



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 14, 2021 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO LMPC! *We're so glad you are with us today. Please use the tear-off card in the back of your bulletin 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 have a limited capacity nursery available this morning, as well as a Sunday school class for Pre-K/K children. Prior registration is required.
- 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

Welcome and announcements

John Wingard, ruling elder

*** Call to worship**

based on Isaiah 40 and Jeremiah 32

Leader: The sovereign LORD sits enthroned above the circle of the earth. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?

All: **He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.**

Leader: The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

All: **Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you. Great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds!**

*** Hymn of praise**

“O Worship the King”

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow’r and his love;
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

based on Psalm 104, text by Robert Grant, 1833; music by Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

*** Prayer of adoration**

Call to confession

taken from Romans 3:20-24

No one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Hymn of confession

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

text by Isaac Watts, 1707; music from traditional English melody, O WALLY WALLY

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Romans 5:6-8

At just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

* **Hymn of assurance** "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Refrain: Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins. *Refrain*

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;
he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine. *Refrain*
text by J. Wilbur Chapman, 1910; music by Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

Affirmation of God's providence

Leader: What is God's providence?

**All: God's providence is his completely holy, wise, and powerful
preserving and governing every creature and every action.**

Leader: What do you understand by the providence of God?

**All: The almighty and ever present power of God by which he upholds
heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and
blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink,
health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact,
come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

Leader: How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**All: We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when
things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in
our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate
us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand
that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.**

based on Westminster Shorter Catechism, question 11 and Heidelberg Catechism,
questions 27 and 28

Hymn of preparation

"Give to the Winds Thy Fears"



1. Give to the winds thy fears; _____ hope and be un - dis - mayed.
2. Leave to his sov-ereign sway _____ to choose and to ___ com-mand.
3. You see our weak-ness, Lord; _____ our hearts are known to thee. ___
4. Through waves and clouds and storms. _____ he gent - ly clears the way. ___



___ God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears; ___ our God will lift up, ___
___ Then shalt thou, wan-d'ring, own his way; ___ how wise, how strong, ___
___ O lift thou up our sink - ing hearts ___ to know thy mer-cy, ___
___ Wait thou his time; so shall this night ___ soon end in joy, ___



our God will lift up, _____ our God will lift up thy head.
how wise, how strong, _____ how wise, how strong ___ his hand.
to know thy mer - cy, _____ to know thy mer - cy and pow'r.
soon end in joy, _____ soon end in joy - ous day.

text by Paul Gerhardt, 1656, translated by John Wesley; music by Jon Caudill, 2002

* Scripture reading from Acts 25:1-27

text printed in the bulletin

Will Givens (9:00)

Tessa Tolson (11:00)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Not by Chance, but by God's Fatherly Hand"

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

continued

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

text by George Matheson, 1882; music by Christopher Miner, 1997

* **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:

Abi Davis – clarinet
David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Erika Lines – vocalist

Hannah Lutz – viola
Scott Quatro – vocalist
John Reeder – piano

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO, YOU CAN STILL 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, 65% of the budget has been pledged with 298 families (43% of family units at LMPC) having submitted a giving plan. Find out more about pledging and the 2021 budget at lmpc.org/give.

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT this Wednesday, February 17. Registration is now open 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.

ALL WOMEN OF LMPC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND our next Semester in the Psalms Large Group meeting this Thursday, February 18. Registration is now open via Realm. You can register and find the full semester's schedule for both large and small group meetings at lmpc.org/women.

WE WILL BE HOLDING AN IN-PERSON WOMEN'S "MINI-RETREAT" on Saturday, February 27. The topic will be "Refresh: A Morning on Grief and Hope" and our speakers will be Caroline Scuggs and Julia Friedman. The cost is \$20 which includes a take-home lunch, and registration is open via Realm. You can find more information at lmpc.org/women.

MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS OF LMPC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND TWO ONLINE SEMINARS designed to build awareness around sexual abuse and help us become better equipped to create a safe community for all at LMPC. These seminars will take place on February 21 and 28 at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom and have been organized by LMPC as part of our response to the recent GRACE report and recommendations. Members will have received a registration link earlier this week; if you did not receive one, please email diane@lmpc.org. You can find more information at lmpc.org/investigation.

