

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 23, 2021 | Fellowship Hall Service

# Order of Worship

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**Welcome and announcements**

David Caines, ruling elder

**\* Call to worship**

1 Chronicles 29:10b-12

Leader: Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

**All: Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.**

Leader: Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

**All: Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.**

\* Hymn of praise

"Jesus Shall Reign"

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does his suc - ces - sive  
2. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his love with  
3. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; the pris - ner leaps to  
4. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - or and glo - ry

jour - neys run; his King - dom stretch from shore to  
sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es shall pro -  
lose his chains, the wea - ry find e - ter - nal  
to our King; an - gels de - scend with songs a -

shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
rest, and all the sons of want are blest.  
gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men!

*text by Isaac Watts, 1719; music by John Hatton, 1793*

\* Prayer of adoration

**Prayer for our graduates**

**Call to confession**

1 John 1:8-9

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.

**Prayer of confession**

based on Colossians 3

Leader: Heavenly Father, your Word says that as your chosen people, holy and dearly loved, we are to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. We are to bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances we may have against one another.

All: **Lord, forgive us for our lack of compassion and humility. Forgive our impatience with each other and our refusal to bear with one another. Forgive us for ignoring your command to forgive those who have sinned against us.**

Leader: Your Word says that we are to forgive as you have forgiven us, and that over all these virtues we are to put on love, which binds everything together in perfect unity.

**All: Lord, forgive us for offering temporary, conditional forgiveness to those around us, which is fundamentally different from the eternal, unconditional forgiveness we have received in Christ.**

Leader: Your Word says to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, since as members of one body we were called to peace, and to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly.

**All: Lord, forgive us for allowing irritation and arrogance to rule in our hearts rather than your peace. Forgive us for seeking to be abundantly filled by the things of this world, rather than seeking to have your Word dwell richly in our hearts. Teach us to do all things, whether in word or deed, in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

### Silent prayers of confession

#### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on Ephesians 2:4-10

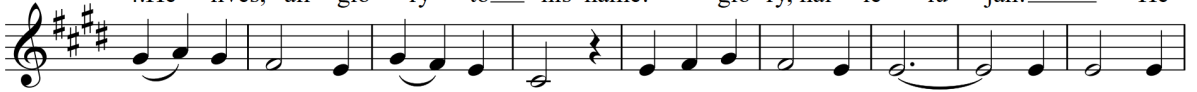
Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace we have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

\* **Hymn of assurance** "I Know That My Redeemer Lives—Glory, Hallelujah!"  
*(continue scrolling for words and music)*

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives—Glory, Hallelujah!"



1.I know that my Re- deem - er lives, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ What  
2.He lives, he lives, who once was dead, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ He  
3.He lives to bless me with his love, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ He  
4.He lives, all glo - ry to his name! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ He



com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ Shout on, pray  
lives, my ev - er - last - ing Head, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_  
lives to plead for me a - bove, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_  
lives, my Je - sus, still the same, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_



on, we're gain - ing ground, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_ The dead's a -



live and the lost is found, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

*text by Samuel Medley, 1775; music by DH, 2013*

**Hymn of preparation**

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

*(continue scrolling for words and music)*

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
 2. Those he saves are his de-light, Christ will hold me fast;  
 3. For my life he bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;

when the tempt-er would pre-vail, he will hold me fast. I could nev-er keep my  
 pre-cious in his ho-ly sight, he will hold me fast. He'll not let my soul be  
 jus-tice has been sat-is-fied; he will hold me fast. Raised with him to end-less

hold through life's fear-ful path; for my love is oft-en cold;  
 lost; his pro-mis-es shall last; bought by him at such a cost,  
 life, he will hold me fast till our faith is turned to sight,

he must hold me fast. \_\_\_\_\_ He will hold me fast, he will hold me  
 he will hold me fast. \_\_\_\_\_  
 when he comes at last! \_\_\_\_\_

fast; for my Sa-rior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

original text by Ada Habershon, 1906; alt. text and music by Matt Merker ©2013 Matthew Merker Music, ARP, UBP,  
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\* Scripture reading from Genesis 27:30-46

Ed Salter

<sup>30</sup>After Isaac finished blessing him, and Jacob had scarcely left his father's presence, his brother Esau came in from hunting. <sup>31</sup>He too prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then he said to him, "My father, sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing." <sup>32</sup>His father Isaac asked him, "Who are you?" "I am your son," he answered, "your firstborn, Esau."

<sup>33</sup>Isaac trembled violently and said, "Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him—and indeed he will be blessed!" <sup>34</sup>When Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me—me too, my father!" <sup>35</sup>But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing." <sup>36</sup>Esau said,

“Isn’t he rightly named Jacob? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he’s taken my blessing!” Then he asked, “Haven’t you reserved any blessing for me?” <sup>37</sup>Isaac answered Esau, “I have made him lord over you and have made all his relatives his servants, and I have sustained him with grain and new wine. So what can I possibly do for you, my son?” <sup>38</sup>Esau said to his father, “Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!” Then Esau wept aloud. <sup>39</sup>His father Isaac answered him, “Your dwelling will be away from the earth’s richness, away from the dew of heaven above. <sup>40</sup>You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. But when you grow restless, you will throw his yoke from off your neck.”

