



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 8, 2023 | Sanctuary Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Prelude

“O Worship the King”
arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and announcements

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Introit

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

Chancel Choir

Blessed Jesus, at your word we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear you,
by your teachings, sweet and holy, drawn from earth to love you solely.

Glorious Lord, yourself impart, Light of light, from God proceeding;
open now our ears and heart, help us by your Spirit’s pleading;
hear the cry your people raises, hear and bless our prayers and praises.
text by Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663; music by Johann Ahle, 1664, LIEBSTER JESU

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 27 and Nehemiah 9

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

All: One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

Leader: Stand up and praise the LORD your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be his glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. He alone is the LORD.

All: He made the heavens and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. He gives life to everything and the multitudes of heaven worship him.

* Hymn of praise

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star to the sages from afar.
Branch of royal David’s stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy Word—
grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany
and may praise thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

text by Christopher Wordsworth, 1807; music by George J. Elvey, 1859; ST GEORGE'S WINDSOR

* **Prayer of adoration**

Missionary report

Ruth Ann and Norm Leduc

Call to confession

Proverbs 28:13

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

Prayer of confession

based on Colossians 3

Leader: Heavenly Father, your Word says that as your chosen people, holy and dearly loved, we are to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. We are to bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances we may have against one another.

All: Lord, forgive us for our lack of compassion and humility. Forgive our impatience with each other and our refusal to bear with one another. Forgive us for ignoring your command to forgive those who have sinned against us.

Leader: Your Word says that we are to forgive as you have forgiven us, and that over all these virtues we are to put on love, which binds everything together in perfect unity.

All: Lord, forgive us for offering temporary, conditional forgiveness to those around us, which is fundamentally different from the eternal, unconditional forgiveness we have received in Christ.

Leader: Your Word says to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, since as members of one body we were called to peace, and to let the word of Christ dwell in us richly.

All: Lord, forgive us for allowing irritation and frustration to rule in our hearts rather than your peace. Forgive us for seeking to be abundantly filled by the things of this world, rather than seeking to have your Word dwell richly in our hearts. Teach us to do all things, whether in word or deed, in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on Ephesians 2

Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. For it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

* Hymn of assurance 455, vv. 1, 3, 5

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

And can it be that I should gain
an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain: Amazing love! How can it be
 that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above
(so free, so infinite his grace!),
humbled himself (so great his love!),
and bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me. *Refrain*

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th'eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. *Refrain*
text by Charles Wesley, 1738; music by Thomas Campbell, 1825, SAGINA

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

Offertory

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Chancel Choir

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,
for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church that we
may sing your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife,
and lead us out of death to life.

text by Martin Luther, 1483-1546; arr. David von Kampen, 2022

*** 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.**

*** Prayer of dedication and thanksgiving**

*** Scripture reading from Deuteronomy 5:1-6**

Frank Hitchings

¹And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the rules that I speak in your hearing today, and you shall learn them and be careful to do them. ²The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. ³Not with our fathers did the LORD make this covenant, but with us, who are all of us here alive today.

⁴"The LORD spoke with you face to face at the mountain, out of the midst of the fire, ⁵while I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the LORD. For you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up into the mountain. He said: ⁶"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.'"

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The Law of Liberty"

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

As God's covenant people go into the promised land, they are reminded of:

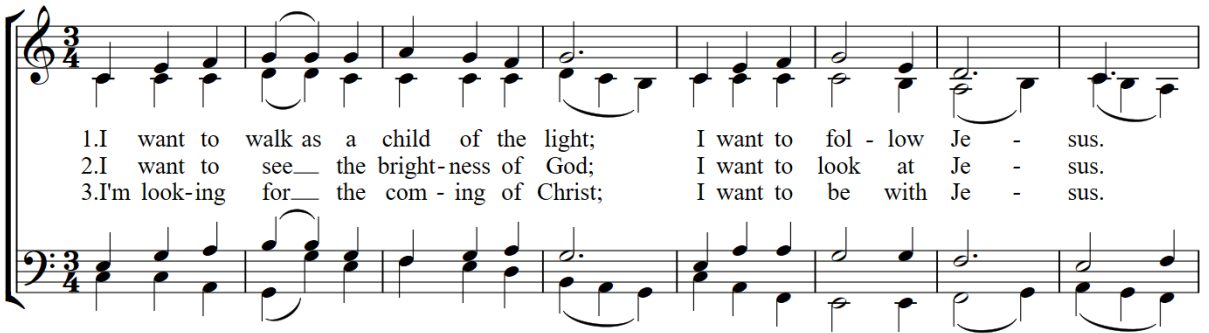
1. the continuity of the law. (vv. 1-3)
2. the personal nature of the law. (vv. 4-5)
3. the redemptive foundation of the law. (v. 6)

