

# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**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 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

Prelude

Pastorale on "Of the Father's Love Begotten" Albert Zabel

Welcome and announcements

Brian Salter, lead pastor

# 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

# \* 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!



French carol and melody, arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1937, GLORIA

# \* 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.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should

be called children of God!

\* Hymn of assurance

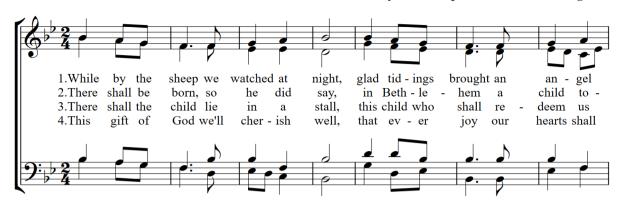
All:

"While by the Sheep We Watched at Night" (please see the following page for words and music)

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

Tim Sorrell (9:00) David Barnes (11:00)

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







text is German carol; music is traditional German melody, arr. Hugo Jungst, ca. 1890, jungst

\* 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 Blessing of Christmas: Our Wondrous Adoption" Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

\* Hymn of response

"Once in Royal David's City" (please see the following page for words and music)

- \* Benediction
- \* Congregational response

"Threefold Amen"

\* Postlude

"Christmas Fantasia" Carl Mueller

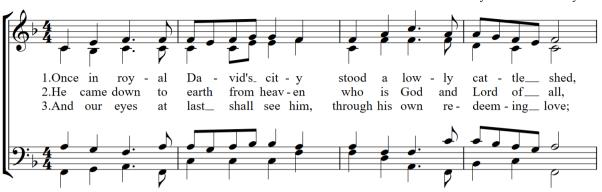
\* Congregation standing as you are able

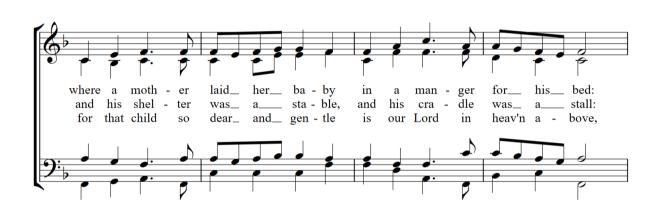
Musicians for this week:

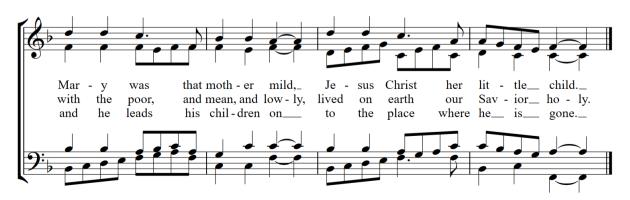
Joshua Knight - organ

Adalynn Wykoff - piano

"Once in Royal David's City"







text by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848; music by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849, IRBY

#### Galatians 4:1-7

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

# **SERMON NOTES**

"The Blessing of Christmas: Our Wondrous Adoption" Galatians 4:1-7

1.	The wonder of Christ's Incarnation (v. 4)				
	• The timing: "when the time had fully come"				
	• The origin: "God sent his Son"				
	• The manner: "born of a woman"				
	• The condition: "born under the law"				
2.	The fundamental reason for Christ's Incarnation: to redeem those under the law (v. 5a)				
3.	The glorious reality springing from Christ's Incarnation: our adoption as full heirs (vv. 5b-7)				

#### THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

Belva Bailey by Don Bailey, Sr., Laura and Don Bailey, Jr., and Lori and Kevin Chilton
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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

<u>Frank Jemison</u> 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

<u>Carol Robinson</u> by Janice and Wes Moore

George Robinson by Janice and Wes Moore

**Dr. William Roy** by the Moldenhauers

**Doug Sizemore** by Evelyn Sizemore

<u>Judith Stegall</u> 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

### 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**

#### **DEACON NOMINEES**

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

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

#### 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.
- <u>Please arrive NO MORE than 30 minutes prior to each service</u>. 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.

### 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.

### TODAY AT LMPC

### Sunday, December 20

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

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 about 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.

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.