



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 4, 2022 | Fellowship Hall Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

John Wingard, ruling elder

* **Call to worship**

taken from Philippians 2 and Psalm 111

Leader: Christ Jesus, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

All: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Leader: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

All: He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name. To him belongs eternal praise!

* **Hymn of praise**

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
ye who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

text by James Montgomery, 1816; music by Henry Smart, 1867

* Prayer of adoration

Lighting the candle of peace

Leader: In the days of the prophet Isaiah, the people looked forward to the coming birth of a Savior whom Isaiah described as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there would be no end, and he would reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

All: He himself is our peace. He came and preached peace to those who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we have access to the Father by one Spirit. Now may the Lord of peace himself give us peace at all times and in every way.

based on Is. 9:6-7; Eph. 2:14a, 17-18; 2 Thess. 3:16

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

Offertory hymn

"See, amid the Winter's Snow"

See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Refrain: Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies:
he who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

Teach, O teach us, holy child, by thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble thee, in thy sweet humility. *Refrain*

text by Edward Caswall, 1851; music by John Goss, 1870

* Scripture reading from Hebrews 1:3b-5

Annie Reynolds

^{3b}After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Jesus, the Royal Son"
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. Jesus is the Priestly Purifier who paid for the sins of his people with his own blood. (v. 3b)
2. Jesus is the Exalted Ruler who sat down at the right hand of God. (v. 3c)
3. Jesus is the Royal Son whose name is superior to angels. (vv. 4-5)

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:

Grady Dickinson – alto saxophone
David Henry – guitar, vocals
Maddie Lee – vocals

Hannah Lutz – viola
Jennifer Mixon – vocals
Kara Riley – piano

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE DO NOT PARK in the handicap spots next to the porte-cochere. We need this lane open for drive-through during construction work.

ALL WOMEN OF LMPC ARE INVITED to celebrate the Christmas season together at Canopy on Tuesday, December 6 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided.

BRING IN YOUR DONATIONS for the Vision of Mercy collection to the Small Conference Room by Wednesday, December 7. If you donate an essential kit, please include all of these items in a sealed Ziploc gallon 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. If you would like to volunteer with Vision of Mercy to distribute the kits and blankets to those in need on Saturday, December 10, please email Stephanie Young at stephanie@lmpc.org.

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS to be placed in the sanctuary or fellowship hall in honor or in memory of a loved one by filling out a form on Realm Connect or contacting the church office at 423-821-4528. The last day to make your request is Friday, December 9.

THERE WILL BE A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at the end of each worship service in the sanctuary and fellowship hall on Sunday, December 11 for two purposes. The first purpose is to vote on the slate of officer nominees for the class of 2026. The second purpose is to hear a status update and call to action concerning the RENEW capital campaign.

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 meal. Make your reservation before December 9 on Realm Connect, or by calling the church office; cost is \$5.

IF YOU, YOUR FAMILY, OR SMALL GROUP WOULD ENJOY CHRISTMAS CAROLING on December 18 at 5:00 p.m. for LMPC members who cannot join us for Christmas services, please register by emailing Margaret at margaret@lmpc.org by December 11.

THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS will be held January 20-22. We will meet Friday from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Sunday during the Sunday school hour. One final session will be held during Sunday school on January 29. If you are an adult who wants to join the church, or you would like to learn about what we believe, this class is for you. Register on Realm Connect by January 10.

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

In the mid-19th century, German theologian Johann Hinrich Wichern was the first to weave evergreen boughs into a wagon wheel adorned with candles as a way for children to count the days until Christmas. Since that time, Advent wreaths have grown in meaning and use as a devotional and liturgical tool for Christians to celebrate Advent. The Advent wreaths we are using at LMPC are full of symbolic meaning: the circular shape reminds us of God's never-ending love; the evergreen branches point to God's promise of eternal life through his Son; the red holly berries signify Jesus' blood shed on the cross; and the candles of hope, peace, joy, love, and Christ himself remind us of the true Light of the World, whom the darkness can never overcome.

ADVENT 2022

CHRISTMAS HYMN SING

nursery available

Sunday, December 4

6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

nursery available at 4:00 p.m. only

Sunday, December 11

4:00 and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 18

5:00 p.m. in the community

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24

LESSONS AND CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

nursery available at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. only

3:00, 5:00, and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary