



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 4, 2021 | Fellowship Hall Service

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

* Call to worship

taken from Jeremiah 32 and Revelation 4:8

Leader: Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.

All: You show love to thousands—O great and powerful God, whose name is the LORD Almighty, great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds.

Leader: You performed miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt and have continued them to this day, both in Israel and among all mankind, and have gained the renown that is still yours.

All: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

* Hymn of praise

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly fore’er we adore him.

text by Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; music Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

* **Prayer of adoration**

Hymn of preparation

“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”

Give to the winds thy fears; hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
our God will lift up, our God will lift up, our God will lift up thy head.

You see our weakness, Lord; our hearts are known to thee.
O lift thou up our sinking hearts
to know thy mercy, to know thy mercy, to know thy mercy and pow’r.

Through waves and clouds and storms, he gently clears the way.
Wait thou his time; so shall this night
soon end in joy, soon end in joy, soon end in joyous day.
text by Paul Gerhardt, 1656, translated by John Wesley; music by Jon Caudill, 2002

* **Scripture reading from Genesis 32:1-21**

Marianne Stern

¹Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. ²And when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!” So he called the name of that place Mahanaim. ³And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother in the land of Seir, the country of Edom, ⁴instructing them, “Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob, ‘I have sojourned with Laban and stayed until now. ⁵I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.’”

⁶And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are four hundred men with him.” ⁷Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed. He divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and herds and camels, into two camps, ⁸thinking, “If Esau comes to the one camp and attacks it, then the camp that is left will escape.” ⁹And Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,’ ¹⁰I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. ¹¹Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children. ¹²But you said, ‘I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.’”

¹³So he stayed there that night, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau, ¹⁴two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, ¹⁵thirty milking camels and their calves, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. ¹⁶These he handed over to his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, "Pass on ahead of me and put a space between drove and drove." ¹⁷He instructed the first, "When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, 'To whom do you belong? Where are you going? And whose are these ahead of you?' ¹⁸then you shall say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a present sent to my lord Esau. And moreover, he is behind us.'" ¹⁹He likewise instructed the second and the third and all who followed the droves, "You shall say the same thing to Esau when you find him, ²⁰and you shall say, 'Moreover, your servant Jacob is behind us.'" For he thought, "I may appease him with the present that goes ahead of me, and afterward I shall see his face. Perhaps he will accept me." ²¹So the present passed on ahead of him, and he himself stayed that night in the camp.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"A Rock and a Hard Place"

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. An encouraging reminder leading to a revealing response (vv. 1-5)
2. A growing fear leading to dependent prayer (vv. 6-12)
 - An affirmation of God's past faithfulness (v. 9)
 - A proclamation of Jacob's core unworthiness (v. 10a)
 - A recollection of God's abundant provision (v. 10b)
 - A petition for God's intervention (v. 11)
 - A rehearsal of God's promises (v. 12)
3. An appeasing offer to an offended party (vv. 13-21)

Pastoral prayer

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper. This celebration is a sacred time during which God's people enjoy communion with him and unity with each other. We believe that the Lord's Supper is meant for the body of Christ as a gathered, corporate reality and not merely for personal or individual edification. For this reason, the livestream is ending at the conclusion of the sermon and will not include the celebration of the sacrament.

Musicians for this week:

Joel Christie – vocalist
Charley Crichton – bass
David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Maddie Lee – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola
Hannah Pulliam – flute
Hallie Blair Quatro – vocalist

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED in our summer food collection. We were able to donate 11 shopping carts full of peanut butter, jelly, canned ravioli, and more to the Chattanooga Area Salvation Army Food Pantry. Keep an eye out for information on our 2021 Build-A-Bag Food Drive beginning in August.

WE WILL GIVE A REPORT ON THE 2021 PCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY next Sunday, July 11, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. General Assembly is the annual meeting of representative elders and churches of the denomination of the PCA which took place this past week in St. Louis. All are invited to attend! Nursery will be available.

OUR NEXT WOMEN'S SUMMER SUPPERS will take place on Tuesday, July 13. Registration via Realm is now open. Please make plans to join us for an evening of food and fellowship with other women from our church and community. If you would like to host a supper, please email women@lmpc.org.

OUR MONTHLY VIP EVENTS ARE RESUMING IN JULY! To welcome everyone back, we invite you to join us for pizza and popcorn at our annual VIP Movie Night on Thursday, July 15, at 6:00 p.m. To allow everyone to spread out as desired, we will meet in the fellowship hall. There is no cost to join us, but we do request that you RSVP no later than Monday, July 12. You can register via Realm or by calling the LMPC church office at 423-821-4528.

THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS WILL BE HELD AUGUST 20-22, as well as a final session on August 29 (if needed). This class is for those who are interested in joining LMPC or learning more about what we believe. If you are interested in signing up for the class, please confirm by emailing julie@lmpc.org or calling 423-424-5973 by August 8.

SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY CAMP which will take place September 10-12, 2021. Mark your calendars for registration opening on Tuesday, August 17 at 7:00 a.m. More information coming soon!

DUE TO CIVIL UNREST IN THEIR COUNTRY OF SERVICE, one of our supported missionary families is looking for housing (preferably rent-free) for the next 9-12 months. If you have a guest house or apartment that may be available, please email Stephanie Young at stephanie@lmpc.org.

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