



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 13, 2023 | Sanctuary Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Prelude

Prelude on THAXTED

arr. David Cherwien

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #660)

Welcome and announcements

Don Kent, ruling elder

* Call to worship

from Daniel 2

Leader: Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

All: He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him. We thank and praise you, O God of our fathers.

* Hymn of praise 66, vv. 1, 4

“God Is Known among His People”

God is known among his people, every mouth his praises fill;
from of old he has established his abode on Zion's hill;
there he broke the sword and arrow, bade the noise of war be still.

Vow and pay unto Jehovah, him your God forever own;
all men, bring your gifts before him, worship him, and him alone;
mighty kings obey and fear him, princes bow before his throne.
text from Psalm 76, The Psalter, 1912; music by John Goss, 1869, LAUDA ANIMA

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

Philippians 2:6-11

Leader: What do the scriptures teach us about Jesus Christ?

All: That he, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Call to confession

Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable:

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Silent prayers of confession

Confession meditation

“Search Me, O God”

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.
See if there be some wicked way in me;
cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

text by J. Edwin Orr, 1936; traditional Maori melody, MAORI

Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

from Romans 5 and Colossians 1

Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. For he 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.

* **Hymn of assurance**

“I Hear the Words of Love”

I hear the words of love, I gaze upon the blood,
I see the mighty sacrifice, and I have peace with God.

‘Tis everlasting peace! Sure as Jehovah’s name,
‘tis stable as his steadfast throne, forevermore the same.

The clouds may come and go, and storms may sweep my sky;
this blood-sealed friendship changes not, the cross is ever nigh.

My love is ofttimes low, my joy still ebbs and flows;
but peace with him remains the same, no change Jehovah knows.

I change, he changes not; the Christ can never die;
his love, not mine, the resting place; his truth, not mine, the tie.

text by Horatius Bonar, 1861; music by Aaron Williams, 1763, ST. THOMAS

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

Offertory

“Where All Is Peace:
Meditation on Two American Melodies”
arr. Kimo Smith

Instrumental meditation

* **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 Luke 11:37-54**

Don Kent

³⁷While Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to dine with him, so he went in and reclined at table. ³⁸The Pharisee was astonished to see that he did not first wash before dinner. ³⁹And the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? ⁴¹But give as alms those things that are within, and behold, everything is clean for you.

⁴²“But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. ⁴³Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seat in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces. ⁴⁴Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without knowing it.”

⁴⁵One of the lawyers answered him, “Teacher, in saying these things you insult us also.” ⁴⁶And he said, “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. ⁴⁷Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. ⁴⁸So you are witnesses and you consent to the deeds of your fathers, for they killed them, and you build their tombs. ⁴⁹Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,’ ⁵⁰so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation. ⁵²Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering.” ⁵³As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard and to provoke him to speak about many things, ⁵⁴lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say.

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“The Danger of Hypocrisy”
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

Jesus exposes the heart by revealing:

1. the root of hypocrisy. (vv. 37-41)
 - Obsession of external appearance over internal reality
2. the results of hypocrisy. (vv. 42-52)
 - Majoring on the minors
 - Leading others astray
 - Burdening without helping

3. the remedy for hypocrisy. (vv. 49-52)

- The blood of the ultimate prophet

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 644**

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
by his love and pow’r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through his pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

text by Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925, ST. LEONARDS

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

*** Postlude**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”
arr. John Innes

Musicians for this week:

Joshua Knight – organ

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Felix Alexander Reeder, born to Charlotte and John Reeder on August 3.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL ARE INVITED to a service of installation for John Mark Scruggs, our new pastor of congregational care, today at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, with refreshments to follow. Nursery will be provided.

THE ANNUAL BUILD-A-BAG COLLECTION begins today. Pick up a list and reusable grocery bag during the Ministry Fair and help us fill the Salvation Army's food pantry. Assemble one (or more!) food bags using the list attached to the bag. Drop off filled bags on Sunday mornings under the porte-cochere by September 3.

