

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 24, 2021 | Fellowship Hall Service

Order of Worship

Welcome and announcements

David Caines, ruling elder

*** Call to worship**

taken from Psalm 138

Leader: I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart.

All: I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

Leader: When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted.

All: May all the kings of the earth praise you, O LORD, when they hear the words of your mouth. May they sing of the ways of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD is great.

* Hymn of praise

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

1. All crea- tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing al - le -
2. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, O
3. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble - ness, O

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, thou
sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear, praise
praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and

sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O__ praise him, O__ praise him, al - le -
God and on him cast your care,
praise the Spir - it, three in one,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - ia!

* **Prayer of adoration**

* **Affirmation of faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Call to confession

Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable:

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Hymn of confession

“Jesus, I Come”

(continue scrolling for words and music)

"Jesus, I Come"

1.Out of my bon - dage, sor - row, and night, Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come;_
2.Out of un - rest and ar - ro - gant pride, Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come;_
3.Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come;_
in - to thy free - dom, glad - ness, and light, Je - sus, I come to thee;_____
in - to thy bles - sed will to a - bide, Je - sus, I come to thee;_____
in - to the joy and light of thy home, Je - sus, I come to thee;_____
out of my sick - ness and in - to thy health, out of my want - ing and in - to thy wealth,
out of my - self___ to dwell in thy love, out of de - spair in - to rap - tures a - bove,
out of the depths___ of ru - in un - told, in - to the peace of thy shel - ter - ing fold,
out of my sin___ and in - to thy - self, Je - sus, I come to thee._____
up - ward for - ev - er on wings like a dove, Je - sus, I come to thee._____
ev - er thy glo - rious face to be - hold, Je - sus, I come to thee._____

text by William T. Sleeper, 1887; music by Greg Thompson, 2000

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Colossians 2:10, 13-14

We have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. When we were dead in our sins and in the uncircumcision of our sinful nature, God made us alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

*** Hymn of assurance**

"His Mercy Is More"
(continue scrolling for words and music)

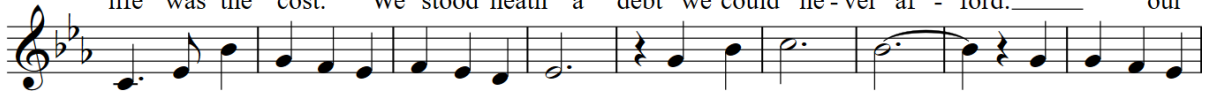
"His Mercy Is More"



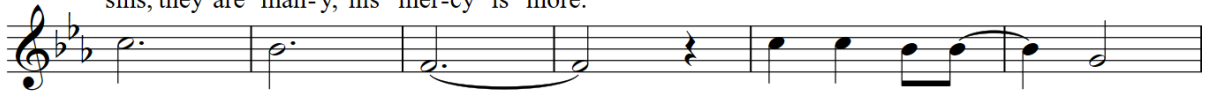
1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he
 2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What Fa - ther, so ten - der, is
 3. What ri - ches of kind - ness he lav - ished on us. His blood was the pay - ment, his



counts not their sum; thrown in - to the sea with - out bot - tom or shore: _____ our
 call - ing us home? He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor: _____ our
 life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could ne - ver af - ford: _____ our



sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord, _____ his mer - cy is
 sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
 sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



more. _____ Strong - er than dark - ness,



new ev - 'ry morn, _____ our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.

text and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa ©2016 Getty Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* Scripture reading from Acts 23:12-35

Jennifer Mixon

¹²The next morning the Jews formed a conspiracy and bound themselves with an oath not to eat or drink until they had killed Paul. ¹³More than forty men were involved in this plot. ¹⁴They went to the chief priests and elders and said, "We have taken a solemn oath not to eat anything until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵Now then, you and the Sanhedrin petition the commander to bring him before you on the pretext of wanting more accurate information about his case. We are ready to kill him before he gets here."

¹⁶But when the son of Paul's sister heard of this plot, he went into the barracks and told Paul. ¹⁷Then Paul called one of the centurions and said, "Take this young man to the commander; he has something to tell him." ¹⁸So he took him to the commander. The centurion said, "Paul, the prisoner, sent for me and asked me to bring this young man to you because he has something to tell you." ¹⁹The commander took the young man by the hand, drew him aside and asked, "What is it you want to tell me?" ²⁰He said: "The Jews have

agreed to ask you to bring Paul before the Sanhedrin tomorrow on the pretext of wanting more accurate information about him. ²¹Don't give in to them, because more than forty of them are waiting in ambush for him. They have taken an oath not to eat or drink until they have killed him. They are ready now, waiting for your consent to their request." ²²The commander dismissed the young man and cautioned him, "Don't tell anyone that you have reported this to me." ²³Then he called two of his centurions and ordered them, "Get ready a detachment of two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen to go to Caesarea at nine tonight. ²⁴Provide mounts for Paul so that he may be taken safely to Governor Felix."

