



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 10, 2021 | **Sanctuary Service** | 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

**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

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**Prelude**

*“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”  
Philipp Nicolai*

**Welcome and announcements**

Brian Salter, lead pastor

**Introit**

*“Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand”*

Ensemble

Great God, we sing that mighty hand by which, supported, still we stand.  
The op'ning year thy mercy shows; that mercy crowns it till it close.

By day, by night, at home, abroad, still are we guarded by our God;  
by his incessant bounty fed, by his unerring counsel led.

With grateful hearts the past we own; the future, all to us unknown,  
we to your guardian care commit, and, peaceful, leave before your feet.

In scenes exalted or depressed, you are our joy, you are our rest.  
Your goodness all our hopes shall raise, adored through all our changing days. Amen.  
*text by Philip Doddridge; music by Franklin Ritter*

**\* Call to worship**

based on Isaiah 60 and 2 Corinthians 4

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you!

All: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

Leader: Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

All: For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

**\* Hymn of praise**

*"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"  
(please see the following page for words and music)*

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**\* Affirmation of faith (11:00)**

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,  
2. Dark and cheer - less is the dawn till your glo - ries shine on me;  
3. Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of righ - teous - ness, a - rise, tri - umph o - ver shades of night:  
joy - less is the day's re - turn till your mer - cy's beams I see:  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief:

Day - spring from on high be near; Day - star in my heart ap - pear!  
as they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.  
more and more your - self dis play, shin - ing to the per - fect day!

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

Cara and Benjamin Palmer bringing Emmaline Hardy Palmer

## **Call to confession**

1 John 1:5-9

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

## **Silent prayers of confession**

### **Choral prayer**

“Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star”

Ensemble

Come, thou bright and Morning Star, Light of Light without beginning;  
shine upon us from afar that we may be kept from sinning.  
Drive away by thy clear light our dark night.

Let thy grace, like morning dew falling soft on barren places,  
comfort, quicken, and renew our dry souls and dying graces;  
bless thy flock from thy rich store evermore.

*text by Christian Knorr von Rosenroth; music from Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1704,  
MORGENGLANZ DER EWIGKEIT*

## **Assurance of God's pardoning grace**

Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

\* Hymn of assurance

"Blessed Assurance"

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine!— O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-  
2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light,— vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my  
3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest,— I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and

vine!— Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,— born of his Spir-it, washed in his  
sight;— an-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove,— ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of  
blest;— watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,— filled with his good-ness, lost in his

blood.— This is my sto-ry, this is my song,— prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day  
love.—  
love.—

long;— this is my sto-ry, this is my song,— prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

\* **Scripture reading from Acts 22:22-29**  
*text printed in the bulletin*

Brian Salter (9:00)  
Lauren Caldwell (11:00)

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

\* **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** "God's Wisdom in a Volatile World"  
Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

**Pastoral prayer**

\* **Hymn of response**

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"  
*(please see the following page for words and music)*

\* **Benediction**

\* **Congregational response**

"Threefold Amen"

**Postlude** Introduction and Toccata  
*Girolamo Frescobaldi*

\* *Congregation standing as you are able*

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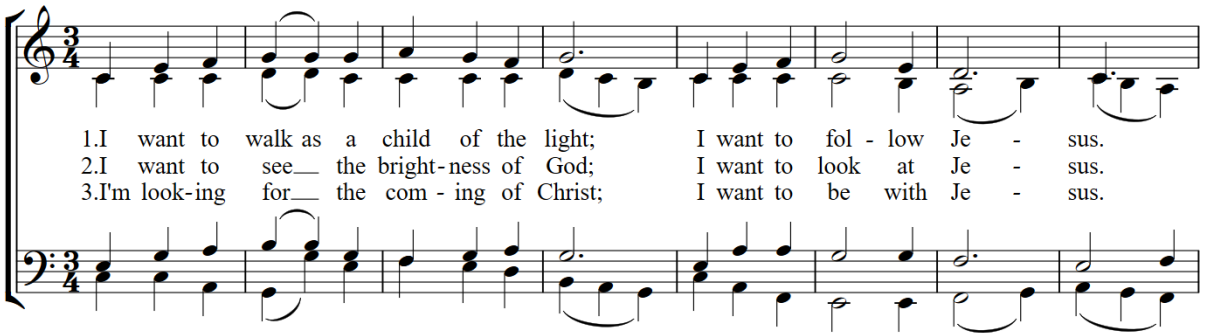
**Musicians for this week:**

