



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 4, 2020 | **Sanctuary Service**

Order of Worship

Prelude

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
arr. Robert Hobby

Welcome and announcements

Don Kent, ruling elder

* Call to worship

based on Isaiah 40 and Psalm 95

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

All: He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall.

Leader: But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and never faint.

All: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us extol him with music and song.

Hymn of praise

“Have You Not Known?”

Men’s Ensemble and congregation

Ensemble: Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you that the everlasting God
dwells on high in starry splendor?
His glory is unspeakable; his power shall never fail.
They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary;
they shall walk and never faint.

To whom will God, the LORD, compare?
Who can stand his equal? By his word he formed the heavens,
by his power he e’er sustains them.
Vain rulers perish hopelessly; strong nations come to naught.
But they that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary;
they shall walk and never faint.

Then why complain, O Israel?
Why downcast, O Jacob? Do you think he does not see?
Is your way now disregarded?
His knowledge is unsearchable, his wisdom strong and sure.
They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary;
they shall walk and never faint.

All: **Have you not known? Have you not heard?**
Has it not been told you that the everlasting God
neither tires nor grows weary?
E'en youths shall stumble helplessly, the young grow weak and faint.
But they that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary;
they shall walk and never faint.

text from Isaiah 40:21-31; adaptation and music by K. Lee Scott

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, questions 27 and 28

Leader: What do you understand by the providence of God?

All: **God's providence is his almighty and ever present power,**
whereby, as with his hand, he upholds heaven and earth and
all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and
drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and
sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come not by chance
but by his fatherly hand.

Leader: What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and upholds them by his providence?

All: **We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with**
a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful
God and Father that nothing will separate us from his love; for all
creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they
cannot so much as move.

Call to confession

taken from Hebrews 4:14-16

Leader: Since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

All: **Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Silent prayers of confession

Choral meditation

“I’d Rather Have Jesus”

Men’s Ensemble

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world. Give me Jesus.

I’d rather have Jesus than silver or gold.
I’d rather be his than have riches untold.
I’d rather have Jesus than houses or lands.
I’d rather be led by his nail-pierced hand,
than to be the king of a vast domain, or be held in sin’s dread sway.
I’d rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.

He’s fairer than lilies of rarest bloom.
He’s sweeter than honey from out of the comb.
He’s all that my hungering spirit needs.
I’d rather have Jesus and let him lead,
than to be the king of a vast domain, or be held in sin’s dread sway.
I’d rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world. Give me Jesus.

text by Rhea F. Miller; music by George Beverly Shea, arr. Joseph M. Martin

Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

* Hymn of assurance

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what won-drous love is
 2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm

this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I
 free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing

soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

Prayer of intercession for Covenant College

Leader: Sovereign Lord, we praise and thank you for Covenant College. We ask that you would continue to make it a place where all people learn and proclaim the preeminence of Jesus Christ in all things.

All: Make your presence known to staff and faculty as they navigate teaching and serving the student body through new platforms that provide challenges as well as opportunities. Grant them wisdom, patience, strength, and dependence on you in every area of their lives and work.

Leader: Make your presence known to students as they pursue all that you have called them to at this time in their lives. As they grow in relationship with you, give them assurance of your grace and favor. As they learn about each other, give them your humility and love. As they study various disciplines, give them diligence, joy, and a sense of wonder.

All: Make your presence known to those in leadership positions as they seek your will for Covenant College. Grant them clarity and wisdom as they make difficult decisions, and encourage their hearts by your Spirit. We pray these things so that all involved in Covenant's work may please the Lord in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that they may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully give thanks to the Father.

taken from Colossians 1:10-12a

* Scripture reading from Acts 20:1-12

Don Kent

¹When the uproar had ended, Paul sent for the disciples and, after encouraging them, said good-bye and set out for Macedonia. ²He traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece, ³where he stayed three months.

Because the Jews made a plot against him just as he was about to sail for Syria, he decided to go back through Macedonia. ⁴He was accompanied by Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Berea, Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, Gaius from Derbe, Timothy also, and Tychicus and Trophimus from the province of Asia. ⁵These men went on ahead and waited for us at Troas. ⁶But we sailed from Philippi after the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and five days later joined the others at Troas, where we stayed seven days.

⁷On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight. ⁸There were many lamps in the upstairs room where we were meeting. ⁹Seated in a window was a young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. When he was sound asleep, he fell to the ground from the third story and was picked up dead. ¹⁰Paul went down, threw himself on the young man and put his arms around him. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "He's alive!" ¹¹Then he went upstairs again and broke bread and ate. After talking until daylight, he left. ¹²The people took the young man home alive and were greatly comforted.

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 "Needing and Delivering Encouragement"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

1. The encouragement of Gospel truth (vv. 1-3a)
 - Hebrews 3:12-13 "See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."
2. The encouragement of traveling companions (vv. 3b-6)
3. The encouragement of gathered worship (vv. 7, 11)
4. The encouragement of resurrection power (vv. 7-12)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“All for Jesus!”

1. All for Je - sus! All for Je - sus! All my be - ing's ran - somed pow'rs,
2. Let my hands per - form his bid - ding, let my feet run in his ways;
3. World - lings prize their gems of beau - ty, cling to gild - ed toys of dust,
4. Since my eyes were fixed on Je - sus, I've lost sight of all be - side;
5. O what won - der! how a - maz - ing! Je - sus, glo - rious King of kings,

all my thoughts and words and do - ings, all my days and all my hours.
let my eyes see Je - sus on - ly, let my lips speak forth his praise.
boast of wealth and fame and pleas - ure; on - ly Je - sus will I trust.
so en - chained my spir - it's vi - sion, look - ing at the Cru - ci - fied.
deigns to call me his be - lov - ed, lets me rest be - neath his wings.

text by Mary D. James, 1889; music by John Stainer from The Crucifixion, 1887, WYCLIFF

* Benediction

* Congregational response

“Threefold Amen”

* Postlude

“Blessed Assurance”
arr. J. Bert Carlson

* Congregation standing as you are able

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – director
Joshua Knight – organ, piano

Men’s Ensemble

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT this Wednesday, October 7. Drive-thru pick-up will be under the porte cochere from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. Registration for meals via Realm is currently open through Tuesday, October 6. The cost of each meal is \$5 with a \$25 maximum for a family of 5 or more. If you need assistance with registering, please contact the church office.

WOMEN OF LMPC: REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for our next Large Group Women's Bible Study gathering this Thursday, October 8. Registration is via Realm, and more information and a schedule can be found at lmpc.org/womens-bible-studies.

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

We celebrate the birth of Alice Marie Barham, born to Amy and Robert Erle Barham on September 24.