



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 31, 2017 | **Fellowship Hall Service** | 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Jared Huffman, associate pastor

*** Call to worship**

based on Psalm 90 and Psalm 57

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

All: **Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

Leader: We will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; we will sing of you among the peoples.

All: **For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth**

*** Hymn of praise**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew what the Almighty will do,
if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly fore'er we adore him.

words by Joachim Neander, 1680, translated by Catherine Winkwork, 1863

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, question one

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Call to confession

1 John 1:8-9; Proverbs 28:13

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Hymn of confession

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

God, be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;
plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now;
wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just,
let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice;
from my sins O hide thy face; blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me;
thy salvation's joy impart; steadfast make my willing heart.

words from Psalm 51; The Psalter, 1912

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on Colossians 1:13-14, 21-22

God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Once we were alienated from God and were enemies in our minds because of our evil behavior. But now he has reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

* Hymn of assurance "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

Jesus, what a friend for sinners! Jesus, lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Refrain: Hallelujah, what a Savior! Hallelujah, what a Friend!
 Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus, what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins. *Refrain*

Jesus, I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;
he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine. *Refrain*
words by J. Wilbur Chapman, 1910

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

Offertory hymn "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.
words by Stuart Townend © 1995 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* **Scripture reading from Psalm 90**
text printed in the bulletin

Meg Jacobs (9:30)
David Fowler (11:00)

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "Listening in on a 3,500-Year-Old Prayer"
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response** "Be Thou My Vision"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight;
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower:
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.
ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.

* **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**

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Musicians for this week:

David Henry – guitar, vocalist

Jeremy Taylor – piano

Jonathan VanderHart – vocalist

Caroline West – violin

Catherine Wiggins – vocalist

Celebrating the baptism of Luca Ryan Tahere at the 11:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary today are his parents, Christa and David Tahere, and his grandparents, Syble and Kenny Witt.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Alexandra Hirsch

January 22, 1940 – December 22, 2017

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MOST WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN AGAIN THE WEEK OF JANUARY 7. All women are welcome to attend any of the studies. You can find the full schedule with leaders and topics at lmpc.org/women. Nursery is provided for the Wednesday morning groups.

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.

DIVORCE CARE is a divorce recovery support group where you can find help and healing for the hurt of separation and divorce. This ministry is open to all members and friends of LMPC. The winter/spring session will begin with orientation on Tuesday, January 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the JHYB and will run until May 8. For more information, please contact Leon Sulser at leonsulser@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATES FOR "GETTING TO THE HEART OF PARENTING," a five-week parenting seminar on Wednesday evenings, January 17-February 14. During these 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

Psalm 90

¹A prayer of Moses the man of God. Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. ²Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." ⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. ⁵You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning—⁶though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered. ⁷We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. ⁸You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. ⁹All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. ¹⁰The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. ¹¹Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. ¹²Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. ¹³Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. ¹⁴Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. ¹⁵Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. ¹⁶May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. ¹⁷May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

SERMON NOTES

“Listening in on a 3,500-Year-Old Prayer”

Psalm 90

Moses, the man who led God’s people out of Egypt, teaches us in his prayer:

1. What is true about God:

- He is the refuge for every generation of his people (v. 1)
- He is the eternal, all-powerful Creator (vv. 2, 4)
- He hates all sin (vv. 7-9)

2. What is true of all people:

- Our lives are short and fragile (vv. 3-6, 9-10)
- We are blind to his eternal perspective (v. 4)
- We are sinful and rebellious (vv. 7-9, 11)

3. What we should boldly ask from God:

- A heart of true wisdom (v. 12)
- God’s presence and compassion (v. 13)
- Soul-satisfaction to be found in God’s unfailing love (vv. 14-15)
- God’s covenantal blessings to be extended to generations (v. 16)
- A lasting Kingdom impact to come from our labors (v. 17)



SERMON NOTES

“Listening in on a 3,500-Year-Old Prayer”

Psalm 90

FINANCE UPDATE

2017 GIVING UPDATE

through December 27, 2017

Annual Budget: \$4.503 million

2017 Giving YTD: \$4.32 million

Remaining Gifts Needed: \$184,000 (4% of budget)

- You can find 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 online year-end gifts to be deductible in 2017, they must be dated no later than **today**, December 31.

2018 PLEDGING UPDATE

through December 27, 2017

\$2.931 million (63.12% 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.

MEMBERS & VISITORS - PLEASE REACH OUT TO US!

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 31

8:10 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary only</i>
9:30 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
10:30 a.m.	Elders are available to pray for your needs	<i>Joe Novenson's office</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service	<i>sanctuary & fellowship hall</i>
6:00 p.m.	New Year's Eve communion service	<i>sanctuary</i>

Nursery is available at all morning services.

Children of any age are welcome to participate in worship services. Crayons and activity sheets relevant to today's sermon are available in the fellowship hall lobby.

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.