

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 8, 2020 | Fellowship Hall Service

# Order of Worship

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Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

\* Call to worship

based on Psalm 107

**Leader:** Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

**All:** Let us give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds. Let us exalt him in the assembly of the people. Let the wise heed these things and consider the great love of the LORD.

\* Hymn of praise

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”



1.O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise, the  
2.My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim, to  
3.He breaks the pow'r of reign - ing sin, he sets the pris' - ner free; his  
4.He speaks and, list' - ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive; the



glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace.  
spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.  
blood can make the foul - est clean, his blood a - vailed for me.  
mourn - ful, brok - en hearts re - joice; the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

*text by Charles Wesley, 1739; music by Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829*

\* Prayer of adoration and the Lord's prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Call to confession

Proverbs 28:13-14

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

## Prayer of confession

taken from Psalm 51

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

**All: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.**

Leader: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

**All: Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

## Silent prayers of confession

### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Hebrews 10

We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Day after day every priest stood and performed his religious duties; again and again he offered the same sacrifices, which could never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

\* Hymn of assurance

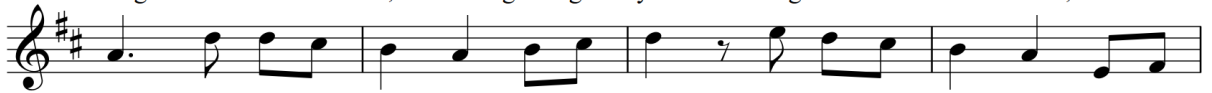
“Before the Throne of God Above”



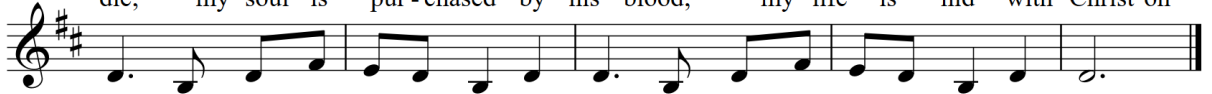
1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect plea, a great High  
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me of the guilt with - in, up - ward I  
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect, spot - less right - eous - ness, the great un -



Priest whose name is Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is gra - ven on his  
look and see him there who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sa - vior  
chang - a - ble I AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with him - self, I can - not



hands, my name is writ - ten on his heart; I know that while in heav'n he  
died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed free; for God, the Just, is sa - tis -  
die; my soul is pur - chased by his blood; my life is hid with Christ on



stands no tongue can bid me thence de - part; no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
fied to look on him and par - don me; to look on him and par - don me.  
high, with Christ, my Sa - vior and my God; with Christ, my Sa - vior and my God.

*text by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1863; music by Vikki Cook, 1997*

**Sacrament of baptism (9:00)**

Mary Clare and Seth Holm bringing Alice Elizabeth Holm

**Hymn of thanksgiving**

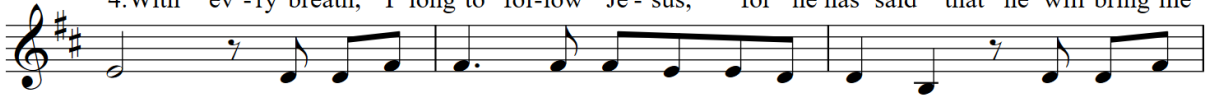
“Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me”

*(continue scrolling for words and music)*

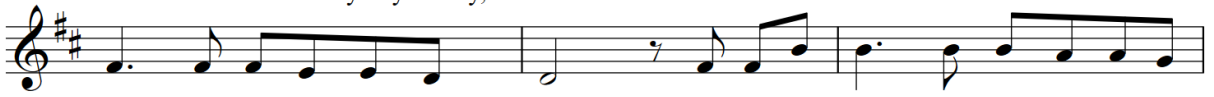
"Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"



1. What gift of grace is Je-sus my re-deem-er? There is no more for heav-en now to  
 2. The night is dark but I am not for-sak-en, for by my side, the Sav-ior, he will  
 3. No fate I dread, I know I am for-giv-en, the fu-ture sure, the price it has been  
 4. With ev'-ry breath, I long to fol-low Je-sus, for he has said that he will bring me



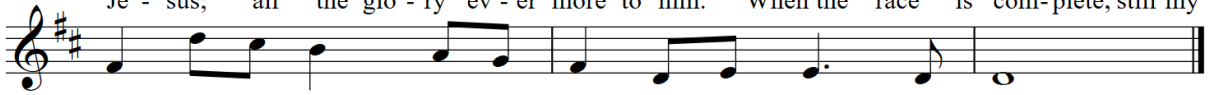
give. He is my joy, my righ-teous-ness and free-dom, my stead-fast  
 stay. I la-bor on in weak-ness and re-joic-ing, for in my  
 paid; for Je-sus bled and suf-fered for my par-don, and he was  
 home. And day by day, I know he will re-new me un-til I



love, my deep and bound-less peace. To this I hold, my hope is on-ly  
 need his pow-er is dis-played. To this I hold, my Shep-herd will de-  
 raised to ov-er-throw the grave. To this I hold, my sin has been de-  
 stand with joy be-fore the throne. To this I hold, my hope is on-ly



