



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 21, 2021 | Sanctuary Service

Order of Worship

Prelude	Prelude from Cello Suite No. 1, BWV 1007 <i>J. S. Bach</i>	
Welcome and announcements		Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults
Introit	“Psalm 19”	Ensemble

Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

The law of the LORD is perfect; it revives the soul.
The decrees of the LORD are steadfast; they give wisdom to the simple.
Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

The precepts of the LORD are right; they gladden the heart.
The command of the LORD is clear; it gives light to the eyes.
Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

The fear of the LORD is pure, abiding forever.
The judgments of the LORD are true; they are, all of them, just.
Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

They are more to be desired than gold, than quantities of gold.
And sweeter are they than honey, than honey flowing from the comb.
Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart,
win favor in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer!
Your words are Spirit and life, Spirit and life.

LORD, you have the words of everlasting life.
The precepts of the LORD give joy to the heart.
James J. Chepponis, 2020

*** Call to worship**

based on Psalm 33 and Psalm 19

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD! Sing to him a new song. For the Word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

All: The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Leader: The eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

All: May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, our Rock and our Redeemer.

*** Hymn of praise**

*“All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”
(continue scrolling for words and music)*

"All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

1. All praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre - a - tion, the
 2. The Lord for - sak - eth not his flock, his cho - sen gen - er - a - tion; he
 3. Then come be - fore his pre - sence now and ban - ish fear and sad - ness; to

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God of won - ders, pow'r, and love, the God of our sal - va - tion! With
 is their ref - uge and their rock, their peace and their sal - va - tion. As
 your Re - deem - er pay your vow and sing with joy and glad - ness: Though

10

heal - ing balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - 'ry
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his own, his
 great dis - tress my soul be - fell, the Lord, my God, did

13

sor - row stills. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 all things well. To God all praise and glo - ry!

* **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

Psalm 32:1-6a

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in
whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through
my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said,
“I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”—and you forgave the guilt of
my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be
found.

Silent prayers of confession

Choral prayer

“The Meditations of My Heart”

Ensemble

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD.

O LORD my Rock, O LORD my strength,
O LORD my God and Redeemer. Amen.

text based on Psalm 19:14, music by Elaine Hagenberg, 2017

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Ephesians 1:3-8

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

All: **In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.**

* Hymn of assurance

"How Great Thou Art"
(continue scrolling for words and music)

“How Great Thou Art”

1.O Lord my God, when I in awe- some won- der con- sid- er all the worlds thy hands have
2.And when I think that God, his Son not spar- ing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it
3.When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma- tion and take me home, what joy shall fill my

4

made,___ I see the stars, I hear the roll- ing thun- der, thy pow'r thro'- out the u - ni- verse dis-
in,___ that on the cross, my bur- den glad- ly bear- ing, he bled and died to take a - way my
heart!___ Then I shall bow in hum- ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro- claim, my God, how great thou

8

played.___ Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:___ how great thou art,___ how great thou
sin. ___
art. ___

12

art!___ Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee:___ how great thou art,___ how great thou art!

¹⁷Three days later he called together the leaders of the Jews. When they had assembled, Paul said to them: "My brothers, although I have done nothing against our people or against the customs of our ancestors, I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. ¹⁸They examined me and wanted to release me, because I was not guilty of any crime deserving death. ¹⁹But when the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar—not that I had any charge to bring against my own people. ²⁰For this reason I have asked to see you and talk with you. It is because of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain." ²¹They replied, "We have not received any letters from Judea concerning you, and none of the brothers who have come from there has reported or said anything bad about you. ²²But we want to hear what your views are, for we know that people everywhere are talking against this sect."

²³They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the kingdom of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets. ²⁴Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. ²⁵They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul had made this final statement: "The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your forefathers when he said through Isaiah the prophet: ²⁶'Go to this people and say, "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving." ²⁷For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' ²⁸Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!"

³⁰For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. ³¹Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

"Boldly Without Hindrance"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

As the church furthers the mission of God through bold proclamation, the message of Christ will:

1. need explanation. (vv. 17-22)

2. cause division. (vv. 23-28)

3. never be silenced. (vv. 30-31)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"The Church's One Foundation"

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord; she is his new cre -
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth, her char - ter of sal -
 3. The church shall ne - ver per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend, to guide, sus - tain, and
 4. Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God the Three in One, and my - stic sweet com -

a - tion by wa - ter and the Word: from heav'n he came and sought her to
 va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth; one ho - ly name she bless - es, par -
 cher - ish, is with her to the end; though there be those that hate her, and
 mun - ion with those whose rest is won: O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord,

be his ho - ly bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 takes one ho - ly food, and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 false sons in her pale, a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.
 give us grace that we, like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

text by Samuel J. Stone, 1866; music by Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, AURELIA

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude** Andante Maestoso from “Six Short Preludes and Postludes”
C. V. Stanford

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Musicians for this week:

William Darby – soloist
Ensemble

Joy Gibbons – director
Joshua Knight – organ, piano

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION FOR EASTER FLOWERS to be placed in the sanctuary or fellowship hall in honor or memory of a loved one, please visit lmpc.org/easter-flowers to submit and contribute online, or contact the church office at 423-821-4528. The last day to request flowers is **tomorrow**, March 22.

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT this Wednesday, March 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.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS has been called by the Session, to take place in each worship service on Sunday, April 25. Information about the nominees will be made available leading up to the meeting.

SAVE THE DATE: MDO OPEN REGISTRATION FOR 2021-22 will be held online on May 3, 2021. No fee will be due at time of registration. It is our hope to be able to build our program back to full capacity in the coming year, but confirmation of spots may be gradual as we work to balance classroom size with staffing. Please check lmpc.org/mdo for more details.

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION FOR 65+

We have several groups designed for those aged 65 and over, particularly if you have recently started to attend in-person meetings again. These include:

- Dead Theologian's Society: Wednesdays mornings 6:30-7:30 a.m. In this group we study classic theological works. We meet at the First Presbyterian Church downtown, 554 McCallie Ave. Use the parking lot behind the church "connector" building between the sanctuary and the office building. Upcoming books are *Humility* by Andrew Murray and *A Quest For Godliness* by J.I. Packer.
- Wednesday Evening Prayer: 6:00 p.m. over Zoom. To sign up, please call or email Judie Finch at 423-424.4094, judie@lmpc.org.
- Thursday Morning Prayer and Bible Hour: 10:15-11:30 a.m. in the Reception Room. This group is open to all ages and is led by Pastor Joe Novenson.

HOLY WEEK 2021 SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday — April 1, 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall and courtyard

Good Friday — April 2, 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and chapel

Sunrise Service — April 4, 7:15 a.m. at Point Park

Registration will be required for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.