

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 25, 2021 | Fellowship Hall Service

Order of Worship

Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

*** Call to worship**

Psalm 111:1-3, 9-10

Leader: Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

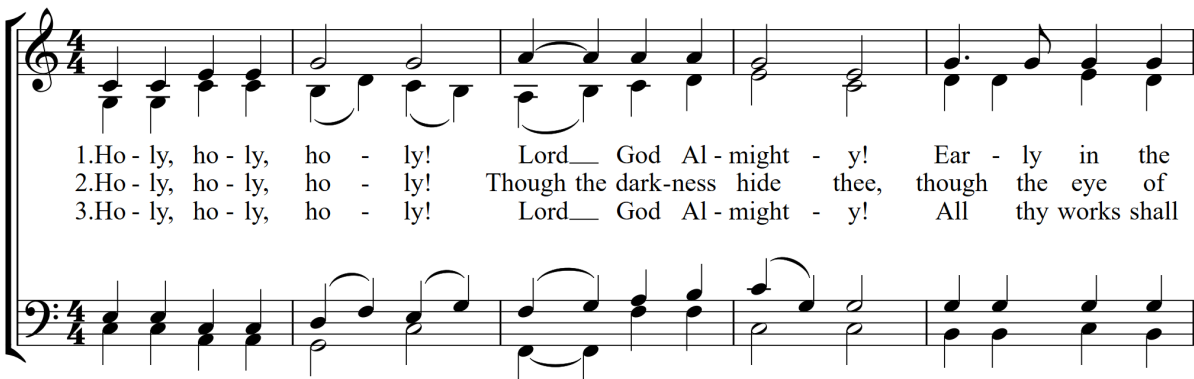
All: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

Leader: He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.

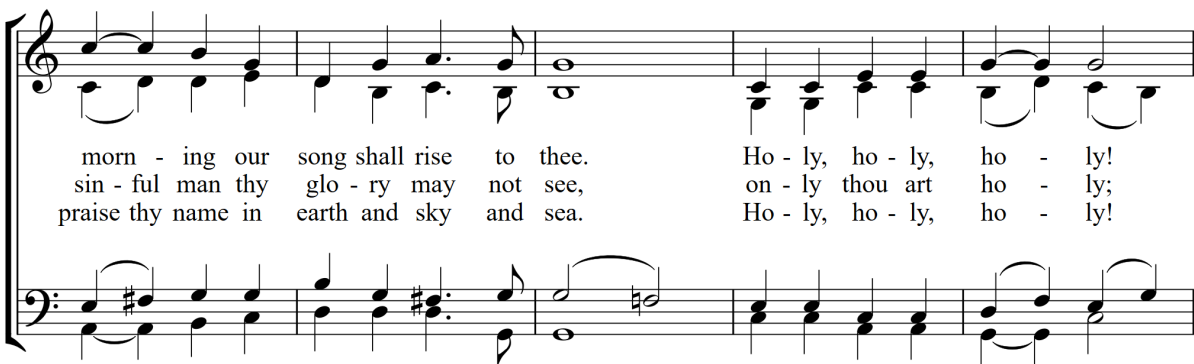
All: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

* Hymn of praise

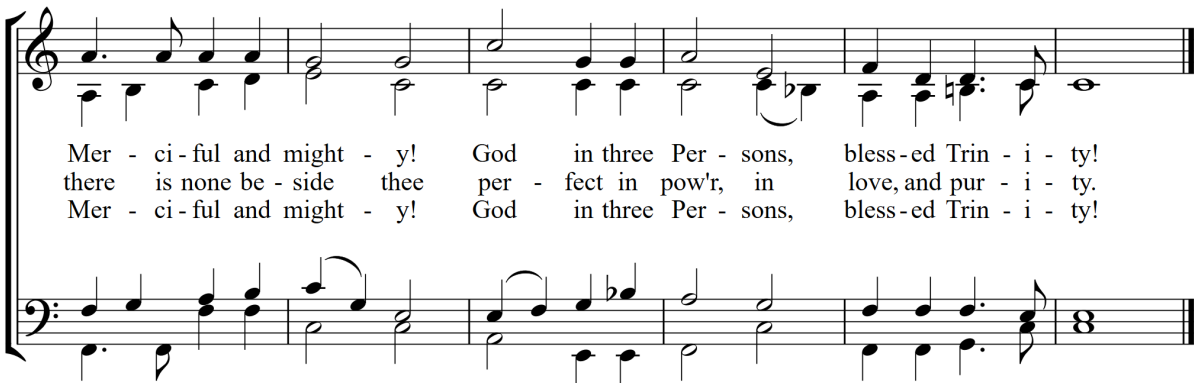
"Holy, Holy, Holy!"



