



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 30, 2023 | Fellowship Hall Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

* **Call to worship**

taken from 1 Chronicles 16

Leader: Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

All: For great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. Remember the wonders he has done.

All: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

* **Hymn of praise**

“O Worship the King”

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow’r and his love;
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

based on Psalm 104, text by Robert Grant, 1833; music by Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

* **Prayer of adoration**

Call to confession

Ecclesiastes 12:13b-14 and Isaiah 55:6-7

Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Psalm 103:8-13

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

* Hymn of assurance

“How Great Thou Art”

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin. *Refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art. *Refrain*

text by Stuart K. Hine, 1949; music from a Swedish folk tune

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

Offertory hymn

"Christ Is Mine Forevermore"

Mine are days that God has numbered; I was made to walk with him.
Yet I look for worldly treasure and forsake the King of kings.
But mine is hope in my Redeemer; though I fall, his love is sure.
For Christ has paid for ev'ry failing; I am his forevermore.

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood.
Through the valley I must travel, where I see no earthly good.
But mine is peace that flows from heaven and the strength in times of need.
I know my pain will not be wasted; Christ completes his work in me.

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way.
One with Christ, I will encounter harm and hatred for his name.
But mine is armor for this battle, strong enough to last the war;
and he has said he will deliver safely to the golden shore.

Come, rejoice now, O my soul, for his love is my reward.
Fear is gone and hope is sure; Christ is mine forevermore.
And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk;
for there my heart has found its treasure: Christ is mine forevermore.

text and music by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson © 2016 CityAlight Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic.#152036

* Scripture reading from Deuteronomy 6:10-25

Annie Reynolds

¹⁰"And when the LORD your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, ¹¹and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, ¹²then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ¹³It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. ¹⁴You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you—¹⁵for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God—lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth. ¹⁶You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah.

¹⁷"You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. ¹⁸And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and take possession of the good land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers ¹⁹by thrusting out all your enemies from

before you, as the LORD has promised. ²⁰When your son asks you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the LORD our God has commanded you?' ²¹then you shall say to your son, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²²And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. ²³And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers. ²⁴And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day. ²⁵And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.'"

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Warning of Dangers Ahead"
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. An urgent reminder of the danger ahead (vv. 10-16)
 - Fullness in life can lead to forgetfulness. (vv. 10-12)
 - Influence of culture can lead to idolatry. (vv. 13-15)
 - Difficulty and hardship can lead to doubt. (v. 16)
2. A two-fold remedy to the very real dangers (vv. 13, 17-25)
 - Obedience rooted in reverence (vv. 13, 17-19)
 - Obedience rooted in redemption (vv. 20-25)

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.**

Musicians for this week:

Xaris Emmett – violin

David Henry – guitar, vocals

Maddie Lee – piano

Mike McCracken – clarinet

Rebecca McCracken – vocals

Olivia Ranier – vocals

Chapman Whitted – guitar

SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING

MISSIONARY GUESTS: LAURA AND MIKE LOTHERS

Laura and Mike Lothers work with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They first served as language surveyors to assess Bible translation needs in West Asia. Currently Mike designs and develops Paratext, a translation tool used by teams around the world with over 2,800 translations in progress. Laura teaches their son Samuel (7) and supports Mike's work. This spring, their son David (18) graduates from high school and their daughter Joanna (21) graduates from Anderson University.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR FRANK HITCHINGS will be taking a much-deserved sabbatical from May 1 to September 9. Please pray for his rest. If you see him in the community, feel free to greet him; however, please protect him from the work and business of the church for this season. If you need assistance, please contact Frank's assistant, Jennifer Thompson (jenniferthompson@lmpc.org or 423-424-4099), who will direct you to someone who can help with your specific need.

A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held today at the end of each worship service in the sanctuary and fellowship hall for the purpose of electing the nominated elders and deacons to the class of 2026. Pick up a brochure with candidate info from the Narthex or fellowship hall, or access it electronically at lmpc.org/officers.

TODAY WE WILL VIEW A RENEW update video in each service, highlighting Stuart Bickley and his role as construction manager. Pick up a handout after the service today with an overview of the restoration work and a general timeline from The Tradesmen Group. The handout is also available online by scanning the QR code.



A DEDICATED SPACE FOR NURSING MOTHERS is now available in the Small Conference Room during worship services. The fellowship hall service will be broadcast in this location. This area is still in development, but available for use. A changing table is easily accessible, in the adjacent women's restroom.

JOIN US TONIGHT AT 6:00 P.M. in the chapel for our Sunday Evening Gathering with a missionary report by Laura and Mike Lothers, with Wycliffe Bible Translation. We will also commission two LMPC members: Lauren to Central Asia and Josh to England.

BE ENCOURAGED AT AN EVENING OF SCRIPTURE & SONG on Sunday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Great hymns and anthems of our faith will be led by our Chancel Choir and congregation. Nursery will be provided, with a cookie reception to follow.

AS YOU EXIT THE SERVICE each week, please care for your bulletin in one of two ways: (1) take it home and use the liturgy for prayer and reflection, or (2) hand your bulletin to an usher or place it into the provided wooden box. In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we will reuse bulletins from the 9:30 services in the 11:00 services where possible, and we will recycle those returned at the end of the morning.

WIDOWED? HELP IS HERE and hope is possible. Discover reasons for hope and tips for coping with the death of a spouse in this GriefShare seminar. Register on Realm Connect and join us on Saturday, May 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Reception Room.

SUMMER MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES: Consider joining one of our sanctuary ensembles this summer! A Men's Ensemble will sing on June 4, 11, and 18 (rehearsal: June 3 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.); a Women's Ensemble will sing on June 25, July 2, and July 9 (rehearsal: June 24 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.). No Wednesday rehearsals. Please register on Realm Connect. Questions? Email joy@lmpc.org.

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