



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 17, 2021 | Sanctuary Service

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”
Columbia Harmony by William Moore, 1825
arr. Heather Sorenson

Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

* Call to worship

Psalm 146:1-3, 5

Leader: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

All: I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men who cannot save.

All: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God.

* Hymn of praise

“O God beyond All Praising”

1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and
2. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that
sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only
we who know your favor may serve you as our King; and whether our to-
wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and
morrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and
mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your
rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your
word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

text by Michael Perry, 1982; music from Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, 1918, THAXTED

*** Prayer of adoration**

*** Affirmation of faith**

based on 1 Peter 1:3-9

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

All: He has given us an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade—kept in heaven for us. We, through faith, are shielded by God’s power until the coming of salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Leader: In this we greatly rejoice, though now for a little while we may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that our faith may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

All: Though we have not seen him, we love him. Even though we do not see him now, we believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for we are receiving the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.

Call to confession

taken from Isaiah 30

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.”

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! How gracious he will be when you cry for help!

Silent prayers of confession

Choral prayer

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

Ensemble

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
by his love and pow’r controlling all I do and all I say.
May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through God’s love and pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in ev’rything,
that I may be calm to comfort the sick and sorrowing.
May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea,
Christ exalting, self abasing, for this is victory!

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus as onward I will go!

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
by his love and pow'r controlling all I do and all I say.
May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through God's love and pow'r.

May the mind of Christ live in me. Amen.

text by Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; music by Lloyd Larson

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on 1 Peter 2 and Galatians 2

Leader: Jesus Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed. For we were like sheep going astray, but now we have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls.

All: **We have been crucified with Christ and we no longer live, but Christ lives in us. The life we live in the body, we live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us.**

*** Hymn of assurance**

*"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
(continue scrolling for words and music)*

“'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to take him at his word; just to rest up-
2. O how sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to trust his clean-sing blood; just in sim - ple
3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Je - sus, just from sin and self to cease; just from Je - sus
4. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, pre-cious Je - sus, Sav - ior, Friend; and I know that

on his pro-mise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord." Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust him!
faith to plunge me 'neath the heal - ing, clean-sing flood!
sim-ply ta - king life and rest, and joy and peace.
thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.

How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Je - sus, Je - sus,

pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust him more!

³⁰The next day, since the commander wanted to find out exactly why Paul was being accused by the Jews, he released him and ordered the chief priests and all the Sanhedrin to assemble. Then he brought Paul and had him stand before them.

¹Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, "My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day."

²At this the high priest Ananias ordered those standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth. ³Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit there to judge me according to the law, yet you yourself violate the law by commanding that I be struck!" ⁴Those who were standing near Paul said, "You dare to insult God's high priest?" ⁵Paul replied, "Brothers, I did not realize that he was the high priest; for it is written: 'Do not speak evil about the ruler of your people.' "

⁶Then Paul, knowing that some of them were Sadducees and the others Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin, "My brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee. I stand on trial because of my hope in the resurrection of the dead." ⁷When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. ⁸(The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, and that there are neither angels nor spirits, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all.) ⁹There was a great uproar, and some of the teachers of the law who were Pharisees stood up and argued vigorously. "We find nothing wrong with this man," they said. "What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?" ¹⁰The dispute became so violent that the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them. He ordered the troops to go down and take him away from them by force and bring him into the barracks.

¹¹The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome."

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

"Paul Stands before the Sanhedrin"

Brian Salter, lead pastor

1. A bold assertion of a clear conscience (vv. 22:30-23:1)
2. A character-revealing interchange (vv. 23:2-5)
3. A singular focus on the resurrection (vv. 23:6-10)
4. An encouraging visit from the risen Christ (v. 23:11)

BIG IDEA: Believers never face any opposition without the hope of the resurrection and the comfort of the risen Christ.

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"Lift High the Cross"

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim, till all the world

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

a - dore _____ his sa - cred name. 1. Come, breth - ren, fol - low
2. Thy king - dom come, that
3. For thy blest cross which

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three alternative verses provided for the final phrase.

where our Sav - ior trod, our King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
earth's de-spair may cease be - neath the _____ shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.
doth for us a - tone, cre - a - tion's _____ prais - es rise be - fore thy throne.

The third system of musical notation concludes the hymn. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

text by George W. Kitchin (1887), rev. by Michael R. Newbolt (1916); music by Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916, CRUCIFER

* Benediction

* Congregational response

"Threefold Amen"

Postlude

“Blessed Assurance”

Duane Funderburk

* Congregation standing as you are able

Musicians for this week:

Ensemble

Joy Gibbons – director

Eun-Mee Jeong – violin

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

The flowers in the sanctuary today are from the wedding of Jia Xin Ying and Samuel Caine on January 16, 2021.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. You can also place a giving plan card in the offering plate or deliver it to David Fowler in the church office. So far, 62% of the budget has been pledged with 275 families submitting a giving plan. Find out more about pledging and the 2021 budget at lmpc.org/give.

WOMEN OF LMPC: JOIN US THIS WINTER as we continue our study in the Psalms. Our next Large Group meeting will be this Thursday, January 21. You can register and find the full semester’s schedule for both large and small group meetings at lmpc.org/women.

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.

THIS TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, AT 7:30 P.M. WE WILL HOLD A VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETING via Zoom’s webinar platform to discuss the findings from the GRACE report. During the meeting, you will be able to submit any questions you may have. Registration is required. Members should have received an email with registration information this past Thursday. If you did not receive an email, please contact Diane Reichmann at diane@lmpc.org or 423-424-4096.

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