



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 22, 2021 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO LMPC! *We're so glad you are with us today. Please use the tear-off card in the back of your bulletin to share important information with us. As we come together to worship the living God, we ask that you silence all communication devices and refrain from bringing beverages into worship so that we might, in joyful reverence, give our full attention to praising and honoring our God.*

A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

- We have a nursery available this morning.
- Children's worship sheets and crayons are available for children. Please take crayons home with you.
- Tithes and offerings may be left in the plates at the exits.

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Keith Michaels, ruling elder

*** Call to worship**

based on Psalm 107 and Psalm 108

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

All: **Let us give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. Let us exalt him in the assembly of the people. Whoever is wise, let him heed these things and consider the great love of the LORD.**

Leader: We will praise you, O LORD, among the nations; we will sing of you among the peoples. For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

All: **Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth.**

* Hymn of praise

“Across the Lands”

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by your hand.
All creation holds together by the power of your voice.
Let the skies declare your glory; let the land and seas rejoice!

Refrain: You're the Author of creation;
you're the Lord of ev'ry man;
and your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet you left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost,
and exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer you fed the hungry; with a word you calmed the sea;
yet how silently you suffered, that the guilty may go free! *Refrain*

With a shout you rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave,
and ascended into heaven, leading captives in your way.
Now you stand before the Father, interceding for your own;
from each tribe and tongue and nation, you are leading sinners home! *Refrain*
text and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Thankyou Music, LLC, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

based on Romans 3

No one will be declared righteous in God's sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.

Prayer of confession

Merciful God, your word tells us that you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

based on Micah 6:8, Psalm 51, and The Book of Common Prayer

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Titus 3:4-7

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

* Hymn of assurance

"His Mercy Is More"

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;
thrown into the sea without bottom or shore:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, his mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn—
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

What riches of kindness he lavished on us.
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

text and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa ©2016 Getty Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

Hymn of preparation

"Yet Not I, but through Christ in Me"

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer?
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
for my life is wholly bound to his.
O how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,
for by my side, the Savior, he will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
for in my need his power is displayed.
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me;
through the deepest valley he will lead.
O the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
the future sure, the price, it has been paid;
for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
and he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated;
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
O the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With ev'ry breath, I long to follow Jesus,
for he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day, I know he will renew me
until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus;
all the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat,
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

*text and music by Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, and Rich Thompson, ©2018 CityAlight Music, ARR, UBP,
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* **Scripture reading from Luke 3:1-20**
text printed in the bulletin

Jim Richter (9:30)
David Paschall (11:00)

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "God Prepares His People for His Gracious Coming"
Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.
text by Charles Wesley (1744) and Mark Hunt (1978); music by Rowland Pritchard, 1855

* **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:

David Henry – guitar, vocalist
Hannah Lutz – viola
Jennifer Mixon – vocalist

Charlotte Reeder – vocalist
John Reeder – piano
Caroline West – violin

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILD-A-BAG, OUR ANNUAL FOOD COLLECTION for the Chattanooga Area Salvation Army, continues this week. 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. Please help us reach our goal of 325 bags!

OUR WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP FALL KICK-OFF will take place tonight 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.

WE WILL RESUME EVENING PRAYER TONIGHT 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 this 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.

OUR REGULAR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES, including children's choirs, fellowship suppers, and children's clubs, will begin on Wednesday, September 1. Please join us! To register for a children's music ministry opportunity, visit your Events tab on Realm. Visit lmpc.org/wednesday for more information about Wednesday nights.

FALL WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES WILL BEGIN the week of September 5. You can find a full schedule of studies at lmpc.org/womens-bible-studies.

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

Luke 3:1-20

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

SERMON NOTES

“God Prepares His People for His Gracious Coming”

Luke 3:1-20

1. God’s messenger prepares the people for his arrival. (vv. 1-6)
 - God’s coming will have a historic context. (vv. 1-2)

 - God’s coming requires repentance. (vv. 2-3)

 - God’s coming fulfills his promises. (vv. 4-6)

2. God’s messenger preaches his message. (vv. 7-14)
 - God’s message provides a warning. (vv. 7-9)

 - God’s message invites particular repentance. (vv. 10-14)

3. God’s messenger promises someone greater than himself. (vv. 15-18)
 - The promised one is greater than John. (v. 16)

 - The promised one’s baptism is greater than John’s baptism. (v. 16)

FINANCE UPDATE THROUGH JULY 31, 2021

Annual Budget: \$5,179,800

2021 Giving YTD: \$2,609,298

Remaining gifts needed: \$2,570,502

Outstanding Pledge Balance: \$1,423,630

Unpledged Giving Needed: \$1,146,872

We are grateful to God for the generosity of his people here at LMPC. You can find various ways to give at lmpc.org/give.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: FALL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Elementary Ministry needs you! As we work to resume typical activities, we are in need of volunteers to be teachers and classroom helpers for Wednesday night classes for pre-K - 5th graders. If you are interested in serving in this way please contact Greta Erickson at greta@lmpc.org for more information.

If you're interested in getting involved, but Sunday morning is a better time for you, we are still looking for classroom helpers at both 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Please email greta@lmpc.org to inform Greta of your availability.

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.

MEMBERS & VISITORS - PLEASE REACH OUT TO US

NAME

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- Speak to a pastor
- Speak to someone in the church office
- Receive email from LMPC

EMAIL

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT:

- Serving at LMPC
- Becoming a member at LMPC
- Joining a small group
- Joining a Bible study
 - men's
 - women's
- Prayer opportunities

If you are a first-time or repeat visitor, please fill out your information on the other side of this card so we can follow up with you.

PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

Include request in the Prayer List?

Yes No

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

PHONE DAY EVENING

Please deposit this card in the offering plate.

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE TODAY!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help in any way we can. Feel free to fill out your information on this tear-off card and place it in the offering plate. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!

I AM A:

- First time visitor
 Repeat visitor

NAME

SPOUSE (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

CHILDREN (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

ADDRESS

HOME PHONE

CELL

EMAIL*

SPOUSE CELL

SPOUSE EMAIL*

**By supplying your email address(es), you consent to receive email from LMPC.*

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, August 22

9:30 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
9:30 a.m.	Sunday school adults & children	<i>various locations</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school adults, children, & youth	<i>various locations</i>
11:00 a.m.	Intro to LMPC	<i>Reception Room</i>
6:00 p.m.	Women's Ministry Fall Kickoff	<i>fellowship hall</i>
6:00 p.m.	Evening worship with communion	<i>chapel</i>

For more events this week, visit lmpc.org/calendar.

STAY CONNECTED WITH REALM AND THE CONNECT APP:

- Communicate with your groups and teams
- Register easily for popular events
- Gain access to our online church directory
- Update your personal information, including photo
- Check your progress on giving and pledging

You can find more details about how to join and use Realm at lmpc.org/realm. For additional help with Realm, please email Katie Holstege at katie@lmpc.org.

OUR MISSION

Glorifying God by growing in grace and giving our lives away on the mountain, in the city, and around the world.

CONTACT US

Address: 316 North Bragg Avenue
Lookout Mountain, TN 37350

Web: lmpc.org

Email: info@lmpc.org

Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first Sunday of every month in all morning services.