**Ensemble**  
**Joy Gibbons** – director

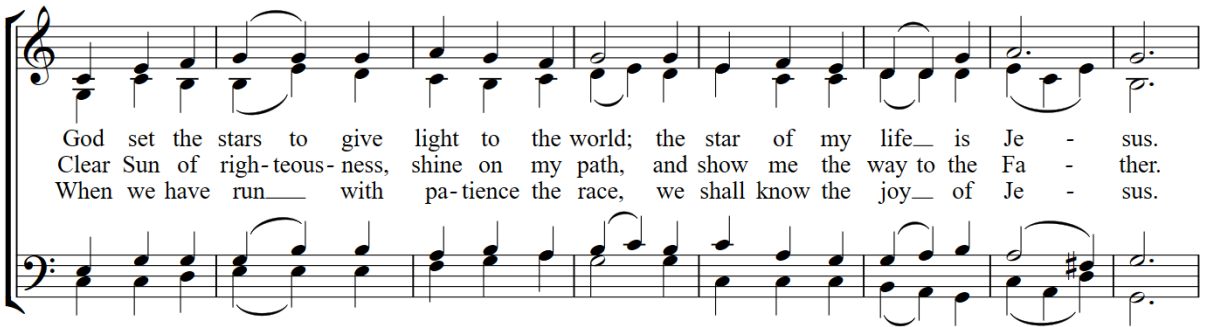
**Joshua Knight** – organ

**Celebrating the baptism** of Emmaline Hardy Palmer at the 9:00 service in the sanctuary today are her parents, Cara and Benjamin Palmer, her grandparents, Patti and Mark Palmer, and Becky and Steve Childers, and her great-grandparents, Bill and Marilyn Heath, and Albert Steenwyk.

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God; I want to look at Je - sus.  
3. I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ; I want to be with Je - sus.

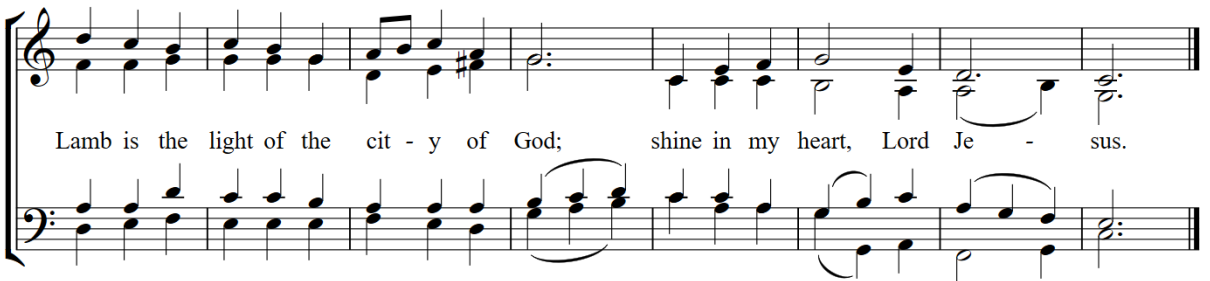


God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my life is Je - sus.  
Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain:*



In him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God; shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.



## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO**, you can submit your giving plans for 2021 online at your Giving tab on Realm or at [lmpc.org/pledge-2021](http://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, 60% of the budget has been pledged with 266 families submitting a giving plan. Find out more about pledging and the 2021 budget at [lmpc.org/give](http://lmpc.org/give).

