



Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

We are a faith family walking together to know Christ and to make him known by engaging in dynamic worship, pursuing spiritual wisdom, investing in deep relationships, and affecting social renewal.

OCTOBER 15, 2017

GATHERING

GATHERING SONG

All Who Are Thirsty

Brenton Brown

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Shelley Kral

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;
People: make known his deeds among the peoples.
Pastor: Sing to him, sing praises to him,
People: and speak of all his marvelous works.
Pastor: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
All: who was and is and is to come! (Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8)

**Blessed Be Your Name*

Blessed be Your Name in the land that is plentiful
Where streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.

Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place,
When I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise;
When the darkness closes in Lord, still I will say,
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name, on the road marked with suffering;
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.

You give and take away, you give and take away;
My heart will choose to say, Lord blessed be your name.

Blessed Be Your Name by Matt and Beth Redman. Copyright 2002 Thankyou Music. Used by permission CCLI #11081661

**Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger interposed His precious blood

[continued next page]

Welcome!

We are here because we believe Jesus Christ is the only hope for true change. He is the only genuine hope for freedom from whatever enslaves us; healing from the many actions that harm us; deliverance from shame that belittles us; rescue from the evil that violates us. As well, we believe that only through Jesus Christ will the hopes hidden in our deepest desires truly be satisfied. So the main reason our church exists is so the presence of Jesus Christ and the way of Jesus Christ may be experienced in the lives of normal anxious, wounded, cautious, 'looking for more' people like you and me. So again, welcome; we're glad you're here.

Hearing devices are available in the Narthex.

Please sign the attendance register located at the end of each pew.

Why do Sunday services begin with praise? The early section of our worship service reminds us that all begins with God – who he is and what he is doing. Right off the bat we remind ourselves that God alone is worthy of worship, that God alone has made worship possible, that God alone has made it possible for us to come into his presence.

Does our faith earn God's favor?

Some people think of faith as the act we do that "saves" us – that when we speak words like "I give my life to Jesus," it moves us from being on the 'outs' with God to being on the 'ins' with God. However that is not the Bible's teaching. In itself, our faith, like everything else we do, is tainted with sin. How many times have the words of the worried father, "I believe, help my unbelief," (Mark 9:24) resonated in our hearts? Our faith is never complete and never pure. It is always mixed with sin. Thus faith in God does not restore us to God's side any more than faith that our dislocated bone can be restored to its rightful place does the restoration. Why then, is faith so important? Because it connects us with Jesus (whose actions moved us from being on the 'outs' to being on the 'ins' with God). Faith is a way of acknowledging that we have no hope apart from him, no hope in our efforts to be a good person, no hope in our giving to the less fortunate, no hope even in the sincerity of our faith. Our only hope is in Jesus (see Romans 3:28). May our time together this morning be saturated with opportunities to sense this truth and thank God for Jesus!

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace Lord like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it seal it for Thy courts above

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shelley Kral

Triune God, we confess devaluing what you are working to produce in our hearts and lives. Desiring success more than redemption, we neglect the things you say have eternal value. Craving comfort and pleasure more than redemption, we want easier lives more than we want ones that bring the gospel to friends and strangers. Father, forgive us through Jesus and change us through Holy Spirit. In your name we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool. (Isaiah 1:18)

People: Praise God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

I Shall Not Want

From the love of my own comfort
From the fear of having nothing
From a life of worldly passions
Deliver me, O God

From the need to be understood
From the need to be accepted
From the fear of being lonely,
Deliver me, O God. Deliver me, O God!

And I shall not want, I shall not want
When I taste your goodness, I shall not want
When I taste your goodness, I shall not want

From the fear of serving others
From the fear of death or trial
From the fear of humility
Deliver me, O God. Deliver me, O God!

And I shall not want,
I shall not want.
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want,
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want.

I Shall Not Want by Audrey Assad, Bryan Brown. 2013 Audrey Assad Inc. CLI License No. 11081661

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S LESSON

*SONG OF INVOCATION

Word of God Speak

I'm finding myself at a loss for words and the funny thing is it's okay
The last thing I need is to be heard but to hear what You would say

Word of God speak would You pour down like rain washing my eyes to see Your majesty
To be still and know that You're in this place please let me stay and rest in Your holiness
(Word of God speak)

Word of God Speak by Bart Millard and Pete Kipley. 2002 Wordspring Music. Used by permission CCLI #11081661

SERMON LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

Doug Ashley

SERMON

“Set Us Free: Approach the Bench”

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

BLOTTEN DAG; arr. Mary McDonald

*All the way my Savior leads me, what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell!
For I know whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.*

*All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for ev'ry trial, feeds me with the living bread.
Tho' my weary steps may falter, and my soul a-thirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see!*

*All the way my Savior leads me, oh, the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song thro' endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!
This my song thro' endless ages; Jesus led me all the way!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Beau Sullivan

SENDING

THE LORD AT WORK THROUGH LONGVIEW EPC

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee:
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

FAITHFULNESS, Words, Thomas Chisholm, 1923, Music, William Runyan, 1923. Copyright 1923, 1951 Hope Publishing. Used by permission CCLI #11081661

*BENEDICTION

Doug Ashley

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand as able*

Why come to church when I can listen to great sermons and music on line? It's true; there are some great preachers and amazing musicians out there. Can't we grow as Christians (learn more about God and how to live the gospel more consistently) simply through those means? Do we really need to gather with other believers on Sunday mornings? The testimony of Scripture is "Yes, we do!" We really do need to regularly gather with other believers. 2 Timothy 3 & 4 remind us that it is together we are to hear God's Word preached week in and week out, for it is together that God is at work in and through us. Hebrews 10 tells us that it is together we are to meet in order to encourage one another until that day that Jesus returns to take us home. And Galatians 6 states that as a church community we are to keep watch over each other, to restore one another and to bear each other's burdens and sorrows. For these reasons and more, God the Father calls his children to come to a family reunion once a week in order to receive his gracious provision for us, together. Skyping in is okay if there is no other choice, but it's not the same as being together face to face!

