



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 20, 2020 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 9:00 and 11:00 a.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 do not have a nursery available in the morning services at this time.
- 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

Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

* **Call to worship**

taken from Isaiah 60 and Luke 2

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

All: **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests!**

* **Hymn of praise**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light; lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
very God, begotten, not created; *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God in the highest; *Refrain*

Latin hymn, attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751; music from John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

* **Prayer of adoration**

* **Advent affirmation**

Leader: Christians, what do you believe concerning Jesus Christ?

All: We believe Jesus Christ is the eternal Word made flesh. He is the long-awaited Savior: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. He is fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Spirit of God and born of the virgin Mary, sent by God to reconcile the world to himself. To him be all glory and honor for ever and ever.

Call to confession

based on Titus 2

The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, a people eager to do what is good.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

based on Ephesians 2:4-7 and 1 John 3:1a

Leader: Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace we have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

All: How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!

* **Hymn of assurance**

“The First Noel”

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

continued

Then let us all, with one accord,
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
that hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.
traditional English carol, 17th century

Lighting the candle of love

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

based on John 1:14 and 1 John 4:9-12

Hymn of love “Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;
stooping so low, but sinners raising, heav'nward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
text by Frank Houghton, 1894-1972; French carol melody, arr. Charles H. Kitson, 1930

* **Scripture reading from Galatians 4:1-7**
text printed in the bulletin

Pete Vaughn (9:00)
Brooks Hilger (11:00)

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon “The Blessing of Christmas: Our Wondrous Adoption”
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response “From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable”

From the squalor of a borrowed stable, by the Spirit and a virgin’s faith,
to the anguish and the shame of scandal, came the Savior of the human race!
But the skies were filled with the praise of heav’n, shepherds listen as the angels tell
of the gift of God come down to man at the dawning of Immanuel!

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners, humble servant in the Father’s hands,
filled with power and the Holy Spirit, filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, he walked my road and he felt my pain, joys and sorrows that I know so well;
yet his righteous steps give me hope again—I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend’s betrayal, he was lifted on a cruel cross;
he was punished for a world’s transgressions, he was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, he fights for me, loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
and with a shout our souls are free—death defeated by Immanuel!

Now he’s standing in the place of honor, crowned with glory on the highest throne,
interceding for his own beloved, till his Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds, hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
but the bride will run to her Lover’s arms, giving glory to Immanuel!
text and music by Stuart Townend © 1999 Thankyou Music. ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* 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*

Musicians for this week:

Genna Christie – vocalist
David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Maddie Lee – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola
Rebekah Risley – vocalist
Fred Verwoerd – vocalist

Galatians 4:1-7

¹What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. ²He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. ³So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. ⁴But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

RESULTS OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS ON 12/6/20 & 12/13/20

We are glad to report that, after counting the ballots, we did have a quorum and the full slate of officer nominees was approved. On the same ballot, Lee Ballenger was elected as a new director to serve a four-year term on the board of LMPC, Inc. Listed below are the members who were approved to begin officer training for the class of 2024.

ELDER NOMINEES

Glenn Breazeale
Bill Davis
Pete Frederick
Allen Jackson
Will Jackson
Chip Kelley
Don Kent
Jason Lehn
John Plating
Miller Welborn

DEACON NOMINEES

Robby Bosshardt
Ryan Cleary
Mallory Dean
Alan Doak
Johnny Garth
Tom Ireland
Lee Perry
Tim Sorrell
Ron Thomas
Rob Witcher

THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

- Belva Bailey** by Don Bailey, Sr., Laura and Don Bailey, Jr., and Lori and Kevin Chilton
- Peggy C. Ballenger** by Lee and Ross Ballenger
- Dick Bodine** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison
- Kaky, Hugh, and Michael Brown** by Zane and Greg Brown
- Joseph Cadario** by Janice and Wes Moore
- Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Caulkins III** by their children, Wilford Caulkins IV, Betsy Caulkins Bookout, and Caroline Caulkins Bentley
- Atticus Bartholomew Centurion Doe** by the Doe Family
- Jewel and R.D. Clark** by Kim and Larry Kaye
- Ernestelle Parker Durrett** by Lisa and Joe Hailey
- Dick Fowler** by Mems and Sam Bicking
- Lynda Fray** by Margaret and Jeff Compton and the Wykoff family
- Bill Frazier** by Jan and Steve Sherbak
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gandy** by Alice and Dick O'Ferrall
- Jennie Moore Gregory** by Janice and Wes Moore
- Julia Sellers Hailey** by Lisa and Joe Hailey
- Merilyn and Ross Hall** by Stephanie and David Wharton
- Evelyn and C.H. Halvorson** by Marni and Steve Halvorson
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Harris, Jr.** by Lee and Ross Ballenger
- Charles H. Harris III** by Lee and Ross Ballenger
- Frank Jemison** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison
- Jill Jenkins** by Jan and Keith Michaels
- Marianne and Howard Jenkins** by Jan and Keith Michaels
- Glenna and Roy Kaye** by Kim and Larry Kaye
- Marilyn Compton Keck** by the Jeffery Compton family
- Bunny and Ted King** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison
- Mr. and Mrs. Raymond S. Mathews** by Lee and Ross Ballenger
- Megan Grace Matthews** by Janice and Wes Moore
- Harriet and Glenn Michaels** by Jan and Keith Michaels
- The Very Rev. Norman and Tillie Ann Milbank** by Marni and Steve Halvorson
- Michael Mooney** by his family

