



# 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.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 18, 2018

### GATHERING

#### GATHERING MUSIC

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Shelley Kral

Pastor: I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.

People: **But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand;**

Pastor: Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!

All: **Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you.** (From Psalm 31)

#### *\*How Great Is Our God*

The splendor of the King clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice all the earth rejoice  
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice and trembles at His voice

How great is our God Sing with me how great is our God  
And all will see how great how great is our God

And age to age He stands and time is in His hands  
Beginning and the End Beginning and the End  
The Godhead three in one Father Spirit Son  
The Lion and the Lamb the Lion and the Lamb

Name above all names worthy of all praise  
My heart will sing how great is our God

*How Great Is Our God*, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves; copyright 2204 sixsteps Music. Used by permission CCLI License # 1108166

#### *\*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul and sing of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of Love! Behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends His wond'ring eyes at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scepter sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:  
His reign shall know no end; And round His pierced feet  
Fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

*[continued next page]*

#### Welcome!

Whether you are young or old; first time in a church or a long-time worshipper, full of questions and doubt or confidence and joy – or places in between all that - we are glad you are here!

*Hearing devices are available in the Narthex.*

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

**What is Lent?** Lent is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday (Easter). Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or commencement, Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection. The practice of a forty-day preparation period began in the Christian church during the third and fourth centuries. The number forty carries biblical significance based on the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through holy week, not counting Sundays (which are reserved for celebratory worship). As a period of preparation, Lent has historically included efforts by all Christians to deepen their piety, devotion, and readiness to mark the death and resurrection of their Savior. (From The Worship Sourcebook)

## Why all the standing and sitting?

Scripture, especially the Psalms, highlights various postures of worship suggesting physical positions of the body are both symbols of our heart's inner disposition and aids in helping us focus amidst distractions. Standing is a posture of honor, fitting for things like singing praise hymns and hearing the Bible read. Sitting is one way to express reverence and submission, just as we would bow our heads or our whole bodies, and it is a fitting posture for things like confession and listening to teaching from the Bible.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;  
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime;  
All hail, Redeemer, hail, for thou hast died for me;  
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Crown Him with Many Crowns, DIADEMATA. Mathew Bridges, 1851, George Job Elvey, 1868 Public Domain

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shelley Kral

*Father, through your Son you have brought me into the realm of life, and that position is truly mine. However, when it comes to the quality of my life, I can still walk in the realm of death. I make choices that lead to spiritual blindness and brittleness. I am hardened toward you, rather than softened. My heart is cooled towards others rather than warmed. Forgive me, Papa, and change me. Enable me through the grace of your Holy Spirit to become more like the one who loved me and gave himself for me: Jesus Christ, my Lord.*

(Please take a few moments to silently confess those sins most personal to you.)

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Hear the good news!

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* 1 John 1:8-9

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*Jesus Messiah*

He became sin who knew no sin  
that we might become His righteousness  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross  
love so amazing love so amazing

Jesus Messiah name above all names  
blessed redeemer Emmanuel  
The rescue for sinners the ransom from heaven  
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

His body the bread His blood the wine  
broken and poured out all for love  
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn  
love so amazing love so amazing

All our hope is in You  
all our hope is in You  
All the glory to You God  
the Light of the world

Jesus Messiah Lord of all  
the Lord of all the Lord of all

Jesus Messiah by Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves. 2008 sixsteps Music; copyright 2008; used by permission CCLI License #11081661

## PROCLAIMING

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

Jenny Hubbard

## SONG OF ILLUMINATION

*\*Speak O Lord*

Speak O Lord as we come to You to receive the food of Your holy word  
Take Your truth plant it deep in us shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory

Speak O Lord © 2005 Thankyou Music Keith Getty | Stuart Townend CCLI License No. 11081661

## SERMON LESSON

John 14:1-21

Doug Ashley

## SERMON

“Follow Me: Watch”

*Let Us Walk This Road Together*

NETTLETON

*Words by Mary Kay Beal; setting by John Carter*

## SENDING

## THE LORD AT WORK THROUGH LONGVIEW EPC

*\*I Sing the Mighty Power Of God (Ellacombe)*

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at His command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;  
He formed the creatures with His word and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise and tempests blow by order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be, Thou God art present there.

