

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Wil Nettleton, pastor of outreach

* Call to worship

taken from Psalm 33

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to

praise him.

All: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he

does. The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of

his unfailing love.

Leader: By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by

the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all

the people of the world revere him.

All: We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In

him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in

you.

* Hymn of praise

"Rejoice in All Your Works"

Every mouth that cries for food, every lung that yearns for breath, every eye that searches through the dark for light, all creation looks to you for its breath and for its food; from the goodness of your hand we're satisfied.

Refrain: O rejoice in all your works, King of heaven, King of earth!

Every creature you have made declares your praise.

We rejoice in all you've made, God of all sustaining grace; with the mountain, sky, and sea we sing your praise.

Every tree that thirsts for rain, every bird that seeks its nest, every heart that waits in hope to be made glad, all creation looks to you for its breath and for its food; from the goodness of your hand we're satisfied. *Refrain*

May the pond'rings of my heart and the song upon my lips with the chorus of creation join in praise to the God who made all things, to the Spirit who sustains, to the Son who over all creation reigns. *Refrain* text based on Psalm 104, music by Wendell Kimbrough ©2014 Wendell Kimbrough, ARP, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession taken from Isaiah 30

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it." Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! How gracious he will be when you cry for help!

Hymn of confession

"Depth of Mercy"

Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy reaching even me? God, the Just, his wrath forbears; me, the chief of sinners, spares. So many times my heart has strayed from his kind and perfect ways, making clear my desp'rate need for his blood poured out for me.

Give me grace, Lord, let me own all the wrongs that I have done. Let me now my sins deplore, look to you and sin no more. There, for me, the Savior stands holding forth his wounded hands, scars which ever cry for me; once condemned but now set free. text by Charles Wesley, 1740; music by Bob Kauflin, 1997

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Psalm 103:8-13

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

* Hymn of assurance

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name! He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame: he has washed us with his blood (3x), he has brought us nigh to God. Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies, called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes: he has washed us with his blood (3x), he presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store; when, through grace, in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more: he who washed us with his blood (3x), has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high; here they trusted him before us, now their praises fill the sky: "Thou hast washed us with thy blood (3x), thou art worthy, Lamb of God!" text by John Newton, 1774; music by Laura Taylor, 2001

Sacrament of baptism

Meredith and Jay Brooks bringing Lolly Joiner Brooks

Hymn of preparation

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high: hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm is past; safe into the haven guide, receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none, I helpless hang on thee; leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me! All my trust on thee is stayed, all help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head in the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within: thou of life the fountain art, let me take of thee; spring thou up within my heart, to all eternity. text by Charles Wesley, 1740; music by Greg Thompson, 2000

* Scripture reading from Luke 1:5-25

Wil Nettleton

⁵In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

⁸Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And the whole multitude of

the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

¹⁸And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²²And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. ²⁴After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵"Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Waiting on God" Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

- 1. An astounding commendation in spite of great disappointment (vv. 5-7)
- 2. An ancient promise realized in spite of human impossibility (vv. 8-17)
- 3. An unbelieving response in spite of an angel's declaration (vv. 18-25)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"We Will Feast in the House of Zion"

We will not be burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God. We are not consumed by the flood; upheld, protected, gathered up.

Refrain:

We will feast in the house of Zion.

We will sing with our hearts restored.

"He has done great things," we will say together.

We will feast and weep no more.

In the dark of night before the dawn, my soul be not afraid. For the promised morning, O how long? O God of Jacob be my strength. *Refrain*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed. You are the faithful one.

And from the garden to the grave,
bind us together, bring shalom. *Refrain*text and music by Joshua Moore and Sandra McCracken © 2015 Drink Your Tea Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic.# 152036

* 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

Musicians for this week:

Ismael Bartolome – violin Genna Christie – vocalist David Henry – guitar, vocalist Maddie Lee – piano Hannah Lutz – viola Charlotte Reeder – vocalist Chapman Whitted – guitar John Wingard – vocalist **Celebrating the baptism** of Lolly Joiner Brooks at the 9:30 service in the fellowship hall today are her parents, Meredith and Jay Brooks, and her grandparents, Caroline and Hugh Morrow, and Abbie and Jay Brooks, Sr.

RENEW CAMPAIGN VISION GATHERINGS

Please save the date and plan to attend one of our upcoming Vision Gatherings for the RENEW Campaign on September 7, 16, or 19 at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend and hear our lead pastor, Brian Salter, explain the vision for RENEW and for the future of LMPC. Please RSVP for your date of choice by September 2 by logging into your Realm account or by calling the church office at 423-821-4528.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL ARE INVITED TO A SERVICE OF INSTALLATION for Wil Nettleton, our new pastor of outreach, **tonight** at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Following this special service, we will celebrate with ice cream and cookies in the courtyard as we welcome Wil and Mary and their children, Cooper and Story, to the LMPC family. Nursery will be provided.

TODAY WE WILL LAUNCH BUILD-A-BAG, our annual food collection for the Chattanooga Area Salvation Army. You can pick up a bag with attached shopping list from the fellowship hall lobby or Small Conference Room. Please return your filled bags by Sunday, September 5. More information can be found on the missions bulletin board and at lmpc.org/build-a-bag. Our goal this year is 325 bags—please help us reach our goal!

FAMILY CAMP REGISTRATION WILL OPEN this Tuesday, August 17 at 7:00 a.m. via Realm. Our beloved annual event at Camp Alpine in Mentone, Alabama, will take place September 10-12, and all are welcome to come. For more information visit lmpc.org/family-camp.

OUR WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP FALL KICK-OFF will take place next Sunday, August 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Join us for an evening of food and fellowship as we celebrate being back together, and hear what is ahead for Women's Discipleship in the coming year. We will enjoy dinner from Bob's Brick Oven and worship led by Jennifer Daniels. The cost is \$10 per person, and no prior registration is required.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, WE WILL RESUME EVENING PRAYER with a Communion Service at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel. This service includes hymns and songs of praise accompanied by piano as well as intercessory prayer and a homily. All are welcome to join.

OUR CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER GROUP WILL BEGIN MEETING on Tuesday, August 24, in the Reception Room as well as via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The purpose of this group is to provide inspiration, information, and intercession for those who are caring for a loved one or having to make decisions about care. The group is facilitated by Lee Ballenger and Ed Salter. For more information, email edwardsalter815@gmail.com.

ALL VIPS JOIN US FOR A CHATTANOOGA LOOKOUTS BASEBALL GAME on Tuesday, August 31 at 7:15 p.m. We'll enjoy a picnic in our private Lookouts Lounge with choice of indoor or outdoor seating as we watch the Lookouts challenge the Birmingham Barons. Register online or send your \$15 payment to the church office by Monday, August 23.

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