



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 25, 2022 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO LMPC! *We're so glad you are with us today. Please scan the QR code on the back of your bulletin to share important information with us through an online form. 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.*

** Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 98 and Luke 1

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

All: The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Leader: Our souls magnify the LORD and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

All: The Mighty One has done great things for us—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation!

* Hymn of praise

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light; lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
very God, begotten, not created; *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God in the highest; *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning: Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; *Refrain*
Latin hymn, attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751; music from John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

*** Prayer of adoration**

*** Affirmation of faith**

the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Call to confession

Proverbs 28:13 and Micah 7:18-19

Leader: He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

All: Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Hymn of confession

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

text by Phillips Brooks, 1868; music by Lewis Redner, 1868

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

based on Colossians 2:9-10, 13-15

In Christ all the fullness of the Deity dwells bodily, and we have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. When we were dead in our sins and in the uncircumcision of our sinful nature, God made us alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

* Hymn of assurance

“What Child Is This”

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

traditional English carol, adapted William C. Dix, 1865; English melody, 16th cent.

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

Offertory hymn

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Stars were gleaming, shepherds dreaming, oh, the night was dark and chill;
angel’s story, manger glory, shepherds heard it on the hill.
Ah, that singing, hear it ringing, earthward winging, praises bringing:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.
Polish carol, paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed, ca. 1925; traditional Polish melody

* Scripture reading from Matthew 1:18-25

Merrile Stroud

text printed in the bulletin

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“The Birth of Jesus”

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing,
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

continued

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

text based on Psalm 98, Isaac Watts, 1719; music by George F. Handel, 1742

* **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:

David Henry – guitar, vocals
Hannah Lutz – viola

Charlotte Reeder – vocals
John Reeder – piano

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, December 25

11:00 a.m. Worship service *sanctuary & fellowship hall*

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

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WILL MEET ON NEW YEAR'S DAY for regular Sunday services with communion; there will be no New Year's Eve service.

THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS will be held January 20-22. Register on Realm Connect before January 10.

SAVE THE DATE for the Women's Winter Suppers on Thursday, January 26 at 6:00 p.m. Please email caroline@lmpc.org if you are interested in hosting.

WE STILL NEED APPROXIMATELY \$600,000 in giving to ensure we can meet our 2022 financial obligations; thank you for your faithful giving.

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

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. Please scan the QR code below and fill out an online information form. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!



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 and in lieu of evening prayer on the third Sunday of every month.