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as able*

## Why does preaching still matter?

We live in an age where authority is suspect and tolerance is a supreme virtue. This would seem to squeeze out any notion of “preaching.” (Who wants to be preached at?) However, as Christians, we do acknowledge a higher authority—God—and we also submit ourselves to how he’s chosen to articulate his authority over our lives—through the Bible. Preaching is the act that opens up, explains, and applies the Scriptures to us, and it is one of the means through which God has chosen to use for our growth and spiritual nourishment. So we willingly choose today to be counter-cultural by submitting ourselves to God and His Word, and we receive the preaching of the Bible with open, hungry, and teachable hearts.

## LENT DEVOTIONAL—FOLLOW ME: PRAYERS OF OUR PEOPLE

We are providing a collection of prayers intended to assist us in our considering what it means to follow Jesus during the Lenten season. Most of the prayers in the booklet were written by members of our own local body of Christ. Also included are prayers from a few of our forefathers and mothers in the faith who are currently in the physical presence of Jesus.

There are 40 prayers—one for each day of Lent excluding Sundays. Some are prayers of confession, others of adoration, supplication and thanksgiving. The booklets are available in the gathering area of the sanctuary building. Please feel free to take one today. May God unite us in our following of Jesus Christ through the gift of prayer.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** Worship with the Lord's Supper. Potluck lunch in Trinity Hall following worship. The church will provide the main dish—you provide the sides and a few desserts.

## SAFETY TEAM VOLUNTEERS:

**Sunday, February 18** — Nico Fourie & Cliff Hale

**Sunday, February 25** — Bill Bankston & Rob Holloway

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Today:** 5 p.m. Youth supper and fellowship
- **Wednesday, Feb. 21:** Pioneer Clubs, Youth Bible studies, Chancel Choir rehearsal
- **Sunday, Feb 25:** 5 p.m. Youth supper & fellowship
- **Sunday, March 4:** Celebration of Lord's Supper; potluck lunch  
5 p.m. Youth supper and fellowship

## SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Please join one of our Adult Classes!

*Christian Thought* led by Larry Frazier is studying 1 Peter using the Wiersbe Bible Study Series Guide: How to Make the Best of Times Out of Your Worst of Times. Meets in Trinity Hall 106

*Digging Deeper* taught by Beau Sullivan is studying the Gospel of John. Meets in the Sanctuary

*Faith in Life* led by Shelley Kral and Daniel Bond is reviewing "12 Christian Beliefs That Can Drive You Crazy: Relief from False Assumptions" by Drs. Cloud & Townsend. Meets in Trinity Hall 107

*The Gospel Project* led by Leonard Wiley continues this Bible survey course. Meets in Carlton room in sanctuary building

## 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](mailto: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.

## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS:

**Sunday, February 18** — Infants: Sarah & Victoria; Toddlers: Pat & Denise Frederick

**Sunday, February 25** — Infants: Kerri Daugbjerg; Toddlers: Glenda Bays

## Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

## Worship 9:30 • Sunday School 10:45

### RULING ELDERS

Gena Bunn '18

Ginia Northcutt '18

Kathie Ramey '18

Daniel Bond '19

Michael McMahon '19

Matt Yost '19

Jim Brun '20

Kerri Daugbjerg '20

Eric Skoog '20

### STAFF

Rev. Doug Ashley — Lead Pastor / [dashley@epclongview.org](mailto:dashley@epclongview.org)

Rev. Shelley Kral — Associate Pastor / [skral@epclongview.org](mailto:skral@epclongview.org)

Rev. Beau Sullivan — Assistant Pastor / [bsullivan@epclongview.org](mailto:bsullivan@epclongview.org)

Tim Konvalin — Director of Music Ministry / [tkonvalin@epclongview.org](mailto:tkonvalin@epclongview.org)

Jason Hubbard — Director of Youth Ministry / [jhubbard@epclongview.org](mailto:jhubbard@epclongview.org)

Emily Holloway — Director of Children's Ministry / [eholloway@epclongview.org](mailto:eholloway@epclongview.org)

Suzi White — Administrator / [swhite@epclongview.org](mailto:swhite@epclongview.org)

3800 Judson Road  
Longview, TX 75605

[info@epclongview.org](mailto:info@epclongview.org)  
[longviewepc.org](http://longviewepc.org)

Phone: 903-234-0032

Guest Wi-Fi: EPCL2  
Password: Guestttt