



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 29, 2020 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.

**WELCOME TO LMPC!** *We're so glad you are with us today. Please use the tear-off card in the back of your bulletin 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

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Welcome and announcements

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

\* Call to worship

based on Psalm 98 and Luke 1

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**All: The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel.**

Leader: Our souls glorify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

**All: The mighty One has done great things for us—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation!**

\* Hymn of praise

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;  
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

*text by Charles Wesley (1744) and Mark Hunt (1978); music by Rowland Pritchard, 1855*

## \* Prayer of adoration

### Call to confession

based on Romans 3:20-24

No one will be declared righteous in God's sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from the law, has been made known. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

### Hymn of confession

"Come, O Redeemer, Come"

Father enthroned on high, holy, holy;  
ancient, eternal Light, hear our prayer.

*Refrain:* Come, O Redeemer, come; grant us mercy.  
Come, O Redeemer, come; grant us peace.

Lord, save us from the dark of our striving,  
faithless, troubled hearts weighed down. *Refrain*

Look now upon our need; Lord be with us.

Heal us and make us free from our sin. *Refrain*

*text and music by Fernando Ortega © 1996 Metro One, ARR, ICS, UBP, CCLI Lic.#1520*

### Silent prayers of confession

## Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on John 3 and Colossians 1

**Leader:** 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.

**All:** **We joyfully give thanks to the Father, for he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

### \* Hymn of assurance "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

*Refrain:* O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. *Refrain*

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might." *Refrain*

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm and wind:  
and went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find. *Refrain*  
*English carol and English melody, 18th century*

## Lighting the candle of hope

taken from Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for.

A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

"And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

## Hymn of hope

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai’s height,  
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan’s tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Latin, 12th century, translated by John Mason Neale, 1851; Plainsong, 13th century*

## \* Scripture reading from Colossians 2:8-10

*text printed in the bulletin*

Maryellen Mixon (9:00)

David Fowler (11:00)

Frank Hitchings (5:00)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

### Sermon

“The Gift of God’s Fullness in Jesus”  
Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

### Pastoral prayer

## \* Hymn of response

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

*continued*

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*text by Isaac Watts, 1719; music by George F. Handel, 1742*

\* **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.**

**Ministry report**

\* *Congregation standing as you are able*

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Charley Crichton** – bass

**Maria Dassow** – vocalist

**David Henry** – guitar, vocalist

**Maddie Lee** – piano

**Hannah Lutz** – viola

**Sam Miller** – violin

**Fred Verwoerd** – vocalist

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE** at the end of each fellowship hall service next Sunday, December 6, and at the end of each sanctuary service on December 13, for the purpose of voting on the slate of nominees for the offices of elder and deacon. The meetings are being held on two separate Sundays in order to accommodate the communion schedule. In addition, a brief meeting of LMPC, Inc., will be held to elect a trustee at the end of each congregational meeting. **Please note: those worshipping at home who wish to participate in a meeting are welcome to gather in the fellowship hall lobby on December 6 or in the chapel on December 13 by either 9:50 a.m. or 11:50 a.m. to receive a ballot. All voting must be done in person.**

## **NEW SERMON SERIES: CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH THE APOSTLE PAUL**

As we approach the celebration of Jesus' birth, who better to help us consider the riches of his grace than the apostle Paul? In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul quoted the prophet Isaiah, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him," (Isa. 64:4) and then added, "but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit." (1 Cor. 2:10) The mystery and wonder of the Gospel completely captivated Paul, so much so that he considered everything else in this world to be "a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus" as his Lord. (Phil. 3:8)

Since we have spent months now journeying with Paul in the book of Acts, it seemed a particularly appropriate year to turn to his letters during Advent and Christmas. With Paul—and like Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the wise men—we will marvel at the wondrous gift we have been given. A year ago, none of us could have imagined celebrating Christmas in the midst of a pandemic, but no matter what the future holds, we can rejoice because there is truly nothing that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:39)

## **LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

In the mid-19th century, German theologian Johann Hinrich Wichern was the first to weave evergreen boughs into a wagon wheel adorned with candles as a way for children to count the days until Christmas. Since that time, advent wreaths have grown in meaning and use as a devotional and liturgical tool for Christians to celebrate Advent. The advent wreaths we are using at LMPC are full of symbolic meaning: the circular shape reminds us of God's never-ending love; the evergreen branches point to God's promise of eternal life through his Son; the red holly berries signify Jesus' blood shed on the cross; and the candles of hope, peace, joy, love, and Christ himself remind us of the true Light of the World, whom the darkness can never overcome.