²⁵He wrote a letter as follows: ²⁶Claudius Lysias, To His Excellency, Governor Felix: Greetings. ²⁷This man was seized by the Jews and they were about to kill him, but I came with my troops and rescued him, for I had learned that he is a Roman citizen. ²⁸I wanted to know why they were accusing him, so I brought him to their Sanhedrin. ²⁹I found that the accusation had to do with questions about their law, but there was no charge against him that deserved death or imprisonment. ³⁰When I was informed of a plot to be carried out against the man, I sent him to you at once. I also ordered his accusers to present to you their case against him.

³¹So the soldiers, carrying out their orders, took Paul with them during the night and brought him as far as Antipatris. ³²The next day they let the cavalry go on with him, while they returned to the barracks. ³³When the cavalry arrived in Caesarea, they delivered the letter to the governor and handed Paul over to him. ³⁴The governor read the letter and asked what province he was from. Learning that he was from Cilicia, ³⁵he said, "I will hear your case when your accusers get here." Then he ordered that Paul be kept under guard in Herod's palace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"When Plans and Providence Collide"

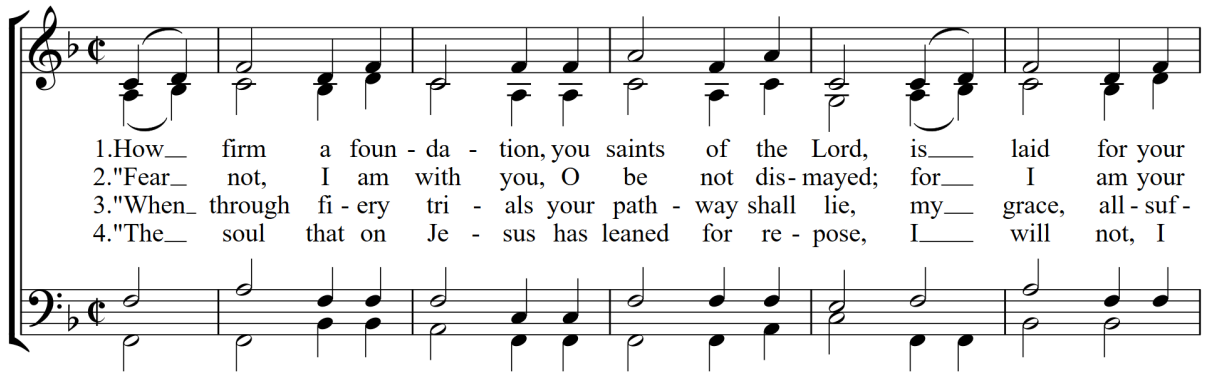
Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

1. A murderous plot against Paul (vv. 12-15)
2. God's surprising provision for Paul (vv. 16-35)

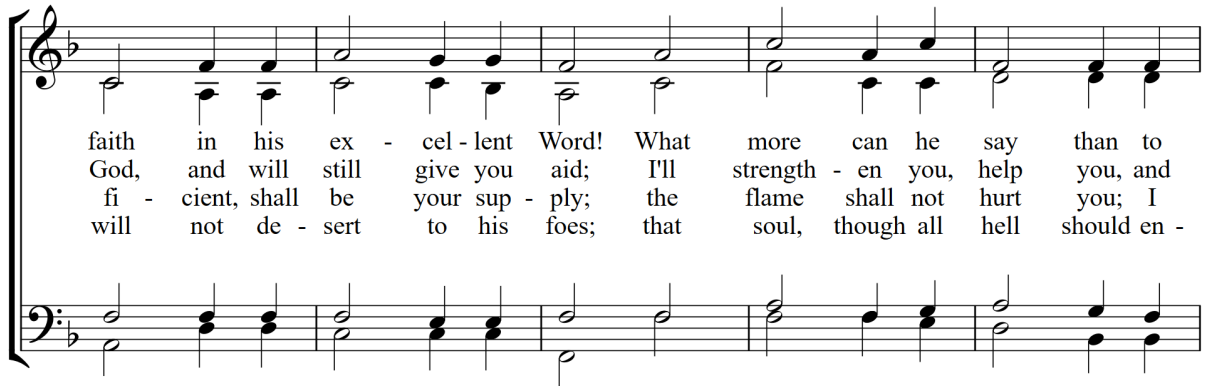
Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