<sup>41</sup>Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

<sup>42</sup>When Rebekah was told what her older son Esau had said, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him, “Your brother Esau is consoling himself with the thought of killing you. <sup>43</sup>Now then, my son, do what I say: Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran. <sup>44</sup>Stay with him for a while until your brother’s fury subsides. <sup>45</sup>When your brother is no longer angry with you and forgets what you did to him, I’ll send word for you to come back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?” <sup>46</sup>Then Rebekah said to Isaac, “I’m disgusted with living because of these Hittite women. If Jacob takes a wife from among the women of this land, from Hittite women like these, my life will not be worth living.”

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

## **Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word**

**Sermon**            “Sin’s Inevitable Consequences/God’s Unstoppable Advance”  
                            Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

1. Beware of the inevitable consequences of our sinful choices.
  - Isaac: surprising realization
  
  - Esau: shattering remorse that still lacks repentance

- Rebekah: fracturing relationships and personal despair
2. Be aware of the unstoppable advance of God's covenant blessing.
- God sovereignly overrules some of his people's worst choices to still advance the grace he intends.
    - ◇ "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." (Genesis 50:20)
    - ◇ "This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross." (Acts 2:23)

### **Pastoral prayer**

#### **\* Hymn of response**

*"Here Is Love"  
(continue scrolling for words and music)*



"Here Is Love"



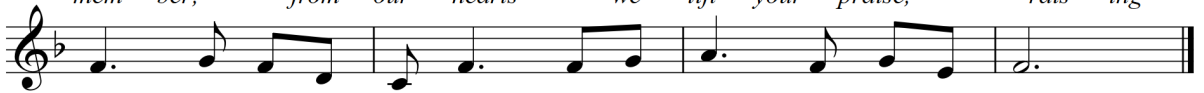
1. Here is love vast as the o - cean, lov - ing - kind - ness as a flood, when the  
 2. On the mount of cru - ci - fix - ion foun - tains o - pened deep and wide. Through the  
 3. In thy truth thou dost di - rect me by thy Spir - it through thy Word; and thy  
 4. Let me, all thy love ac - cept - ing, love thee e - ver all my days; let me



Prince of life, our ran - som, shed for us his pre - cious blood. Here is love, Lord we re -  
 flood - gates of your mer - cy flowed a vast and gra - cious tide. Here is love like might - y  
 grace my need is meet - ing as I trust in you, my Lord. Of thy full - ness, thou art  
 seek thy king - dom on - ly, and my life be to thy praise. Thou a - lone shalt be my  
*Here is love, Lord we re -*



mem - ber; from our hearts we lift your praise, rais - ing  
 riv - ers poured un - ceas - ing from a - bove: heav - en's  
 pour - ing thy great love and pow'r on me, with - out  
 glo - ry, no - thing in the world I see. Thou hast  
*mem - ber; from our hearts we lift your praise, rais - ing*



high the liv - ing an - them all will sing through end - less days.  
 peace and per - fect jus - tice kissed a guilt - y world in love.  
 meas - ure, full and bound - less, draw - ing out my heart to thee.  
 cleans'd and sanc - ti - fied me; thou thy - self hast set me free.  
*high the liv - ing an - them all will sing through end - less 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*

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### Musicians for this week:

**David Henry** – guitar, vocalist

**Erika Lines** – vocalist

**Hannah Lutz** – viola

**Charlotte Reeder** – vocalist

**John Reeder** – piano

### WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BEGINNING JUNE 2, WE WILL BE OFFERING A FIVE-WEEK** women's summer Bible study entitled "Women & Jesus: Their Stories. His Story. Our Stories." The study will be held each Wednesday morning in June from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Each morning will include a time of fellowship, round table discussion, and teaching from Caroline Scruggs and Christy Gambrell. For more information and a schedule, visit [lmpc.org/womens-bible-studies](http://lmpc.org/womens-bible-studies).

**WOMEN OF LMPC:** Join us for our Women's Summer Suppers on June 3 and July 13. Suppers will be hosted in individual homes, and you are welcome to invite your friends and neighbors. Registration for the June 3 supper is now open via Realm. If you would like to host a supper, please email [women@lmpc.org](mailto:women@lmpc.org).

**SUMMER VBS IS BACK!** We will be holding "VBS 2021: The Race is On" for all children who have completed kindergarten-5th grade, June 14-17, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon. Registration is now open via Realm. If you would like to volunteer, you may register your interest via Realm. For more information, visit [lmpc.org/children](http://lmpc.org/children).

**WE HAVE THREE POSITIONS OPEN** on the LMPC staff: Assistant to Pastor Hitchings (full time); Children's Ministry Assistant (25 hours/week); and Church Management Software Administrator (10-15 hours/week). For more information and to apply please visit [lmpc.org](http://lmpc.org).

*To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit [lmpc.org/news](http://lmpc.org/news)*

## SUMMER MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

We have multiple opportunities for you to serve in music ministry this summer:

- Sanctuary Choral Ensembles: Women (middle school and up) will sing in sanctuary services during the month of June. Men will sing in sanctuary services during the month of July.
- Communion Choir at Thrive: 3rd Friday of each month at 12:45 p.m.
- “Hymns for Home”: ministering to the homebound through music. Times will vary.

You do not need to be a member of the Chancel Choir to participate. For more information about any or all of these opportunities, please contact Joy Gibbons at [joy@lmpc.org](mailto:joy@lmpc.org).