Westley A. Moore, Sr. by Janice and Wes Moore
Hal Morris by Linda Morris and family
Dr. and Mrs. Carter O'Ferrall by Alice and Dick O'Ferrall
Scotty Probasco by Zane and Greg Brown
Carol Robinson by Janice and Wes Moore
George Robinson by Janice and Wes Moore
Dr. William Roy by the Moldenhauers
Doug Sizemore by Evelyn Sizemore
Judith Stegall by her daughters, Kristen Brock and Kelley Mitchell
Bertha Stephenson by Janice and Wes Moore
Frank Stephenson by Janice and Wes Moore
Dan Teague by the Teague and Robbins families
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thatcher, Jr. by Elizabeth and Carter Thatcher

THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN HONOR OF:

Nell and Bob Boone by Jennifer, Tom, Thomas, and Caroline West
Sarah Fowler by the Smisson family
Lori and Matt Hammond by Anne and Trey Carr
Robin and Bret Moldenhauer by Anne and Trey Carr
Anne and Peter Platt by Anne and Trey Carr
Carla Roy by the Moldenhauers
The Zach Walley Family by Betsy Caldwell
Wednesday evening prayer group & those faithful in prayer by Marni & Steve Halvorson
Lindsey and Robert Whittaker by Anne and Trey Carr

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: We want to remind our members and our regular attenders that registration is required for all of the Christmas Eve services as well as the nursery being offered at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. We're hoping to be able to accommodate first-time visitors and people in our community who are unaware of registration, so members who have not registered should plan to watch the livestream at home. You can find information on how to register and also how to watch the livestream at lmpc.org/christmas-2020.

In order for us to move a large number of people safely in and out of our church on Christmas Eve, it is very important that everyone abide by the following guidelines:

- Once you have registered, please make note of both the time and the location (sanctuary, chapel, or fellowship hall). **Come at the right time, and come to the right place.**
- Please arrive NO MORE than 30 minutes prior to each service. Our goal is to have everybody from one service exit as quickly as possible at the end of the service before the group coming to the next service arrives. **Smooth exiting + smooth entering = safe social distancing.**
- Please do not send one person to save seats for your whole group/family. **Arrive together—be seated together.** It will not be possible to reserve an entire pew or row.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Like you, we hope that all of these guidelines will be a distant memory next Christmas.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CORRESPONDING WITH A SUPPORTED MISSIONARY during the holiday season? If so, please contact Stephanie Young in the Missions Office to be paired with a supported missionary or national partner. Prayer and communication are key parts of being a supporting church. Stephanie can be reached at stephanie@lmpc.org.

A NEW MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP FOR PEOPLE DEALING WITH A CANCER DIAGNOSIS is being formed and will soon start meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in being part of this group, please contact Chad Middlebrooks or another pastor for more information.

THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS IS SCHEDULED to be held January 22 through January 24 and January 31, 2021. This class is for those interested in joining LMPC or learning more about what we believe. You can register for the class by emailing julie@lmpc.org or calling 423-424-5973 by Friday, January 8. For more information visit lmpc.org/intro-to-lmpc.

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

2020 GIVING UPDATE THROUGH DECEMBER 13

Annual Budget:.....\$5,071,750
2020 Giving YTD:.....4,284,726
Remaining Gifts Needed:.....787,024
Outstanding Pledge Balance:.....330,115
Unpledged Giving Needed:.....456,909

- Thank you for your faithful giving in 2020. With the Christmas season upon us, we ask that you continue to keep the remaining 2020 LMPC financial needs in your prayers. You can find various ways to give at lmpc.org/give.
- Please note that year-end gifts must either be received online or in the church office by Thursday, December 31, or have a USPS postmark no later than December 31, to be deductible in 2020.

2021 PLEDGING UPDATE

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO, you can submit your giving plans for 2021 online at your Giving tab on Realm or at lmpc.org/pledge-2021. You can also place a giving plan card in the offering plate or deliver it to David Fowler in the church office. So far, 50% of the budget has been pledged with a little over 200 families submitting a giving plan. The Stewardship Committee has asked all LMPC families to consider submitting a giving plan for 2021 by December 31. Find out more about pledging, ways to give, and the 2021 budget at lmpc.org/give.

NAME _____

I WOULD LIKE TO:

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

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**

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:

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, December 20

9:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
6:00 p.m.	Christmas Caroling	<i>community</i>

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 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
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.