**WOMEN OF LMPC: JOIN US THIS WINTER** as we continue our study in the Psalms. Small group meetings begin this week. If you are not already part of a small group and would like to join one, please email [women@lmpc.org](mailto:women@lmpc.org). You can find the full semester's schedule for both large and small group meetings at [lmpc.org/women](http://lmpc.org/women).

**THE STUDY RESOURCE "FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN"** resumes this week at [lmpc.org/sermons](http://lmpc.org/sermons). This resource provides a way for small groups and individuals to pursue further study of each sermon passage. There is also a "family dinner table" section that is designed to help families and households have a meal-time conversation around a few questions or issues raised by the passage being studied each week.

**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.

**OUR WINTER 2021 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** will be held during the 11:00 a.m. Sunday School hour from January 17 through March 7. The class will be conducted over Zoom and will be taught by Bill Davis on the topic of "Kingdom Calling and the Secular World." If you would like to attend this online class, please register via Realm or at [lmpc.org/sunday-school](http://lmpc.org/sunday-school). You will receive a Zoom invitation with instructions prior to each Sunday's class so that you can log on and participate in the class. More information and a schedule can be found on the website.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN GIVING THANKS** for the Lord's financial provision in 2020! Our preliminary numbers show that 2020 giving was \$4.95 million. While this was under budget, it more than meets the financial needs of the church due to spending that was significantly less than budgeted.

**ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, WE SENT AN EMAIL** to all adult members which included the findings from the GRACE investigation as well as our response to GRACE's recommendations in light of their report. We ask that you please be in prayer as we begin to implement these recommendations. We will be sending more information soon about a town hall meeting to answer any questions you may have.

## Acts 22:22-29

<sup>22</sup>The crowd listened to Paul until he said this. Then they raised their voices and shouted, "Rid the earth of him! He's not fit to live!" <sup>23</sup>As they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, <sup>24</sup>the commander ordered Paul to be taken into the barracks. He directed that he be flogged and questioned in order to find out why the people were shouting at him like this.

<sup>25</sup>As they stretched him out to flog him, Paul said to the centurion standing there, "Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who hasn't even been found guilty?" <sup>26</sup>When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and reported it. "What are you going to do?" he asked. "This man is a Roman citizen." <sup>27</sup>The commander went to Paul and asked, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?" "Yes, I am," he answered. <sup>28</sup>Then the commander said, "I had to pay a big price for my citizenship." "But I was born a citizen," Paul replied. <sup>29</sup>Those who were about to question him withdrew immediately. The commander himself was alarmed when he realized that he had put Paul, a Roman citizen, in chains.

**The rosebud in the fellowship hall today** is for the birth of Ruth Debora Joy Riley, born to Kara and Scott Riley on December 31.

## SERMON NOTES

### “God’s Wisdom in a Volatile World”

*Acts 22:22-29*

#### The volatile scene

1. A mob’s angry response to the good news being extended to the Gentiles (vv. 22-24)
2. A disciple’s humble and wise pursuit of just treatment in order that he may advance the Gospel (vv. 25-29)

#### The vital lesson

3. As we seek to carry out God’s mission, we need utter dependence upon him and divine wisdom from him in order to discern when to faithfully endure suffering or rightly challenge that which is wrong.

God’s wisdom practically applied:

- Paul delays his appeal for justice until after being flogged. (Acts 16:23, 37)
- Paul determines to face even death in Jerusalem to serve Jesus. (Acts 21:13)
- Paul defines the God-given role of government to reward good and punish wrong. (Romans 13:4-5)
- Paul directs us to live faithfully before God by doing good for his glory always. (Col. 3:17)
- Paul defends enduring being wronged if it means we avoid doing wrong. (1 Cor. 6:7)

## TODAY AT LMPC

*Sunday, January 10*

|            |                                     |                 |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 a.m.  | Worship service .....               | sanctuary       |
| 9:00 a.m.  | Worship service with communion..... | fellowship hall |
| 11:00 a.m. | Worship service .....               | sanctuary       |
| 11:00 a.m. | Worship service with communion..... | 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 about 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.

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.