## Colossians 2:8-10

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup>and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.



## SERMON NOTES

“The Gift of God’s Fullness in Jesus”

*Colossians 2:8-10*

Because God gives himself in fullness to us at Christmas, we can:

1. rightly resist the emptiness of world-centered thinking and living. (v. 8)

2. richly receive God’s fullness in Jesus Christ. (vv. 9-10; 1:15-20)

### Colossians 1:15-20

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. <sup>19</sup>For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**WE ARE CONTINUING TO ACCEPT PLEDGES TOWARD THE 2021 BUDGET.**

We are currently at 39% of the budget pledged. You can find more details in our brochure, available in the fellowship hall lobby or sanctuary narthex, or at [lmpc.org/budget-details-2021](http://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](http://lmpc.org/pledge-2021)
- completing a giving plan card and placing it in an offering plate or submitting it to the church office

**THIS IS THE SECOND AND FINAL WEEK OF OUR HOLIDAY TOY COLLECTION** for Hope for the Inner City's Christmas Store! Please leave your donations under the porte cochere between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. today, November 29, and between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. from Monday, November 30 through Wednesday, December 2. If you are unable to donate during these hours, please contact Stephanie Young to make alternate arrangements. Visit [lmpc.org/christmas-store](http://lmpc.org/christmas-store) for gift suggestions.

**OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HYMN SING** will take place next Sunday, December 6, at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Nursery will be provided at the 4:00 p.m. service only. Registration via Realm is required and will open tomorrow, November 30. A livestream at [lmpc.org](http://lmpc.org) and on our Vimeo page will be offered at 4:00 p.m.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** to be placed in the sanctuary or fellowship hall in honor or in memory of a loved one, please visit [lmpc.org/christmas-flowers](http://lmpc.org/christmas-flowers) to submit and contribute online, or contact the church office at 423.821.4528. The last day to request is Wednesday, December 9.

**OUR CHRISTMAS CONCERT, "PRINCE OF PEACE,"** will take place on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please arrive 15 minutes early for a prelude before each concert. Registration via Realm is required and will open on Monday, December 7. A livestream will be offered at 4:00 p.m., and nursery will be provided at 4:00 p.m. only.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 5:00 P.M. SERVICE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL WILL BE SUSPENDED** for the month of December, and will resume on January 3, 2021.

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

**MEMBERS & VISITORS -  
PLEASE REACH OUT TO US!**

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**NAME**

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- Speak to a pastor
- Speak to someone in the church office
- Receive email from LMPC

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**EMAIL**

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT:

- Serving at LMPC
- Becoming a member at LMPC
- Joining a small group
- Joining a Bible study
  - men's
  - women's
- Prayer opportunities

*If you are a first-time or repeat visitor, please fill out your information on the other side of this card so we can follow up with you.*

**PRAYER REQUESTS &  
COMMENTS**

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Include request in the Prayer List?

Yes  No

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

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**PHONE**       DAY       EVENING

*Please deposit this card in the offering plate.*

## WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE TODAY!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help in any way we can. Feel free to fill out your information on this tear-off card and place it in the offering plate. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!

I AM A:

- First time visitor  
 Repeat visitor

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE (IF ATTENDING TODAY) \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN (IF ATTENDING TODAY) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL\* \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE CELL \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE EMAIL\* \_\_\_\_\_

*\*By supplying your email address(es), you consent to receive email from LMPC.*

## TODAY AT LMPC

*Sunday, November 29*

9:00 a.m. Worship service *sanctuary & fellowship hall*  
11:00 a.m. Worship service *sanctuary and fellowship hall*  
5:00 p.m. Worship service *fellowship hall*

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

*For more events this week, visit [lmpc.org/calendar](http://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](http://lmpc.org/realm). For additional help with Realm, please email Caitlyn Whitted at [caitlyn@lmpc.org](mailto:caitlyn@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](http://lmpc.org)  
Email: [info@lmpc.org](mailto: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.