that his words of encouragement are for folks all in the same boat who need to pull together – with each other and with God – in order to get anywhere. So, imagine yourselves on a vessel sailing the sea. The time has come to grab the ropes that help lift that huge piece of canvas which catches the wind and propels the boat forward. Of course, it’s easy to sit back and complain, and question why. It’s much better, however, to step up and put your hand to the ropes, along with your companions. Listen with that in mind.

M - *We work together with God, and we beg you to make good use of God’s kindness to you.* <sup>2</sup> *In the Scriptures God says,*

*“When the time came,  
I listened to you,  
and when you needed help,  
I came to save you.”*

*That time has come. This is the day for you to be saved.*

<sup>3</sup> *We don’t want anyone to find fault with our work, and so we try hard not to cause problems.* <sup>4</sup> *But in everything and in every way we show that we truly are God’s servants. We have always been patient, though we have had a lot of trouble, suffering, and hard times.* <sup>5</sup> *We have been beaten, put in jail, and hurt in riots. We have worked hard and have gone without sleep or food.* <sup>6</sup> *But we have kept ourselves pure and have been understanding, patient, and kind. The Holy Spirit has been with us, and our love has been real.* <sup>7</sup> *We have spoken the truth, and God’s power has worked in us. In all our struggles we have said and done only what is right.*

<sup>8</sup> *Whether we were honored or dishonored or praised or cursed, we always told the truth about ourselves. But some people said we did not.* <sup>9</sup> *We are unknown to others, but well known to you. We seem to be dying, and yet we are still alive. We have been punished, but never killed,* <sup>10</sup> *and we are always happy, even in times of suffering. Although we are poor, we have made many people rich. And though we own nothing, everything is ours.*

<sup>11</sup> *Friends in Corinth, we are telling the truth when we say that there is room in our hearts for you.* <sup>12</sup> *We are not holding back on our love for you, but you are holding back on your love for us.* <sup>13</sup> *I speak to you as I would speak to my own children. Please make room in your hearts for us.*

# Sharing a joy, a concern, a word of testimony or praise

## Prayer

Eternal God, we are almost embarrassed to present our prayers to you some days. We realize that when things go well we do not think to pray. We think of you in times of trouble. In our prayers we so often come to you when the storms of life rage and we feel threatened and vulnerable. Many times we carry in our breasts the protest and lament of the Psalmist and wonder how long the storm will persist. We try to have faith but the demons of fear and worry frequently overcome us. In such times when the waves of life roll high speak to us again your gentle word of peace. Bolster us with Jesus' words: "Do not fear, only believe."

Bring us your peace when we are upset and in turmoil because of the senseless chaos which continually rages in our world.

Bring us your peace when we feel vulnerable, when our health is threatened, and when we become frightened and worry about how many tomorrows remain for us.

Bring us your peace when the darker shadow of our inner selves seems too strong and we are overwhelmed and too frightened to acknowledge it and integrate it into our beings.

Bring us your peace when we are worried about tomorrow and when we worry about whether our money will last as long as we live or how we will make financial ends meet.

Bring us your peace, O Lord, and quiet our inner storms and help us to trust. Amen

### Peace, be still, and know that I am God

PEACE PILGRIM'S PRAYER

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. Above the first staff, the chords D, G, D, and Em7/D are indicated. The lyrics are: "Peace be still and know that I am God." followed by a blank line. The second staff has the lyrics: "Peace be still and know that I am." followed by a blank line. The third staff has the lyrics: "Peace be still and know." followed by a blank line. The fourth staff has the lyrics: "Peace" followed by a blank line, "be", and "still." followed by a blank line. The fifth staff has the lyrics: "Peace" followed by a blank line, "be." followed by a blank line. The sixth staff has the lyrics: "Peace," "peace," and "peace." followed by a blank line.

Text: Peace Pilgrim (circa 1905-1981); based on Psalm 46:10  
Music: Shawn Kirchner (1970-), 1990  
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by Rev. Richard Einerson ©2006

from *Prayers of the People: Pastoral Prayers for Worship and Personal Devotion*

A gospel sea story  
Mark 4:35-41

Message  
“Kon Tiki”

P - As Mark tells his gospel story, all of chapter 4 takes place on or beside the sea of Galilee, a large inland lake. It begins with a “very large crowd” who have all come to hear what Jesus has to say. He determines the best place to speak is from a boat a few feet from shore, so he steps in one and sits down. From there he tells several stories. Perhaps you remember his parable of “The Sower,” or one about “A Lamp under a Bushel Basket,” or a couple of other tales that involve seeds – like one from a mustard plant. These are the parables Mark recalls, though we get the impression it was a long day of teaching by the shore. However, the day was not yet over. Listen to what comes next, according to Mark.

M - <sup>35</sup> *Later that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the lake.”* <sup>36</sup> *They left the crowd and took him in the boat just as he was. Other boats followed along.*

<sup>37</sup> *Gale-force winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat so that the boat was swamped.* <sup>38</sup> *But Jesus was in the rear of the boat, sleeping on a pillow. They woke him up and said, “Teacher, don’t you care that we’re drowning?”*

<sup>39</sup> *He got up and gave orders to the wind, and he said to the lake, “Silence! Be still!” The wind settled down and there was a great calm.* <sup>40</sup> *Jesus asked them, “Why are you frightened? Don’t you have faith yet?”*

<sup>41</sup> *Overcome with awe, they said to each other, “Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!”*

## “When the storms of life are raging”

1. When the storms of life are raging, stand by me; (2x)  
When the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea,  
thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me.
2. In the midst of tribulation, stand by me; (2x)  
When the hosts of hell assail,  
and my strength begins to fail,  
thou who never lost a battle, stand by me.
3. In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me; (2x)  
When I've done the best I can,  
and my friends misunderstand,  
thou who knowest all about me, stand by me.
4. In the midst of persecution, stand by me; (2x)  
When my foes in war array, undertake to stop my way,  
thou who saved Paul and Silas, stand by me.
5. When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me; (2x)  
When my life becomes a burden,  
and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,  
O thou Lily of the Valley, stand by me.

# Benediction

*One:* Go now into a world beset  
by storms of worries and fears.

**All: Let us go to the far side of despair,  
bringing God's hope to all huddled on that shore.**

*One:* Go now into all the places where people are afraid.

**All: Let us set out from the shore  
of our comfortable lives,  
bringing the good news of Jesus' grace to all.**

*One:* Go now to the distant shores  
torn apart by violence and oppression.

**All: Let us set out with the Spirit as our guide,  
crying out to all, "Peace! Be still!"**

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from: <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

# Postlude