Pastoral prayer

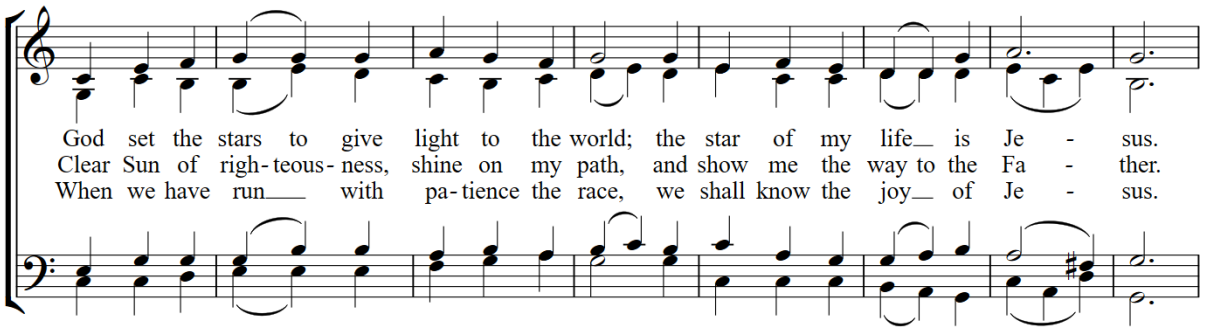
*** Hymn of response**

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"
(continue scrolling for words and music)

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low Je - sus.
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God; I want to look at Je - sus.
3. I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ; I want to be with Je - sus.

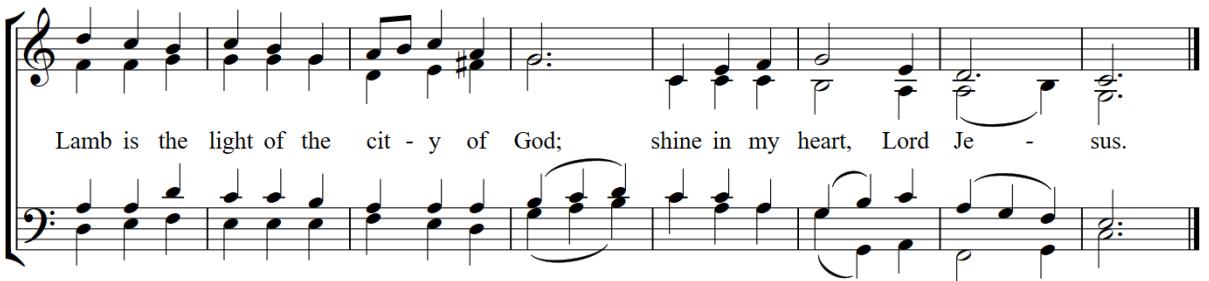


God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my life is Je - sus.
Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain:



In him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God; shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

“Reflection on Hyfrydol”
arr. Don Phillips

Musicians for this week:

Randall Crenshaw – piano

Joy Gibbons – organ, director

OUR MISSIONARY GUESTS THIS MORNING

Ruth Ann and Norm Leduc:

Ruth Ann (Heddendorf) was first sent out by LMPC 35 years ago. She met Norm, a French-Canadian, in France. They have served in various missions roles in France, England, Canada, and at the Pioneers U.S. headquarters in Florida. Norm and Ruth Ann “relaunched” overseas to France in 2019, where Norm helps lead a strategic media ministry focused on church-planting in unreached areas of the world, and Ruth Ann serves in member care, helping the 250+ Pioneers missionaries across Europe thrive in their lives and ministries. The Leducs are thankful for the deep partnership with LMPC that has been such a huge encouragement to them over the years.



Robbie Sweet:

Robbie met his wife Lydia while attending Covenant College. After graduating with degrees emphasizing youth ministry, they both joined the youth staff of LMPC and Robbie received his Master of Arts in theological studies from Covenant Theological Seminary. In 2015 Robbie, Lydia, and their four children moved to Scotland as a part of MTW Next, serving the global Church in reaching the next generation for Christ. After spending six years in St. Andrews, the Sweets moved to Glasgow to join the vision of the Free Church of Scotland in planting 30 new churches by 2030. The Sweets lead the youth and children’s work at Christ Church Glasgow, encouraging and equipping European leaders for next generation ministry, and pursuing ministry opportunities with the missionary kids serving throughout Europe.



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A VIP APPRECIATION LUNCHEON on Sunday, January 22 after morning worship services at 12:30 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building. We will enjoy a time of fellowship and a selection of soups and salads before hearing from two very special VIPs who have already begun leaving valuable wisdom for future generations. There is no cost for this event but seating is limited, so please RSVP by January 19 by registering on Realm Connect or calling the church office. *The VIP group is made up of mostly retired adults (ages 65+) from Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church and the community who meet monthly for fun and fellowship.*

MAKING DECISIONS AT THE END OF LIFE for ourselves and loved ones can often be challenging. Our Care for the Caregiver Group will have a special guest presentation by Bill Davis on this topic. Bill is an elder at LMPC, a professor at Covenant College, and author of the book, *Departing in Peace: Biblical Decision-Making at the End of Life*. No prior registration is required; please join us from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Reception Room on Tuesday, January 24.

JOIN OUR WOMEN'S WINTER SUPPERS on January 26, 6:00 p.m. These fellowship dinners will be hosted in individual homes and are an opportunity to connect with women across various ages and stages of life. Invite your friends and neighbors; please register on Realm Connect. If you are interested in hosting one of our Winter Suppers, please email Caroline Scruggs, caroline@lmpc.org.

ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS are invited to join us for lunch on Sunday, January 29, at 12:15 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building.

THE GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP will meet this spring on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Reception Room from February 2 through May 4. Find comfort and support alongside others. Register on Realm Connect for \$25, which includes the workbook. Contact Ed Salter with questions at edwardsalter815@gmail.com.

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

The rosebud in the fellowship hall today is for the birth of Roger Hankins Plating, born to Catherine and Zach Plating on January 2.