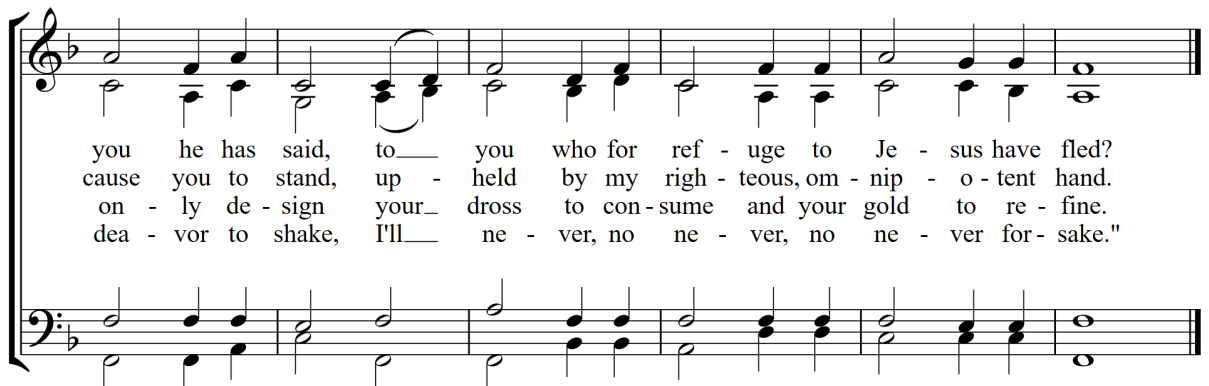
"How Firm a Foundation"



1. How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your
3. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-suf-
4. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I



faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to
God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength-en you, help you, and
fi-cient, shall be your sup-ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I
will not de-sert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should en-



you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
cause you to stand, up-held by my right-eous, om-ni-p-o-tent hand.
on-ly de-sign your dross to con-sume and your gold to re-fine.
dea-vor to shake, I'll ne-ver, no ne-ver, no ne-ver for-sake."

* **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:

Ismael Bartolome – violin
Genna Christie – vocalist
Joel Christie – vocalist
Charley Crichton – bass

David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Hannah Lutz – viola
John Reeder – piano
Rebekah Risley – vocalist

NATIONAL SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

TODAY WE RECOGNIZE National Sanctity of Human Life Sunday and call for prayer for the unborn, their precious mothers and fathers, and the families around them. Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church is a community which seeks to embrace God's timeless concern for the most marginalized persons in every age and culture. It is in privileged participation with Jesus' followers who have acted throughout history that we speak for and stand with those who have little or no voice today. We stand with them by voicing their petitions before the throne of God. We also stand with them through partnering with city-wide ministries such as Choices Pregnancy Resource Center, Bethany Christian Services, and Lookout for Orphans. We maintain that there is grace and forgiveness in Jesus for those who have had abortions, and we long to love and serve those who have made this choice or have been impacted by it in any way. Let us unite in prayer together for all who have been affected by abortion, for the ministries that we support in our city, and for God's grace to help us be their humble friends and servants.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WILL RESUME WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT on Wednesday, February 3. Registration will open this Thursday, January 28, via Realm. The cost is \$5 per meal and pick-up will be from 5:30-6:00 p.m. under the porte-cochere. You may pay by cash, check, or Venmo (@LktMtnPC) when you pick up your meal. If you have problems registering, please contact the church office.

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL OFFER A 2021 COMMUNICANT CLASS for any youth (grades 6-12) who are interested in joining LMPC. Please mark your calendars for February 19-21 (Friday night, Saturday morning, and one hour on Sunday morning). For more information and to sign up, email Margaret Compton at margaret@lmpc.org with the student's name, grade, and age.

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

2020 YEAR-END GIVING REPORT

Praise God for his abundant provision through his people at LMPC. While giving of \$4.966 million was under budget by approximately \$106,000, we had more than adequate funds to meet the operational and ministry needs of the church in 2020. Giving in 2020 was approximately 1.9% above 2019 and giving to LMPC-supported missionaries and ministries was approximately \$1.617 million. Thank you for your generous gifts toward the work of the Kingdom at LMPC.