



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 21, 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

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

*** Call to worship**

based on Psalm 9

Leader: We will praise you, O LORD, with all our hearts; we will tell of all your wonders.

All: **We will be glad and rejoice in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

Leader: The LORD reigns forever. He is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

All: **Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you. Sing praises to the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what he has done!**

*** Hymn of praise**

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall;
we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all;
we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.
text by Edward Perronet, 1779, and John Rippon, 1787; music by Oliver Holden, 1793

* Prayer of adoration

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.

Hymn of confession

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

God, be merciful to me; on thy grace I rest my plea.
Plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now.
Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face.
I confess thy judgment just; speechless, I thy mercy trust.

Gracious God, my heart renew; make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from thee; let thy Spirit dwell in me.
Thy salvation's joy impart; steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to thee.
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love.
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.
text from The Psalter, 1912; music by Christopher Miner, 1997

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from John 11 and 1 John 4

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

* Hymn of assurance

"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;
just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood! *Refrain*

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace. *Refrain*
text by Louisa M. R. Stead, 1882; music by William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882

Prayer of intercession for children and youth

Leader: Lord Jesus, you have said in your Word, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

All: We pray this morning for children and youth in our congregation and in our community, that those who already know you would be filled with your joy, peace, and truth, and that those who do not yet know you would come to a saving relationship with you and be filled with your Spirit.

Leader: Be a guard and shield for the youngest and most vulnerable among us. Give their parents wisdom and strength to love them as you love them, and cause them to know, even at this early age, that your grace and mercy are available to all who trust in you.

All: For middle and high school students, surround them with friends and community who know and love you, who will guide them to you and your Word in every circumstance, and who will share in every joy and sorrow of this season of life. We ask that you would protect them from the enemy and any who would seek to turn them away from you.

Leader: For all children and youth, we ask that you would shape their hearts to be filled with the fruits of the Spirit and alive with curiosity and wonder at all that you are and all you have made.

All: We ask for your peace, which passes all understanding, to guard their hearts and minds during this year of continued uncertainty. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you. Amen.

Matthew 19:14, Philippians 4:7, Psalm 33:22

Hymn of preparation “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

text by Stuart Townend © 1995 Kingsway’s Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

*** Scripture reading from Acts 26:1-32**

text printed in the bulletin

Melanie Ray (9:00)
David Caines (11:00)

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“Embodying and Expressing the Gospel Message”
Brian Salter, lead pastor

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“Here Is Love”

Here is love vast as the ocean, loving-kindness as a flood,
when the Prince of life, our ransom, shed for us his precious blood.
Here is love, Lord we remember; from our hearts we lift your praise,
raising high the living anthem all will sing through endless days.

On the mount of crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide.
Through the floodgates of your mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Here is love like mighty rivers poured unceasing from above:
heaven’s peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

In thy truth thou dost direct me by thy Spirit through thy Word;
and thy grace my need is meeting as I trust in you, my Lord.
Of thy fullness, thou art pouring thy great love and pow’r on me,
without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to thee.

Let me, all thy love accepting, love thee ever all my days;
let me seek thy kingdom only, and my life be to thy praise.
Thou alone shalt be my glory, nothing in the world I see.
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me; thou thyself hast set me free.
Here is love, Lord we remember; from our hearts we lift your praise,
raising high the living anthem all will sing through endless days.

text by William Rees, 1802-1883; music by Robert Lowry, 1876

* 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*

Celebrating the baptism of Sadie Mae Wharton at the 9:00 service in the sanctuary today are her parents, Stephanie and David Wharton.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT this Wednesday, February 24. Registration is now open via Realm. The cost is \$5 per meal and pick-up will be from 5:30 to 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 WILL BE HOLDING AN IN-PERSON WOMEN'S "MINI-RETREAT" this 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 through **this Monday, February 22**. 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 **today** and on February 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. If you did not receive an email with a Zoom link, 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

Musicians for this week:

Grady Dickinson – alto saxophone

Maddie Lee – piano

Erika Lines – vocalist

Hannah Lutz – viola

Charlotte Reeder – vocalist

Fred Verwoerd – vocalist

Chapman Whitted – guitar

The rosebud in the fellowship hall is for the birth of Lolly Joiner Brooks, born to Meredith and Jay Brooks on February 16.

