

# 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

"Unto Us Is Born a Son"

Michael Praetorius, arr. Aaron Miller

Omega and Alpha He! Let the organ thunder, while the choir with peals of glee rends the air asunder.

#### Welcome and announcements

Brian Salter, lead pastor

\* Call to worship

based on Psalm 103

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

All: He forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases, he redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with love and compassion. He satisfies our desires with good things so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Leader: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to the people of Israel. The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and

abounding in love.

All: The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom

rules over all. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his

dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul!

\* Hymn of praise

"O Sing of Christ"

(please see the following page for words and music)

\* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

based on Philippians 2:5-11

Leader: What do the scriptures teach us about Jesus Christ?

All: That he, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking

the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and

became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God

the Father.

Call to confession

Isaiah 64:6 and Proverbs 28:13

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Silent prayers of confession



text by Stephen P. Starke, 1996; music is traditional English melody, forest green

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations; to bring peace among brothers, to make music from the heart.

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins. text by Howard Thurman, 1973; music by Dan Forrest, 2014

### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on 2 Corinthians 5 and Zephaniah 3

Leader: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A11:

Therefore, be glad and rejoice! For the LORD has taken away our punishment. The LORD our God is with us, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in us, he will quiet us with his love, he will rejoice over us with singing.

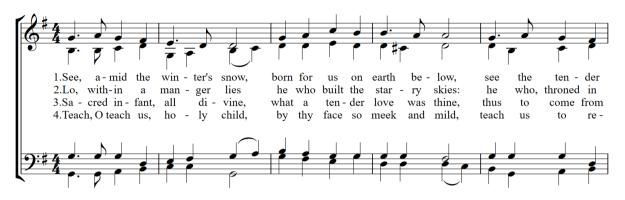
## \* Hymn of assurance

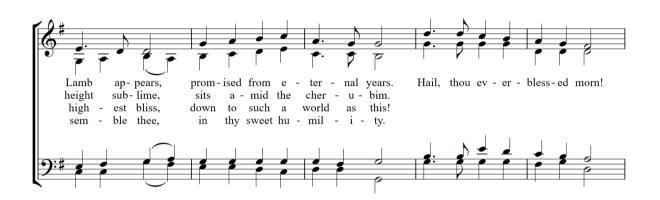
"See, amid the Winter's Snow" (please see the following page for words and music)

\* Scripture reading from Romans 3:19-24 text printed in the bulletin

Brian Salter (9:00) Caroline West (11:00)

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







text by Edward Caswall, 1851; music by John Goss, 1870, see AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

\* 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 Gift of Perfect Righteousness in Jesus" Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

Pastoral prayer

\* Hymn of response

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain" (please see the following page for words and music)

\* Benediction

\* Congregational response

"Threefold Amen"

\* Postlude

Fugue in B Major *Camille Saint-Saëns* 

\* Congregation standing as you are able

Musicians for this week:

Ensemble
Joy Gibbons – director

Joshua Knight – organ Kristin Wykoff – soloist



text by Charles Wesley, 1738; music by Thomas Campbell, 1825, SAGINA

#### **WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE** at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary this Thursday, December 31. Please register via Realm to reserve your seat. All are welcome!

**LOOKING AHEAD**: At the beginning of January we will continue our regular Sunday schedule, with sanctuary and fellowship hall services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., and live streaming at 9:00 a.m. We hope to return to having a 5:00 p.m. fellowship hall service and also offer additional activities later in the month.

WOMEN OF LMPC: JOIN US THIS WINTER as we continue our study in the Psalms. "Semester in the Psalms" large group meetings begin on Thursday, January 7 and small group meetings begin on Wednesday, January 13. We will have opportunities to participate both in person and virtually. New registration for small groups will open in January. Registration for each Large Group will open one week in advance, and recordings will be available at lmpc.org/women after each event is over. If you have any questions, please email women@lmpc.org.

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@Impc.org or calling 423-424-5973 by Friday, January 8. For more information visit Impc.org/intro-to-Impc.

To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit lmpc.org/news

#### Romans 3:19-24

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. <sup>21</sup>But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

#### 2020 GIVING UPDATE THROUGH DECEMBER 20

Annual Budget:	\$5,071,750
2020 Giving YTD:	4,478,064
Remaining Gifts Needed:	593,686
Outstanding Pledge Balance:	496,260
Unpledged Giving Needed:	97,426

- Thank you for your faithful giving in 2020. With the end of 2020 nearing, we ask that you continue to keep the remaining 2020 LMPC financial needs in prayer. 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 **this 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, 55% of the budget has been pledged. The Stewardship Committee has asked all LMPC families to consider submitting a giving plan for 2021 by this Thursday, December 31. Find out more about pledging, ways to give, and the 2021 budget at lmpc.org/give.

# **SERMON NOTES**

"The Gift of Perfect Righteousness in Jesus"  $Romans\ 3:19-24$ 

On Christmas our Savior made himself known because:

1.	righteousness can never be achieved by our obeying the law. (vv. 19-20)
2.	righteousness from God was made known exactly as promised. (v. 21)
3.	righteousness can only be received as a free gift of God. (vv. 22-24)

#### TODAY AT LMPC

#### Sunday, December 27

9:00 a.m.	Worship service	sanctuary & fellowhip hall
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	sanctuary & fellowhip hall

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.