Je-sus, for my life is whol-ly bound to his. O how strange and di-vine, I can  
 fend me; through the deep-est val-ley he will lead. O the night has been won and I  
 fea-ted; Je-sus now and ev-er is my plea. O the chains are re-leased, I can  
 Je-sus; all the glo-ry ev-er more to him. When the race is com-plete, still my



sing, "All is mine!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
 shall ov-er-come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
 sing, "I am free!" Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
 lips shall re-peat, "Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

*text and music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, and Rich Thompson, 2018 CityAlight Music*

\* Scripture reading from Acts 21:17-26

Elizabeth Barnes

<sup>17</sup>When we arrived at Jerusalem, the brothers received us warmly. <sup>18</sup>The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James, and all the elders were present. <sup>19</sup>Paul greeted them and reported in detail what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. <sup>20</sup>When they heard this, they praised God. Then they said to Paul: "You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews have believed, and all of them are zealous for the law. <sup>21</sup>They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn away from Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or live according to our customs. <sup>22</sup>What shall we do? They will certainly hear that you have come,

<sup>23</sup>“so do what we tell you. There are four men with us who have made a vow. <sup>24</sup>Take these men, join in their purification rites and pay their expenses, so that they can have their heads shaved. Then everybody will know there is no truth in these reports about you, but that you yourself are living in obedience to the law. <sup>25</sup>As for the Gentile believers, we have written to them our decision that they should abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality.” <sup>26</sup>The next day Paul took the men and purified himself along with them. Then he went to the temple to give notice of the date when the days of purification would end and the offering would be made for each of them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word**

**Sermon**                      “When Following Christ Gets Complicated”  
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Following Christ gets complicated when:

1. a joyful reception is followed by a concerning rumor. (vv. 17-22)

**Application:** Godly wisdom and humility are necessary to walk in God-honoring ways in the face of being misrepresented.

2. a loving accomodation is necessary for the sake of Gospel unity. (vv. 23-26)

**Application:** A heart devoted to the Gospel will gladly take the low place for the sake of unity in the church.

**Pastoral prayer**

\* Hymn of response

"Be Thou My Vision"

1. Be thou my\_\_ vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
2. Be thou my\_\_ wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er  
3. Rich - es I\_\_ heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -  
4. High King of\_\_ heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art, thou my\_\_ best\_\_ thought by  
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my\_\_ great\_ Fa - ther,  
her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and\_\_ thou\_ on - ly,  
heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of\_\_ my\_\_ own heart, what -

day or by night,\_\_ wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy\_\_ pres-ence my light.  
I thy true son;\_\_ thou in me dwell - ing, and\_ I with thee one.  
first in my heart,\_\_ High King of heav - en, my\_\_ trea - sure thou art.  
ev - er be - fall,\_\_ still be my vi - sion, O\_\_ Rul - er of all.

*Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent; Traditional Irish melody*

\* Benediction

\* 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.**

\* Postlude

\* *Congregation standing as you are able*

**Celebrating the baptism** of Alice Elizabeth Holm at the 9:00 service in the fellowship hall today are her parents, Mary Clare and Seth Holm, and her grandparents, Clare and Jonathan Kent.

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### Musicians for this week:

**Ismael Bartolome** – violin  
**Kelsey Bazzel** – vocalist  
**Stephen Bearden** – flugelhorn  
**Greta Erickson** – vocalist

**Calvin Garriott** – piano  
**David Henry** – guitar, vocalist  
**Hannah Lutz** – viola  
**Chapman Whitted** – guitar

### WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT** this Wednesday, November 11. 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, November 10. 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.

**OUR ANNUAL FALL WORK DAY** to remove fallen leaves, weed landscape beds, and do general outdoor cleanup will be held this Saturday, November 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All ages are welcome, with parents requested to supervise your own children. Water will be provided. If you are able, please bring leaf blowers, rakes, clippers, tarps, other yard tools, and gloves.

**LAUNCH SUNDAY FOR THE 2021 BUDGET** will be next Sunday, November 15. Please begin praying about how much you might be able to commit to give in 2021. Members and regular attenders should have received information in the mail this past week, and you can find more details at [lmpc.org/budget-details-2021](https://lmpc.org/budget-details-2021). This year, you can submit your giving plans in three different ways:

- under the “Giving” tab on your Realm profile
- online at [lmpc.org/pledge-2021](https://lmpc.org/pledge-2021)
- completing a giving plan card and placing it in an offering plate or submitting it to the church office

*To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit [lmpc.org/news](https://lmpc.org/news)*



**GIVING UPDATE THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2020**

**Annual Budget:**.....\$5,071,750  
**2020 Giving YTD:**.....3,602,704  
**Remaining Gifts Needed:**.....1,468,996  
**Outstanding Pledge Balance:**.....999,714  
**Unpledged Giving Needed:**.....469,282

We're grateful for the generosity at LMPC so far this year.  
You are welcome to continue giving online, by mailing  
a check, or through your bank bill pay application.  
[lmpc.org/give](http://lmpc.org/give).