

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 27, 2023 | Sanctuary Service

\* Congregation standing as you are able

## Order of Worship

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### Prelude

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”  
*arr. Wilbur Held*

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,  
why should my heart be lonely and long for heav’n and home,  
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

*Refrain:* I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free;  
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubt and fear;  
tho’ by the path he leadeth, but one step I may see:  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. *Refrain*

### Welcome and announcements

Robert Clark, ruling elder

### \* Call to worship

based on Psalm 66

Leader: Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name;  
make his praise glorious! Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!”

**All: Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works on our behalf! He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot—come, let us rejoice in him.**

Leader: Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;  
he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping, and  
though he has led us through many trials, he has brought us to a  
place of abundance.

**All: Come and listen, all you who fear God; and hear what he has done for us. We cried out to him and he has surely listened. Praise be to God, who has not rejected our prayers, or withheld his love from us!**

\* Hymn of praise 122, vv. 1, 3, 4

“God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory”

God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;  
ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;  
beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;  
all the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.

But our sins have spoiled thine image; nature, conscience only serve  
as unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve.  
Yet thy grace and saving mercy in thy Word of truth revealed  
claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed.

God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;  
we, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.  
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;  
with our acts as with our voices thy commandments to fulfill.

*text by David Clowney, 1960; music by Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824, ODE TO JOY*

\* Prayer of adoration

**Affirmation of faith**

based on Ephesians 1:3-18

Leader: All glorious God, we give you thanks, for in your Son, Jesus Christ,  
you have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.

**All: You chose us, before the creation of the world, to be your people,  
holy and blameless in your sight. In love you predestined us to  
be adopted as your children through Jesus Christ. In him we have  
redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.**

Leader: You have made known to us the mystery of your will, to bring all  
things in heaven and earth into unity in Christ. You have given us  
your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of our inheritance.

**All: All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your  
grace, for the splendor of your gifts, for the wonder of your love.**

**Call to confession**

based on 1 Peter 1 and 2

We have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable,  
through the living and enduring word of God. Therefore, let us rid ourselves  
of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.  
Like newborn babies, let us crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it we may  
grow up in our salvation, now that we have tasted that the Lord is good.

## Silent prayers of confession

### Choral prayer

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me”  
(*words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #335*)

Chancel Choir

### Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

based on 1 John 3 and Ephesians 2

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

For because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. For it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

### \* Hymn of assurance 706, vv. 1, 3, 5

“Jesus Lives, and So Shall I”

Jesus lives, and so shall I. Death! thy sting is gone forever!  
He who deigned for me to die, lives, the bands of death to sever.  
He shall raise me from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives, and by his grace, vict’ry o’er my passions giving,  
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ever to his glory living.  
Me he raises from the dust: Jesus is my hope and trust.

Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.  
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;  
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is the Christian’s trust.  
*text by Christian F. Gellert, 1757; music by Johann Crüger, 1653, JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT*

### Litany of dependence on God alone

from Psalm 62

Leader: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.  
He alone is my rock and my salvation.

**All: He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.**

Leader: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.  
He alone is my rock and my salvation.

**All: He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.**

Leader: My salvation and my honor depend on God, he is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, and that you, O Lord, are loving.

**All: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.**

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

**Offertory**

*"Do Not Be Afraid"*

Chancel Choir

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.

When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you;  
you will never sink beneath the waves.  
When the fire is burning all around you,  
you will never be consumed by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness is looming,  
then remember I am at your side.  
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,  
remember you are precious in my eyes.

You are mine, O my child, I am your Father,  
and I love you with a perfect love  
*text by Gerard Markland, 1978; music by Philip W. J. Stopford, 2010*

### **\* 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 12:13-34**

Robert Clark

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." <sup>16</sup>And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man

produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup>and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup>And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."'" <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup>So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

<sup>22</sup>And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word**

### **Sermon**

"From Self-Dependence to God-Dependence"

Brian Salter, lead pastor

1. Jesus exposes the foolishness of self-sufficiency and self-indulgence. (vv. 13-21)
2. Jesus exhorts us to liberating dependence on our Father who has given us the Kingdom. (vv. 22-34)

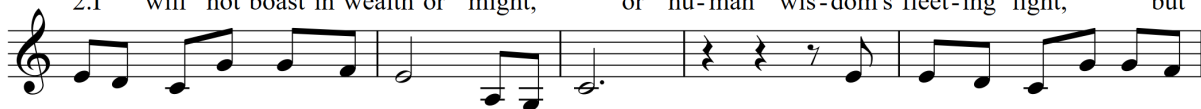
## Pastoral prayer

### \* Hymn of response

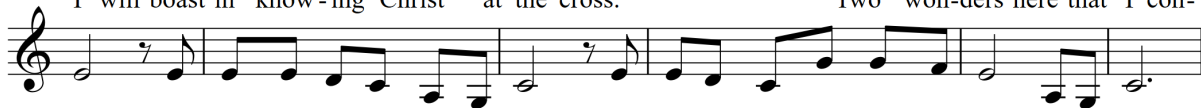
“My Worth Is Not in What I Own”



1. My worth is not in what I own, not in the strength of flesh and bone, but  
2. I will not boast in wealth or might, or hu-man wis-dom's fleet-ing light, but



in the cost-ly wounds of love at the cross. My worth is not in skill or  
I will boast in know-ing Christ at the cross. Two won-ders here that I con-



name, in win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross.  
fess: my worth and my un-worth-i-ness; my val-ue fixed, my ran-som paid at the cross.



I re-joyce in my Re-deem-er, great-est trea-sure, well-spring of my soul.



I will trust in him, no oth-er; my soul is sa-tis-fied in him a-lone.

*text and music by Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty ©2014 Getty Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036*

### \* Benediction

### \* Congregational response

“Threefold Amen”

### \* Postlude

Grand Chorus in B-flat  
*Théodore Dubois*

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### Musicians for this week:

Mendy Boyd – soloist  
Joy Gibbons – director, piano

Joshua Knight – organ

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WOMEN, JOIN US TONIGHT FOR** the Women's Discipleship Fall Kickoff at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall for dinner, worship, and fellowship. 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 at 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](http://lmpc.org/wednesday).

**FAMILY CAMP REGISTRATION** is open through August 31; don't miss out! Learn more at [lmpc.org/family-camp](http://lmpc.org/family-camp).

**THERE WILL BE A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** at the end of each worship service in the sanctuary and fellowship hall on Sunday, September 3, for the purpose of congregational consideration to call TE Chad Middlebrooks and TE Aaron Tolson as associate pastors.

**WOMEN, JOIN A BIBLE STUDY** this fall and study God's Word together. Find a day and time that works for you; see all studies at [lmpc.org/groups](http://lmpc.org/groups).

**THE ANNUAL BUILD-A-BAG COLLECTION** ends Sunday, September 3. Please finish assembling your food bags using the list attached to the bag and drop off filled bags today or next Sunday under the porte-cochere.

**THIS FALL, ATTEND A WEDNESDAY** afternoon or evening study for adults. At 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, the topic is "History of the Church," taught by Addison Soltau. At 6:15 p.m. in the Upper Room, the topic is "The Epistle to the Romans," taught by Jim Blankenship. Studies begin September 6.

**COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED DURING MORNING WORSHIP** on September 10. Due to the Labor Day holiday, it has been moved from the first Sunday of the month.

*To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit [lmpc.org/events](http://lmpc.org/events).*