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

Acts 25:1-27

¹Three days after arriving in the province, Festus went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem, ²where the chief priests and Jewish leaders appeared before him and presented the charges against Paul. ³They urgently requested Festus, as a favor to them, to have Paul transferred to Jerusalem, for they were preparing an ambush to kill him along the way. ⁴Festus answered, "Paul is being held at Caesarea, and I myself am going there soon. ⁵Let some of your leaders come with me and press charges against the man there, if he has done anything wrong."

⁶After spending eight or ten days with them, he went down to Caesarea, and the next day he convened the court and ordered that Paul be brought before him. ⁷When Paul appeared, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many serious charges against him, which they could not prove. ⁸Then Paul made his defense: "I have done nothing wrong against the law of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar." ⁹Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, said to Paul, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and stand trial before me there on these charges?" ¹⁰Paul answered: "I am now standing before Caesar's court, where I ought to be tried. I have not done any wrong to the Jews, as you yourself know very well. ¹¹If, however, I am guilty of doing anything deserving death, I do not refuse to die. But if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!" ¹²After Festus had conferred with his council, he declared: "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will go!"

¹³A few days later King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea to pay their respects to Festus. ¹⁴Since they were spending many days there, Festus discussed Paul's case with the king. He said: "There is a man here whom Felix left as a prisoner. ¹⁵When I went to Jerusalem, the chief priests and elders of the Jews brought charges against him and asked that he be condemned. ¹⁶I told them that it is not the Roman custom to hand over any man before he has faced his accusers and has had an opportunity to defend himself against their charges. ¹⁷When they came here with me, I did not delay the case, but convened the court the next day and ordered the man to be brought in. ¹⁸When his accusers got up to speak, they did not charge him with any of the crimes I had expected. ¹⁹Instead, they had some points of dispute with him about their own religion and about a dead man named Jesus who Paul claimed was alive. ²⁰I was at a loss how to investigate such matters; so I asked if he would be willing to go to Jerusalem and stand trial there on these charges. ²¹When Paul made his appeal to be held over for the Emperor's decision, I ordered him held until I could send him to Caesar." ²²Then Agrippa said to Festus, "I would like to hear this man myself." He replied, "Tomorrow you will hear him."

²³The next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp and entered the audience room with the high ranking officers and the leading men of the city. At the command of Festus, Paul was brought in. ²⁴Festus said: "King Agrippa, and all who are present with us, you see this man! The whole Jewish community has petitioned me about him in Jerusalem and here in Caesarea, shouting that he ought not to live any longer. ²⁵I found he had done nothing deserving of death, but because he made his appeal to the Emperor I decided to send him to Rome. ²⁶But I have nothing definite to write to His Majesty about him. Therefore I have brought him before all of

you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that as a result of this investigation I may have something to write. ²⁷For I think it is unreasonable to send on a prisoner without specifying the charges against him.”

SERMON NOTES

“Not by Chance, but by God’s Fatherly Hand”

Acts 25:1-27

1. A deceitful request providentially denied (vv. 1-5)
2. An old tactic newly employed (vv. 6-12)
3. A thorny dilemma briefly presented (vv. 13-22)
4. A Gospel opportunity sovereignly appointed (vv. 23-27)

**MEMBERS & VISITORS -
PLEASE REACH OUT TO US!**

NAME

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- Speak to a pastor
- Speak to someone in the church office
- Receive email from LMPC

EMAIL

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT:

- Serving at LMPC
- Becoming a member at LMPC
- Joining a small group
- Joining a Bible study
 - men's women's
- Prayer opportunities

If you are a first-time or repeat visitor, please fill out your information on the other side of this card so we can follow up with you.

**PRAYER REQUESTS &
COMMENTS**

Include request in the Prayer List?

Yes No

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

PHONE DAY EVENING

Please deposit this card in the offering plate.

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE TODAY!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help in any way we can. Feel free to fill out your information on this tear-off card and place it in the offering plate. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!

I AM A:

- First time visitor
 Repeat visitor

NAME

SPOUSE (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

CHILDREN (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

ADDRESS

HOME PHONE

CELL

EMAIL*

SPOUSE CELL

SPOUSE EMAIL*

**By supplying your email address(es), you consent to receive email from LMPC.*

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, February 14

9:00 a.m.	Worship service with communion	sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Worship service	fellowship hall
9:00 a.m.	Sunday school Pre-K/K	elementary area
11:00 a.m.	Worship service with communion	sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	fellowship hall
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school Pre-K/K	elementary area
11:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	via Zoom

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.