Acts 26:1-32

¹Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.” So Paul motioned with his hand and began his defense: ²“King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews, ³and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs and controversies. Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently. ⁴The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. ⁵They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that according to the strictest sect of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee. ⁶And now it is because of my hope in what God has promised our fathers that I am on trial today. ⁷This is the promise our twelve tribes are hoping to see fulfilled as they earnestly serve God day and night. O king, it is because of this hope that the Jews are accusing me. ⁸Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?

⁹“I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the saints in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. ¹¹Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. In my obsession against them, I even went to foreign cities to persecute them. ¹²On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. ¹³About noon, O king, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. ¹⁴We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ ¹⁵Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied. ¹⁶‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. ¹⁷I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them ¹⁸to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ ¹⁹So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. ²⁰First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. ²¹That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. ²²But I have had God’s help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

²⁴At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.” ²⁵“I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable. ²⁶The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner. ²⁷King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.”

²⁸Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to

be a Christian?"²⁹Paul replied, "Short time or long—I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."³⁰The king rose, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them.³¹They left the room, and while talking with one another, they said, "This man is not doing anything that deserves death or imprisonment."³²Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

SERMON NOTES

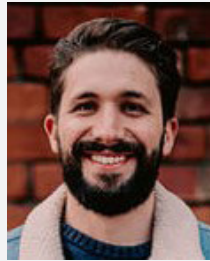
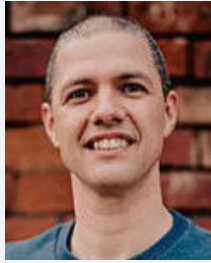
"Embodying and Expressing the Gospel Message"

Acts 26:1-32

Like Paul, we live to embody and express the Gospel message that:

1. Jesus has been raised from the dead. (vv. 1-8)
2. Jesus brings radical transformation to his people. (vv. 9-23)
3. Jesus calls us to "bear witness" to himself. (vv. 24-32)

WORLD MISSIONS MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: TRINITY CHURCH MANCHESTER



Lead Pastor, Pete Evans and Assistant Pastor, Malc Clark

Trinity Church Manchester was planted into the north of Manchester in June 2020. It was planted by our supported church plant City Church Manchester. The church began with 23 adults and 8 children and has grown already despite the significant restrictions in England during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Manchester as a whole is strongly secular, with less than 3% of people attending any church. The north of the city is particularly under-served by evangelical churches, and Trinity Church was planted to be a hub church for the communities around it. The vision of the church is to be a Gospel community for north Manchester that gives, grows, and partners for God's glory.

Please join us in praying for Trinity Church:

- Give thanks that their membership continues to grow and stabilize during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Pray for the provision of a space to meet. They are meeting online, but this has become more challenging as the months go by.
- Pray for contacts in the community. That they would be able to build connections and meaningful relationships, even as social gatherings and meetings are restricted due to Covid.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Kent

September 26, 1927 – February 17, 2021

LENT

Churches in the Reformed tradition like our own do not have a long history of promoting the practice of Lent, the 40-day period before the celebration of Easter. In recent years, however, many evangelical Christians have begun observing Lent in some form or fashion, sometimes adopting the tradition of giving up something like chocolate or coffee. We believe that it is important to remember that the practice of Lent was not established by Christ or the apostles, and scholars have pointed out with growing frequency that a 40-day Lent was not the common practice of the church in its first 300 years. We also think it is extremely important for any of us who choose to observe Lent in some way to understand that we never fast, repent, or abstain from something we love in order to earn anything from God. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, believers are already partakers of Christ and all his benefits. We have already received a kingdom that cannot be shaken. (Heb. 12:28)

Lent is neither an obligation nor a duty, but we recognize that it can be helpful to thoughtfully engage in a period of waiting and watching in the days leading up to Easter. We have chosen to put certain visual reminders of Lent in place in both of our worship locations. The sparse floral décor can help us remember the example of our Savior, who made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Phil. 2:9) The pulpit cloth in the sanctuary is changed to kingly purple, reminding us of the reign of Christ our King. As we move towards Easter, we do well to spend more time savoring the goodness of God and the depth of his love for us.

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 21

9:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
9:00 a.m.	Sunday school Pre-K/K	<i>elementary area</i>
10:10 a.m.	Youth communicants class	<i>JHYB</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school Pre-K/K	<i>elementary area</i>
11:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	<i>via Zoom</i>
5:00 p.m.	Abuse Prevention & Response Training	<i>via Zoom</i>
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group	<i>fellowship hall</i>

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.