

# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 27, 2020 | Sanctuary Service | 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

**WELCOME TO LMPC!** We're so glad you are with us today. Please use the welcome card from the pew rack to share important information with us. As we come together to worship the living God, we ask that you silence all communication devices and refrain from bringing beverages into worship so that we might, in joyful reverence, give our full attention to praising and honoring our God.

# A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

- We are unable to offer a nursery at the morning services. We do have a limited capacity nursery at the 5:00 p.m. fellowship hall service for which prior registration is required.
- Coloring sheets and crayons are available for children. Please take crayons home with you.
- Tithes and offerings may be left in the plates at the exits.
- At the end of the service, please wait for the ushers to indicate when and where you are to exit.

# Order of Worship

# Prelude

Fugue in G, BWV 541 J. S. Bach

Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

\* Call to worship

based on Psalm 86 and Psalm 89

- Leader: There is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.
- All: We will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with our mouths we will make your faithfulness known through all generations. We will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.
- Leader: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.
- All: We rejoice in your name all day long for you are our glory and strength. We will sing of the LORD's great love forever.

\* Hymn of praise

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"



text by Charles Wesley; music by R. H. Pritchard, arr. John Rutter

# \* Prayer of adoration

# \* Affirmation of faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the onlybegotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### Call to confession

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'"

#### Silent prayers of confession

Choral meditation	"Yes, My Jesus Loves Me"	Women's Ensemble
	I know, for the Bible tells me so. ong; they are weak but he is strong.	
Yes, my Jesus loves r	ne!	

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gates to open wide; wash away my sin, let his little child come in. Yes, my Jesus, yes, my Jesus, yes, my Jesus loves me! text by Anna B. Warner; music by Mary McDonald

#### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

* Hymn of assurance	"My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"
	(please turn the page for words and music)

\* Scripture reading from Acts 19:23-41 text printed in the bulletin

Diane Denham (9:00) James Stevens (11:00)

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## \* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon	"The Reality of Spiritual Counterfeits"
	Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

#### **Pastoral prayer**

- \* Hymn of response
- \* Benediction
- \* Congregational response
- \* Postlude

"All Creatures of Our God and King" arr. Bill Fasig and John Innes

\* Congregation standing as you are able

"Threefold Amen"

"O Father, You Are Sovereign"

(please turn the page for words and music)

Iohn 3:16-17

"My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"



text by Lidie H. Edmunds, 1891; music by André Grétry, 1741-1831, arr. William J. Kirkpatrick, 1891, LANDAS

"O Father, You Are Sovereign"



text by Margaret Clarkson, 1982; music by Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615, st. THEODULPH

Musicians for this week:

Randall Crenshaw – piano Joy Gibbons – director Joshua Knight – organ Women's Ensemble

**Celebrating the baptism** of Poppy Lanier Lowery at the 9:00 service in the fellowship hall today are her parents, Margaret and Grayson Lowery, her grandparents, Karen and Miller Welborn and Josie and Todd Lowery, and her great-grandparents, Peggy and Oscar Chunn, Irene Welborn, and Gloria Lowery.

**The rosebud in the sanctuary** is for the birth of Landon Ranger Gibson, born to Krista and Brad Gibson on September 16.

# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE WAIT FOR THE USHERS to excuse you row by row after the service.

**WE APPRECIATE** everyone's willingness to wear a mask to protect one another. We do ask that everyone wear a mask for the entire service, covering both mouth and nose. Also, in light of the Hamilton County mandate, we are now asking everyone entering the church buildings during the week to wear a mask.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED** in this year's Build-A-Bag collection benefitting the Chattanooga Salvation Army. We estimate that we collected about 250 food bags which will be distributed over the next few weeks through their social services center. It was a joy to watch our community come together under unusual circumstances to perform this act of service.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE IN OFFICER NOMINATIONS!** You may submit your ballot online at lmpc.org/nominations OR call the church office at 423-821-4528 to request a paper ballot. The deadline for nominations is this Wednesday, September 30. Questions? Email nominations@lmpc.org.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE CHURCH PLANTING EFFORTS** of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery by picking up a Church Plant Prayer Guide from the fellowship hall lobby, the sanctuary narthex, or the Small Conference Room (under the map). There are currently seven church plants, five prospective planting sites, and various revitalization efforts underway in our Presbytery. For more information on our church planting efforts, please contact Stephanie Young in the Missions Office.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND A TENNESSEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY "SERVICE OF LAMENT" today at 5:00 p.m. at New City Fellowship in Glenwood. This will be a time of crying out to God for his help with issues of racial unrest and other social issues challenging our nation, and to encourage us to live in the reconciliation of the cross of Christ. Please join if you are able.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE?** *The Marriage Course* is a video series that can help you do just that, and is open to members and friends of LMPC. The course will be held on seven Tuesday evenings beginning October 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Reception Room. Each couple sits at their own table and there is no sharing with others. Dessert will be provided. Interested? Just send an email to marriagecourse@lmpc.org.