THE ANNUAL VIP MOVIE NIGHT will be held on Tuesday, August 15, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Enjoy snacks and *The Von Trapp Family: A Life of Music*. Please register on Realm Connect TODAY and submit your payment of \$5. *The VIP group is made up of mostly retired adults (ages 65+) from LMPC and the community who meet monthly for fun and fellowship.*

POPSICLES ON THE PLAYGROUND: If you are a mom of young kids or simply desire casual fellowship with other LMPC women, join us on the LMPC playground on Friday, August 18 for fun and conversation from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. We'll have popsicles for the kids and coffee/cold drinks for the adults! No registration required.

SUPPORT GROUPS RESUME THIS FALL. If you are grieving, find comfort and support at *GriefShare*, which will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Fridays beginning on August 18. Register on Realm Connect for \$20, which includes the workbook. *Care for the Caregiver* will meet at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, beginning August 22. No registration is required. For more info, visit lmpc.org/groups.

OUR WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP FALL KICKOFF will be held on on Sunday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m. Come gather for an evening of fellowship, food, and worship as we prepare for a year of growth together. No registration required; cost is \$10.

CELEBRATE THE START OF OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ministries with our first fellowship dinner of the fall at The Commons on August 30, 5:30 p.m. We will enjoy BBQ pork and other picnic foods. Costs are \$6 for teens/adults, \$4 for elementary-age, and free for ages 5 and under. All other Wednesday night activities resume September 6; learn more at lmpc.org/wednesday.

FAMILY CAMP REGISTRATION is open through August 31; don't miss out! Learn more at lmpc.org/family-camp.

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

GROWING IN GRACE IN ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Find these and more groups at lmpc.org/groups.

Our busy, distracted lives require that we regularly reconnect with God and reorient ourselves to live by his truth. So, we come together for corporate worship each week, and we also have the opportunity to connect with each other in our adult Sunday School classes. These classes provide an avenue for us to grow in grace together, offering a safe environment for meaningful conversations, accountability, and biblical teaching. Sunday School classes for adults begin this fall on August 20.

REDEEMER SS CLASS (9:30 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM)

Teachers: Various

Join us for a discussion-based course grounded in biblical principles and using Tim Keller's strategies. We live in a divisive culture, and it is vital to equip ourselves with the truth so that we may lovingly engage with our friends and family. If you are not yet plugged in to a Sunday School class, this group is for you.

FELLOWSHIP SS CLASS (11:00 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM)

Teacher: Dan Wykoff

Topic: Art & Symbolism in Christianity

From ancient Israel to Lookout Mountain today, art and symbolism have been employed to help believers understand God, his world, and our place in it. This discussion series explores how Scripture, the Church throughout the ages, and LMPC in particular use art and symbolism in worship and in our daily lives to express our faith.

KINGDOM SS CLASS (11:00 A.M. UPPER ROOM)

Teacher: Kelly Kapic and others

Topic: Fellowship: The Holy Spirit and Christian Life

By the Spirit, we join the movement of God's love and grace! Abiding in our hearts, the Spirit is with us in our present struggles. So we can have confidence, because it is God who is working in us, his people. As participants in God's Kingdom work, the Spirit embeds us in the movements of God's love, and in this way we bear witness to God's peace breaking into this fallen world.

SOJOURNER SS CLASS (11:00 A.M. RECEPTION ROOM)

Teacher: Various

Topic: Various

For the first few weeks, John Mark and Caroline Scruggs will be leading us in a study of how Jesus interacts with his people as sinners and sufferers. We will be looking at various Gospel accounts to see what they teach us about who God is and how he relates to us.

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- Communicate with your groups and teams
- Register easily for popular events
- Access our online church directory
- Update your contact and personal information, including photo
- Manage your church giving and pledging

Find more details on how to join and use Realm Connect at lmpc.org/realm.

For additional help with Realm Connect, or to request an account, email Katie Holstege at katie@lmpc.org.