RESULTS OF LAST SUNDAY'S CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Thanks to Gena Bunn, Jonathan Foy, and Ellen Luna for tabulating the votes following the October 8 congregational meeting. They have determined that the slate of new officers as brought by the Church Officer Nominating Committee has been approved (by a vote of 116-yes, 3-no) as follows:

Class of 2020 Deacons: Congregational Care- Sandra Shipp; Connections- Laureen Bagley; Prayer- Suma Jayakar; Youth- Lauren Byrd

Class of 2019 Deacon: Fellowship- Susan Pope

Elders- Class of 2020: Jim Brun, Kerri Daugbjerg, Eric Skoog

Congratulations to our new officers! Please remember to pray for them as they begin this new journey together. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the members of our 2017 Church Officer Nominating Committee for their important work: Gena Bunn (Chair), Matt Yost (Chair-Elect), Ellen Adams, Genie Bartlett, and Carla Szafran.

2017 YOUTH FOR MISSION PUMPKIN STOMP:

Saturday, October 28, 10 a.m.—3 p.m. at Enoch's Stomp. Fun for the whole family! Admission is free. Tickets may be purchased at the gate for games, food, and activities including hayride, pumpkin patch, carnival games, prizes, paintball target shooting, pumpkin painting, and fair-style food. This is a major fundraiser for our youth mission trips. Sponsorship forms are available in the church foyer if you would like to sponsor one of the events mentioned above. Forms must be returned by October 20. For more information, please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Jason Hubbard.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP MEETING TODAY: There will be a meeting from 5-6:30 p.m. today for anyone interested in going on youth mission trips in the summer of 2018. At least one parent should attend the meeting in Trinity Hall with each interested youth. Supper will be provided.

CELEBRATION OF 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF REFORMATION DAY TO BE HELD OCTOBER 31 AT LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY: Classes will be canceled for the day, and a conference will be held beginning at 9 AM exploring the Protestant Reformation and its legacy. Beginning at 3:30, Jim Taylor will conduct a musical program including a hymn festival. Information can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/LETUreformation500/>

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:

Sunday, October 15 — Infants: Sarah & Victoria; Toddlers: Rob & Emily Holloway

Sunday, October 22 — Infants: Bonnie Howell & Victoria; Toddlers: Sandra Skoog & Sarah

NEW TO LONGVIEW EPC? Please check the foyer for an EPC mug and brochure for you!

Coffee, cookies, and fellowship are available in Trinity Hall each Sunday morning.

Prayer Ministry: Confidential prayer requests may be made by emailing prayerteam@epclongview.org or by using the cards located in the attendance registers. Current monthly prayer calendars are located in the foyer.

Tithes and Offerings are received through the wooden boxes found at each entrance to the sanctuary, or checks mailed to the office, and electronically via the website. The website also offers a credit/debit card option.

Sermons and bulletins: Available on the website

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL 2017:

Christian Thought (studying Andy Crouch's "Strong and Weak" before studying Calvin) meets in Trinity Hall room 106 and is led by Larry Frazier.

Digging Deeper (a study of the book of John) meets in the Sanctuary and is taught by Beau Sullivan.

Faith in Life (study of Revelation) meets in Trinity Hall room 107 and is taught by Shelley Kral.

Grace-Based Parenting (applying grace to parenting children into a life of freedom in Christ) meets in Trinity Hall room 104 and is led by Doug and Julie Lynn Ashley.

The Gospel Project ("Exile and Return" - a Bible survey course) meets in the Carlton room in the sanctuary building and is taught by Leonard Wiley.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Sundays at 5 p.m.—Youth dinner & fellowship (Mission trip meeting today 5-6 p.m.)
- Wednesday, October 18—Pioneer Clubs, Youth Bible studies, Chancel Choir and Worship Team rehearsals
- Friday, Oct. 20—Mom to Mom
- Saturday, October 28—Pumpkin Stomp

Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Worship 9:30 • Sunday School 10:45

Rev. Doug Ashley — Lead Pastor / dashley@epclongview.org

Rev. Shelley Kral — Associate Pastor / skral@epclongview.org

Rev. Beau Sullivan — Assistant Pastor / bsullivan@epclongview.org

Tim Konvalin — Director of Music Ministry / tkonvalin@epclongview.org

Jason Hubbard — Director of Youth Ministry / jhubbard@epclongview.org

Emily Holloway — Director of Children's Ministry / eholloway@epclongview.org

Suzi White — Administrator / swhite@epclongview.org

3800 Judson Road
Longview, TX 75605

info@epclongview.org
longviewepc.org
Phone: 903-234-0032

Guest Wi-Fi: EPCL2
Password: Guestttt
Facebook: Longview EPC