**SAVE THE DATE!** On Wednesday, October 28, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall we will welcome Dr. Irwyn Ince for a discussion of his recent book, *The Beautiful Community: Unity, Diversity, and the Church at Its Best.* Dr. Ince serves as a pastor at Grace DC Presbyterian Church and director of the Grace DC Institute for Cross-Cultural Mission. Registration via Realm is required. Please join us!

To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit lmpc.org/news

# IN MEMORIAM Julia Sellers Hailey April 1, 1927 – September 21, 2020

#### Acts 19:23-41

<sup>23</sup>About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. <sup>24</sup>A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in no little business for the craftsmen. <sup>25</sup>He called them together, along with the workmen in related trades, and said: "Men, you know we receive a good income from this business. <sup>26</sup>And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that man-made gods are no gods at all. <sup>27</sup>There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty."

<sup>28</sup>When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" <sup>29</sup>Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia, and rushed as one man into the theater. <sup>30</sup>Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. <sup>31</sup>Even some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a message begging him not to venture into the theater.

<sup>32</sup>The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there. <sup>33</sup>The Jews pushed Alexander to the front, and some of the crowd shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. <sup>34</sup>But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" <sup>35</sup>The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: "Men of Ephesus, doesn't all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven? <sup>36</sup>Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to be quiet and not do anything rash. <sup>37</sup>You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess. <sup>38</sup>If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges. <sup>39</sup>If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly. <sup>40</sup>As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of today's events. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it." <sup>41</sup>After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

# **SERMON NOTES**

"The Reality of Spiritual Counterfeits" Acts 19:23-41

- 1. The logic of spiritual counterfeits (vv. 23-27)
  - The spiritual counterfeits **reject loss** brought on by outsiders as far too costly (protective investing).
  - Those in the Gospel Kingdom **accept loss** as a price worth paying for the glory of God *and* the good of outsiders (redemptive suffering).
- 2. The passion of spiritual counterfeits (vv. 28-31)
  - In self-protective fear, the spiritual counterfeits enflame the passions of many in order to stop a few enemies.
  - With Spirit-empowered faith, those in the Gospel Kingdom are able to face the threats of many with courage: they truly seek to serve and bring the Gospel to their enemies.
- 3. God overrules the spiritual counterfeits (vv. 32-41)
  - God is sovereign over all: he can even use the self-protective actions of his enemies to protect his people. ("Even the wrath of man shall praise you..." Psalm 76:10)

"We resemble what we revere, either for ruin or restoration."

—Dr. Greg Beale, We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry

# TODAY AT LMPC

#### Sunday, September 27

9:00 a.m.	Worship service	sanctuary & fellowship hall
		sanctuary & fellowship hall
	-	fellowship hall
5:00 p.m.	Elementary children activities	elementary classrooms
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group	fellowship hall

Additional seating for the sanctuary services is available in the chapel.

For more events this week, visit lmpc.org/calendar.

# STAY CONNECTED WITH REALM AND THE CONNECT APP:

- Communicate with your groups and teams
- Register easily for popular events
- Gain access to our online church directory
- Update your personal information, including photo
- Check your progress on giving and pledging

You can find more details on how to join and use Realm at lmpc.org/realm. For additional help with Realm, please email Caitlyn Whitted at onrealm@lmpc.org.

## OUR MISSION

*Glorifying God by growing in grace and giving our lives away on the mountain, in the city, and around the world.* 

# CONTACT US

Address:	316 North Bragg Avenue		
	Lookout Mountain, TN	37350	

Web: lmpc.org Email: info@lmpc.org Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first and second Sundays of every month, one Sunday in the sanctuary and one Sunday in the fellowship hall. Please see the church website for more details.

Devices to amplify sound during the Sunday morning worship services are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.