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y! Ear - ly in the
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee, though the eye of
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y! All thy works shall



morn - ing our song shall rise to thee. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!
sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see, on - ly thou art ho - ly;
praise thy name in earth and sky and sea. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!



Mer - ci - ful and might - y! God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
there is none be - side thee per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
Mer - ci - ful and might - y! God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

based on Hebrews 4

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hymn of confession

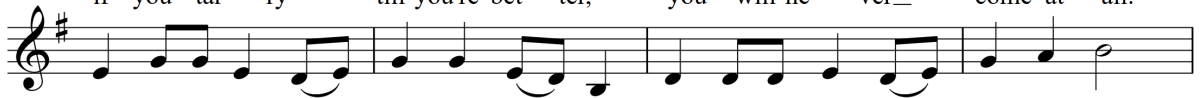
"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"



1. Come, ye sin - ners, _ poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed, _ sick and sore;
2. Let not con - science make you ling - er, nor of fit - ness _ fond - ly dream;
3. Come, ye wear - y, _ heav - y - lad - en, lost and ru - ined _ by the fall;



Je - sus read - y stands to save _ you, full of pit - y, _ love and pow'r.
all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth is to feel _ your _ need of him.
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will ne - ver _ come at all.



I will a - rise and _ go to Je - sus, he will em - brace me _ in his arms;



in the arms _ of my dear Sav - ior, O, there are _ ten _ thou - sand charms.

text by Joseph Hart, 1759; music from Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Hebrews 10

We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

* Hymn of assurance

“Before the Throne of God Above”



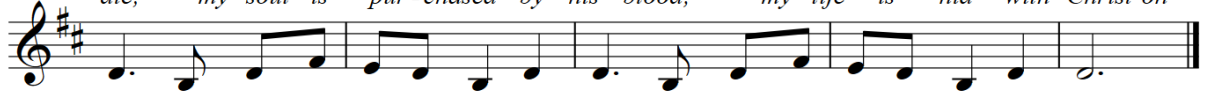
1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect plea, a great High
 2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me of the guilt with - in, up - ward I
 3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect, spot - less right - eous - ness, the great un -



Priest whose name is Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is gra - ven on his
 look and see him there who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sa - vior
 chang - a - ble I AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace! *One with him - self, I can - not*



hands, my name is writ - ten on his heart; I know that while in heav'n he
 died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed free; for God, the Just, is sat - is -
die; my soul is pur - chased by his blood; my life is hid with Christ on



stands no tongue can bid me thence de - part; no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
 fied to look on him and par - don me; to look on him and par - don me.
high, with Christ, my Sa - vior and my God; with Christ, my Sa - vior and my God.

text by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1863; music by Vikki Cook, 1997

* Scripture reading from Genesis 25:19-34

Tad Dacus

¹⁹This is the account of Abraham’s son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean.

²¹Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

²²The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³The LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.” ²⁴When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. ²⁵The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. ²⁶After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them. ²⁷The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents. ²⁸Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. ³⁰He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.) ³¹Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright." ³²"Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?" ³³But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "God's Sovereign Grace: Surprising and Stunning"
 Brian Salter, lead pastor

God reveals his grace in:

1. The pregnancy (vv. 19-21)
 - God's gracious promises are received by faith in the midst of uncertain circumstances.

2. The birthright (vv. 22-28)
 - God's gracious choice is not based on our position, power, or pedigree.

3. The brothers (vv. 29-34)
 - God's gracious provision is often doubted by us leading to reckless and cunning self-reliance.

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“Be Thou My Vision”



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach



else to me, save that thou art, thou my best thought by
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -



day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent; Traditional Irish melody

* 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.**

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Musicians for this week:

Abi Davis – clarinet
David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Hannah Lutz – viola
Charlotte Reeder – vocalist

John Reeder – piano
Rebekah Risley – vocalist
Fred Verwoerd – vocalist

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS will take place in each worship service today. You can find more information about the nominees by picking up a brochure from the fellowship hall lobby or sanctuary narthex, or online at lmpc.org/officers.

