



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2017 | **Fourth Sunday in Advent** | 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

Prelude

“The First Noel”
traditional English melody, arr. James Mansfield

Welcome and greetings

Jared Huffman, associate pastor

* Call to worship

taken from Isaiah 9

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

All: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.

All: He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

* Hymn of praise 214

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

taken from Isaiah 30

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!

Responsive prayer of confession

Leader: Lord Jesus, on this eve of the celebration of your birth, we want to proclaim you with joy, as the shepherds did after they saw you in the stable. We want to receive you with gratitude, as Simeon did after seeing you in the temple. We want to walk with you in obedience, as Mary did after the proclamation by the angel Gabriel.

All: We confess that we all too often reject your promises. We are reluctant to forgive, and we resist following you with all of our hearts. Come to us anew and by your grace allow us to reflect your love because you first loved us.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Galatians 4:4-5; Titus 2:11-14

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

* Hymn of assurance 207

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

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

Offertory hymn 196, vv. 1, 2, 4

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

* Doxology 731

* Prayer of dedication and thanksgiving

* Scripture reading from Isaiah 52:7-9
p. 1144 in pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin

Stephanie Wharton (9:30)
Susie Courtney (11:00)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“Good News of Great Joy”
Brian Salter, associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 195**

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”
by Philipp Nicolai, arr. J. Bruce Ashton

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Musicians for this week:

Micaiah Allison – vocalist

Sarah Coffman – vocalist

Ethan McGrath – piano

Rebekah Risley – vocalist

Mark Zbinden (9:30) – vocalist

The rosebud in the sanctuary today is for the birth of Evermore Nicodemus Doe, born to Gretchen and Frederick Doe on December 13.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES will take place today at 3:00, 5:00, and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please join us for this special service of lessons, carols, and candlelight. Nursery will be provided at the 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. services only.

AT OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES TODAY, we will collect a retiring offering to replenish the Mercy Fund which serves members' needs for financial assistance. Generally, this involves immediate temporary needs such as housing, food, utilities expenses, and/or medical care.

OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE WITH COMMUNION will take place at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary next Sunday, December 31. All are welcome.

BEGINNING JANUARY 14, WE WILL OFFER OUR ANNUAL COMMUNICANT CLASS for youth interested in joining the church. For more information and to register, please email jessica@lmpc.org with the name, age, and grade of the student attending the class. The final day to sign up is Sunday, January 7.

SAVE THE DATE: We will host a seminar entitled "Digital Discipleship: Loving and Leading Our Children in an Age of Technology" on Thursday, January 11 at 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The presentation will be led by Brian Salter and Aaron Tolson. We will have time for questions and provide a take-home resource. All are invited: please join us to learn more about this timely topic.

INTERESTED IN JOINING LMPC? The next Intro to LMPC class will be held Friday evening, Saturday morning, and during Sunday School, January 19-21. This is for anyone who is interested in joining LMPC or learning more about what we believe. To sign up, please email julie@lmpc.org or call 423-424-5973 by January 12. Please note: childcare will be available only on Sunday morning.

SAVE THE DATES FOR "GETTING TO THE HEART OF PARENTING," a five-week parenting seminar on Wednesday evenings, January 17-February 14. During those five weeks, Wednesday night dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m., with children's and nursery programs beginning at 5:55 p.m. Adults will meet in the Upper Room at 6:00 p.m. to watch two 25-minute DVDs by Paul Tripp. All are invited!

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

**MEMBERS & VISITORS -
PLEASE REACH OUT TO US!**

FINANCE UPDATE

2017 GIVING UPDATE

through December 19, 2017

Annual Budget: \$4.503 million

2017 Giving YTD: \$4.14 million

Remaining Gifts Needed: \$359,000 (8% of budget)

- As 2017 comes to a close, we ask that you keep up the momentum in giving and prayerfully consider how much you can give. You can find various ways to give at lmpc.org/give.
- To review your giving so far in 2017, you can log in to your accessLMPC account via lmpc.org/access, click on "Giving," and then click through to "Giving History." For help with your accessLMPC account, please email merle@lmpc.org.
- Please note: For year-end gifts to be deductible in 2017, they must either be received in the church office by Friday, December 29, have a USPS postmark no later than December 31, or be dated no later than December 31 if submitted online.

2018 PLEDGING UPDATE

through December 19, 2017

\$2.78 million (59.8% of the budget) has been pledged so far. If you have not yet done so, please fill out a giving plan card and return it to the church office, or send it in online at lmpc.org/giving-2018. We ask that everyone submit your giving plan by mid-January 2018.

NAME _____

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- Speak to a pastor
- Speak to someone in the church office
- Receive our weekly news email

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT:

- Serving at LMPC
- Becoming a member at LMPC
- Joining a small group
- Joining a Bible study
 - men's
 - women's
- Prayer opportunities

If you are a first-time or repeat visitor, please fill out your information on the other side of this card so we can follow up with you.

**PRAYER REQUESTS &
COMMENTS**

Include request in the Prayer List?

Yes No

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

PHONE _____ DAY EVENING

Please deposit this card in the offering plate as it comes by.

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. Feel free to fill out your information on this tear-off card and place it in the offering plate. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!

I AM A:

- First time visitor
- Repeat visitor

NAME

SPOUSE (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

CHILDREN (IF ATTENDING TODAY)

ADDRESS

HOME PHONE

CELL

EMAIL

SPOUSE CELL

SPOUSE EMAIL

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, December 24

9:30 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary</i>
3:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve service <i>nursery available</i>	<i>sanctuary</i>
5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve service <i>nursery available</i>	<i>sanctuary</i>
6:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve service	<i>sanctuary</i>

Children of any age are welcome to participate in worship services. Crayons and activity sheets relevant to today's sermon are available in the narthex and at the front of the sanctuary.

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

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: memberinfo@lmpc.org

Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first Sunday of every month in the morning services and in lieu of evening prayer on the third Sunday of every month.

Devices to amplify sound during the Sunday morning worship services are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.