



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 20, 2022 | **Fellowship Hall Service**

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

* **Call to worship**

taken from Psalm 104

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

All: **How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Leader: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

All: **I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!**

* **Hymn of praise**

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

text by Francis of Assisi, 1225; German tune, 1623

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

Isaiah 30:15, 18, 19b

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! As soon as he hears, he will answer you.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Hebrews 10:10b-14

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"

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart;
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me;
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God;
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

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

Worship in the giving of God's tithe and our offerings

Offertory hymn

"Speak, O Lord"

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us, shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—
truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.
text and music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2005 Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

Sacrament of baptism

Rochelle and Cal Marshall bringing Thomas Desmond Marshall

* Scripture reading from Luke 11:14-28

Margot Kopic

¹⁴Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²²but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

²⁴When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."

²⁷As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" ²⁸But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Signs that Demand a Response"

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

Jesus' matchless power signals the arrival of God's Kingdom which:

1. leaves no room for neutrality. (vv. 14-23)
2. requires more than "cleaning up" our lives. (vv. 24-26)
3. brings true blessing to those who hear and obey him. (vv. 27-28)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

text by Robert Robinson, 1758; music by Asahel Nettleton, 1825

*** 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**

Musicians for this week:

Eleanor Caines – vocals

Charley Crichton – bass

David Henry – guitar, vocals

Hannah Lutz – viola

Hannah Perry – flute

John Reeder – piano

Charlotte Reeder – vocals

Celebrating the baptism of Thomas Desmond Marshall at the 9:30 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Rochelle and Cal Marshall, and his grandparents, Carmen and Jeff Taylor and Susan and Calvin Marshall.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US TODAY FOR THE EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, as we continue in our 2 Timothy series and observe Thanksgiving.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIRS OF LMPC invite you to a short presentation of "Welcome to Advent!" on Wednesday, November 30 at 5:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Start your Advent season off right with the beautiful sound of children's voices. Following the program, join us for Family Night, including pizza and bingo in the fellowship hall; no reservations required but regular dinner fees apply.

ALL WOMEN OF LMPC ARE INVITED to celebrate the Christmas season together, enjoying an evening of fun and fellowship at Canopy on Tuesday, December 6 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase.

THE VIP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 13. Join us at 12:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall for a delicious menu of chicken and dressing, roasted asparagus, cranberry-orange relish, and dessert. Make your reservation before December 9 on Realm Connect, or by calling the church office. The cost for this event is \$5. The VIPs are a group of mostly retired adults who meet monthly for fun and fellowship.

LMPC HAS SEVERAL JOB OPENINGS CURRENTLY LISTED: director of children's ministries, hostess/kitchen assistant (seasonal), and paid nursery worker. Find out more at lmpc.org/job-openings-at-lmpc.

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

VISION OF MERCY COLLECTION

Today begins our collection of essential kits and blankets to be distributed to men and women experiencing homelessness in Chattanooga, by our partners at Vision of Mercy.

If you donate an essential kit, please include each of these items in a sealed gallon-size Ziploc bag: winter hat, gloves, soap, deodorant, washcloth, socks, toothpaste, toothbrush, disposable wipes, disposable razor. If you donate a blanket, please ensure it is at least 50x60 inches; new and gently used/clean blankets will be accepted. Leave donations in the Small Conference Room before Wednesday, December 7.

If you would like to volunteer with Vision of Mercy to distribute the collected items on Saturday, December 10, please email Stephanie Young at stephanie@lmpc.org to receive more information.

Though we are not collecting toys for Hope for the Inner City's Christmas Store onsite this year, the Christmas Store will be open from December 12-21. To learn more about their store, view the store's wish list, or to volunteer at the Christmas Store, please visit www.wearehfc.org/christmas. Please note, we are not accepting toy donations at LMPC.