



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 14, 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 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

Prelude

Andante in D Major
Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and announcements

Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

*** Call to worship**

based on Psalm 36 and Psalm 145

Leader: Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep.

All: O LORD, you preserve both man and beast. How priceless is your unfailing love!

Leader: Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings. For with you is the fountain of life.

All: All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

* Hymn of praise

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down: fix in us thy
 2. Come, Al - might - y to de - li - ver, let us all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 3. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be: let us see thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown: Je - sus, thou art
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry

all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 pray, and praise thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

text by Charles Wesley, 1747; music by John Zundel, 1870, BEECHER

* Prayer of adoration

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

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,
 O Joy, 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 Love, that will not let me go.
text by George Matheson, 1882; music by Elaine Hagenberg, 2016

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

* **Scripture reading from Acts 25:1-27**
text printed in the bulletin

Diane Denham (9:00)
 Rick Reinink (11:00)

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

* **Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "Not by Chance, but by God's Fatherly Hand"
Chad Middlebooks, pastor of discipleship

Pastoral prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have previously been admitted to the Lord's Table, by the elders of this or any Gospel-proclaiming church, to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Come with joy as you actively trust in Christ and willingly forsake sin, having sought reconciliation in all relationships.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Hymn of confession

"Come, for the Feast Is Spread"
(please turn the page for words and music)

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Romans 5 and Colossians 1

Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Words of institution

Communion affirmation

Leader: Beloved in the Lord Jesus Christ, this Holy Supper we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope.

All: **We come in remembrance that our Lord Jesus Christ was sent by the Father into the world to take on flesh. By his righteous life, atoning death, and powerful resurrection, he has accomplished for us what we could not accomplish for ourselves.**

continued

"Come, for the Feast Is Spread"

1. Come, for the feast is spread, hark to the call;— come to the Liv - ing Bread,
2. Come to the throne of grace, bold - ly draw near;— he who would win the race

of - fered to all. Come to his house of wine, low on his
must - tar - ry here. What - e'er thy want may be, here is the

breast re-cline, all that he has is thine; come, sin - ner, come.
grace for thee, Je - sus thine on - ly plea; come, Chris - tian, come.

Leader: We come to have communion with our Lord Jesus Christ, who has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world. He is the bread of heaven that nourishes our souls and the true vine in which we abide and bear fruit.

All: We come in hope, believing that these signs are a pledge and foretaste of the wedding feast of the Lamb that we will enjoy when Christ's kingdom has fully come. We proclaim the Lord's death and profess his resurrection until he comes again. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

adopted from The Worship Sourcebook

Prayer of consecration

For the bread

"I Saw the Cross of Jesus"

Instrumental meditation

Safe in the cross of Jesus! There let my weary heart
still rest in peace unshaken, till with him, ne'er to part;
and then in strains of glory I'll sing his wondrous pow'r,
where sin can never enter, and death is known no more.
text by Frederick Whitfield, 1829-1904; music arr. by Gary Lanier 2015

For the cup

"Near the Cross"

Instrumental meditation

Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.
text by Fanny Crosby, 1869; music by William Doane, 1869, arr. by Gary Lanier, 2015

Prayer of thanksgiving

* Hymn of response

"Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"
(please turn the page for words and music)

* Benediction

* Congregational response

"Threefold Amen"

Postlude

"Prelude on the Hymn Tune 'Rhosymedre'"
R. V. Williams

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

"Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"

Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er; Christ, we do all a -

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er; Christ, we do all a -"

dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er; for on the ho - ly cross hast thou the

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er; for on the ho - ly cross hast thou the"

world from sin re - deem - ed. Christ, we do all a - dore thee,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "world from sin re - deem - ed. Christ, we do all a - dore thee,"

and we do praise thee for - ev - er. Christ, we do all a - dore thee.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "and we do praise thee for - ev - er. Christ, we do all a - dore thee."

Latin hymn, tr. and adapted by Theodore Baker, 1899; music by Théodore Dubois, The Seven Last Words of Christ, 1867,
ADORE THEE

Musicians for this week:

Rachel Beckmann – cello
Ensemble

Joy Gibbons – director
Joshua Knight – organ, 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 Scruggs 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.

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)

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

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 on 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

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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.