



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 23, 2023 | Fellowship Hall Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

John Wingard, ruling elder

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul!

All: We will praise the LORD all our lives; we will sing praise to our God as long as we live.

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the LORD, who remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

All: The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow. The LORD reigns forever—for all generations. Praise the LORD!

* 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! 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.

text by Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; music in Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

* 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

from Colossians 3

Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Hymn of confession

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and pow’r.

Refrain: I will arise and go to Jesus, he will embrace me in his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior, O, there are ten thousand charms.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him. *Refrain*

Come, ye weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you’re better, you will never come at all. *Refrain*
text by Joseph Hart, 1759; music from Walker’s Southern Harmony, 1835

Silent prayers of confession

God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

* **Hymn of assurance** "I Know that My Redeemer Lives—Glory Hallelujah!"

I know that my Redeemer lives—glory, hallelujah!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives—glory, hallelujah!

Refrain: Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground—glory, hallelujah!
The dead's alive and the lost is found—glory, hallelujah!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead—glory, hallelujah!
He lives, my everlasting Head—glory, hallelujah! *Refrain*

He lives to bless me with his love—glory, hallelujah!
He lives to plead for me above—glory, hallelujah! *Refrain*

He lives, all glory to his name!—glory, hallelujah!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same—glory, hallelujah! *Refrain*
text by Samuel Medley, 1775; music by DH, 2013

Prayer of intercession

Leader: O God of compassion, we ask that you work powerfully in our community. Would you, through our prayers and our very lives, transform it and draw its people into relationship with you. In your great mercy, provide for those who are marginalized, those without jobs, food, shelter, or clothing, and be near to them by your Spirit.

All: Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Leader: Be with the sick and the dying, those with chronic mental illness, those struggling with addiction, and those who are overwhelmed with medical expenses. Surround them with your loving presence, and equip us as we seek to meet their physical needs and share your Gospel of redemption and hope.

All: Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Leader: Be with those who are blinded by arrogance, greed, and self-sufficiency. Call them to yourself, Lord, show them your love and open their hearts to your Spirit's transforming work. And may your Spirit be at work in us, granting us the words and actions to faithfully bear witness to who you are.

All: Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, heal the relational and societal rifts that exist in our city. Give strength, endurance, and encouragement to those working to promote peace, unity, and healing. Teach all of us to live our lives as living sacrifices, and to honor your image in every person we encounter.

All: Merciful God, hear our prayer. We pray now as your Son taught us to pray, "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

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

Offertory hymn

*"Ancient of Days"
(continue scrolling for words and music)*

"Ancient of Days"



1. Though the na - tions rage, king - doms rise and fall, there is still one King reign - ing
2. Though the dread of night o - ver - whelms my soul, he is here with me; I am
3. Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings, I will watch and wait for the



o - ver all. So I will not fear, for this truth re - mains: that my God is the
not a - lone. O his love is sure, and he knows my name, for my God is the
Sa - vior King. Then my joy com - plete, stand - ing face to face, in the pres - ence of the



An - cient of Days. _____ None a - bove him, none be - fore him, all of time in his hands; for his
An - cient of Days. _____
An - cient of Days. _____



throne, it shall re - main and e - ver stand. _____ All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will



trust in his name; for my God is the An - cient of Days. _____

*text and music by J. Reeves, J. Robinson, M. Farren, and R. Thompson, © 2018 CityAlight Music, LLC, ARR, UBP,
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* Scripture reading from Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Denny Wise

¹"At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release. ²And this is the manner of the release: every creditor shall release what he has lent to his neighbor. He shall not exact it of his neighbor, his brother, because the LORD's release has been proclaimed. ³Of a foreigner you may exact it, but whatever of yours is with your brother your hand shall release.

⁴"But there will be no poor among you; for the LORD will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess—⁵if only you will strictly obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all this commandment that I command you today. ⁶For the LORD your God will bless you, as he promised you, and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow, and you shall rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over you.

7"If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, 8but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. 9Take care lest there be an unworthy thought in your heart and you say, 'The seventh year, the year of release is near,' and your eye look grudgingly on your poor brother, and you give him nothing, and he cry to the LORD against you, and you be guilty of sin. 10You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. 11For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The Economics of the Kingdom"

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

1. The Command: God's redeemed people must give release to debtors. (vv. 1-3)
2. The Ideal: The convergence of divine blessing and complete obedience leads to flourishing for all. (vv. 4-6)
3. The Reality: Our incomplete obedience means we must continually soften our hearts to open our hands to the poor among us. (vv. 7-11)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response**

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

text by Frances Havergal, 1874; music by Henri César Malan, 1827

* **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:

Grady Dickinson – alto saxophone

David Henry – guitar, vocals

Maddie Lee – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola

Matthew Mindeman – vocals

Melanie Ray – vocals

Chapman Whitted – guitar

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Isabella Orcelia Garriott, born to Amber and Calvin Garriott on July 15.

JOIN US ON REALM CONNECT:

Do you have a Realm Connect account? Join our invitation-only networking site to access the LMPC online directory, manage giving, register for events, and fill out your Serving profile. In anticipation of our Ministry Fair, everyone will need their own Realm Connect account. Request one today by visiting lmpc.org/realm.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 25 and from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 28, due to electrical work. Please give us a call first if you are going to stop by in case of any last-minute changes to this schedule.

JOIN US IN SAYING "FAREWELL" to Hank Currin on Wednesday, August 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the JHYB. We will celebrate our beloved middle school co-director with an ice cream social for his many years of faithful service as part of our Youth Ministry Team.

WIDOWED? Help is here and hope is possible. Register for our Loss of a Spouse Seminar on Realm Connect and join us on Saturday, August 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the JHYB Middle School Room.

SUPPORTED HOME MISSIONS PARTNER, VISION OF MERCY, will host their "No Need to Struggle" community feeding event on Saturday, August 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Miller Park. Volunteer opportunities are available on both Friday and Saturday and include packing nonperishable food bags, setting up tents and chairs, and interacting with guests. Please contact Missions Director Stephanie Young at stephanie@lmpc.org if you would like to learn more or sign up to help.

A MINISTRY FAIR will be held on Sunday, August 13 for the purpose of learning about opportunities to serve. Stop by the Conference and Reception Rooms between 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to connect with those serving in various ministries. Please prioritize attending; as we continue in this season of renewal, let us renew our spirit of service. Be sure you have a Realm Connect account and the app downloaded; fill out the form at lmpc.org/realm if you need an account.

IF YOU ARE AN ADULT WHO WANTS TO JOIN the church, register on Realm Connect for the Intro to LMPC class on August 19 and 20. If you are not yet on Realm Connect, access registration by clicking the link on the event page: lmpc.org/intro-to-lmpc.

SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY CAMP 2023! This year, due to renovations at Alpine Camp, Family Camp will be a one-day only experience on Saturday, September 9. We'll enjoy our favorite things: family games, outdoor activities, silly songs, and quality time together...plus, a few surprises! Registration will open on August 1 and close on August 31.

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