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TAKEOUT this Wednesday, April 28. 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.

WOMEN OF LMPC: YOU ARE INVITED TO GATHER together for a day of outdoor recreation and fellowship next Saturday, May 1. We will offer groups for hiking, walking, and coffee at both 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.. You may register via Realm for your preferred activity and time slot. Please join us!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR "SACRIFICE OF PRAISE," a concert of Scripture and song which will take place next Sunday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The concert will begin with a prelude at 5:45 p.m., and nursery will be provided. A livestream will be available at lmpc.org.

OUR LONG OVERDUE MEN'S STEAK NIGHT will take place on Thursday, May 13. After a long and challenging year, we need this opportunity to be with other guys to enjoy fellowship and eat meat. We will gather in groups of 10 and you are welcome to invite your friends. Please send an email by Wednesday, May 5 to mountainmen@lmpc.org to RSVP and to tell us who is coming with you. If you would like to be a host, please email us at mountainmen@lmpc.org.

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

NEW SERMON SERIES: THE GOSPEL IN THE LIFE OF JACOB

Have you ever asked yourself, “How can God use me?” Maybe you are bone-weary after months of virtual schooling and social distancing. Maybe you are heart-broken. Perhaps your faith is flickering so faintly that you wonder whether it has, in fact, burned out. Or maybe you compare yourself to those you believe to be more like Jesus—more loving, more compassionate, more steeped in Scripture—and think that God probably prefers those who are not struggling.

For the feeble and trembling, the story of Jacob is a warm fire to gather around. It makes rubbish the idea that God only seeks out wise, good, and accomplished people to be his followers and to do his work. In the second half of Genesis, we are offered an unflinching look at an imperfect man. If every family is to some extent or another dysfunctional, the dysfunction in Jacob’s family grew like unchecked cancer. And yet—and yet!—Jacob was chosen. His appalling failures did not cut him off from the never-ceasing flow of God’s grace. The Gospel was and is the best news for sinners.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PASTOR: WIL NETTLETON

After much prayer and a 2+ year search interrupted for several months by the pandemic, the Session has issued a call to the Reverend Wil Nettleton to join our pastoral team. In addition to regular pastoral duties, Wil will be overseeing outreach at LMPC - including world, home, and mountain missions. Wil was approved for transfer by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery on April 17, 2021, and he and his wife, Mary, and their two children, Cooper and Story, hope to move here in June 2021. They will most likely need temporary housing when they first arrive. Please email frank@lmpc.org if you have something to offer.



EXCITING NEWS ABOUT CHANGES ON SUNDAYS BEGINNING MAY 2

Beginning on May 2, we will have one service hour—**11:00 a.m. in both the sanctuary and fellowship hall**—where masks, social distancing, and registration will no longer be required. Also, beginning May 2, we will be adding children’s Sunday school classes for 1st through 5th grades at both hours for the month of May.

Worship services:

- 9:30 a.m. in fellowship hall and sanctuary – Continuation of current protocols with masks, social distancing of 3 ft., and registration required.
- 11:00 a.m. in fellowship hall and sanctuary – Masks optional, and no social distancing or registration required.
- 9:30 a.m. in chapel – Social distancing of 6 ft., masks, and registration required.
- 11:00 a.m. in chapel – Masks optional, no social distancing or registration required.
- We will continue to offer a livestream of our 9:30 a.m. service at lmpc.org/live and on our Facebook page.

Nursery and Children’s Sunday School:

- 9:30 a.m. Nursery – Registration and masks required.
- 11:00 a.m. Nursery – **FIRST SUNDAY ONLY:** Please register your child for nursery so that our children’s staff can make adequate preparations. Masks optional and after the first Sunday, no registration required.
- 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (pre-K through 5th grade) – Masks required. Registration required **FIRST SUNDAY ONLY.**
- 11:00 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (pre-K through 5th grade) – Masks optional. Registration required **FIRST SUNDAY ONLY.**

These changes were approved by the Session based on the recommendations of our Covid Task Force. Please continue to follow CDC recommendations regarding remaining at home when exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19 or following a known exposure to someone who is sick. As always, our task force will continue to monitor conditions in Hamilton County and re-assess our protocols whenever necessary.