



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 10, 2023 | **Sanctuary Service** | 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**WELCOME TO LMPC!** *We're so glad you are with us today. Please use the welcome card from the pew rack in front of you to share important information with us; an online form is available by scanning the QR code on the back of the bulletin. As we come together to worship the living God, we ask that you **silence all communication devices and refrain from bringing beverages into worship** so that we might, in joyful reverence, give our full attention to praising and honoring our God.*

**CHILDCARE:** *Children of any age are welcome in our worship services. If you desire to use our nursery for your children ages 0-3, please see one of our ushers for directions. The ushers can also point you to the crayons and activity sheets relevant to today's sermon that are provided for children each week.*

*\* Congregation standing as you are able*

## Order of Worship

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### Prelude

*"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!"*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #535)*

### Welcome and announcements

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

### Introit

*"O God, We Praise Thee"*

Chancel Choir

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #105)*

### \* Call to worship

based on Isaiah 25

Leader: O LORD, you are our God; we will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago.

All: **You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.**

Leader: On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples. He will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

All: **The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. In that day we will say, "Surely, this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation!"**

\* Hymn of praise 38

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

\* Prayer of adoration and the Lord’s prayer

**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**

“This Little Light of Mine”

Chancel Choir

This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I’m going to let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

My light reflects the love of Jesus, his love, his life so freely giv’n.  
A gift of love and light for my salvation,  
Light of the world, now shine through me.

Wherever I may go, I’m going to let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

*African-American spiritual, additional verse by Ronald Turner; traditional tune, arr. Ronald Turner, 2000*

\* **Gloria Patri 735**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

\* **Prayer of dedication and thanksgiving**

\* **Scripture reading from Luke 12:49-59**

*pp. 1036-1037 in pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin*

Chad Middlebrooks (9:30)

Jennifer Thompson (11:00)

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

**Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word**

**Sermon**

“Discerning the Times”  
Brian Salter, lead pastor

## Pastoral prayer

### Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have previously been admitted to the Lord's Table, by the elders of this or any Gospel-proclaiming church, to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Come with joy as you actively trust in Christ and willingly forsake sin, having sought reconciliation in all relationships.*

## Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Hymn of confession

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;  
he bears them all, and frees us from the accursed load;  
I bring my guilt to Jesus, to wash my crimson stains  
white in his blood most precious, till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; all fulness dwells in him;  
he heals all my diseases, he doth my soul redeem:  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;  
he from them all releases, he all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine;  
his right hand me embraces, I on his breast recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
like fragrance on the breezes his name abroad is poured.

I long to be like Jesus, meek, loving, lowly, mild;  
I long to be like Jesus, the Father's holy child:  
I long to be with Jesus amid the heav'nly throng,  
to sing with saints his praises, to learn the angels' song.  
*text by Horatius Bonar, 1843; music by Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, AURELIA*

## Silent prayers of confession

### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from Colossians 1:19-22

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.

## Words of institution

### Communion affirmation

Leader: O the unspeakable mysteries and treasures of mercy that are presented to us in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper!

**All: Here we have communion with God our Father who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.**

**Here we have communion with our blessed Redeemer, as crucified and glorified, and offered to us, as our quickening, preserving, strengthening Head.**

**Here we have communion with the Holy Spirit, applying to our souls the benefits of redemption, drawing us to the Son, communicating light, life, and strength from him unto us, and increasing his graces in us.**

**Here we have communion with the body of Christ, his sanctified people.**

Leader: When we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we remember the finished work of Christ, receive nourishment, and anticipate the glory to come.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**  
*adapted from The Practical Works of Richard Baxter, vol. 10 and The New City Catechism Devotional: God's Truth for Our Hearts and Minds*

### Prayer of consecration

#### Distribution of the elements

##### For the bread

"Here Is Love"

Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving-kindness as a flood,  
when the Prince of life, our ransom, shed for us his precious blood.  
Here is love, Lord we remember; from our hearts we lift your praise,  
raising high the living anthem all will sing through endless days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide.  
Through the floodgates of your mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Here is love, like mighty rivers, poured unceasing from above:  
heaven's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

*continued*

Let me, all thy love accepting, love thee ever all my days;  
let me seek thy kingdom only, and my life be to thy praise.  
Thou alone shalt be my glory, nothing in the world I see.  
Thou hast cleans'd and sanctified me; thou thyself has set me free.  
*text by William Rees, 1802-1883; music by Robert Lowry, 1876*

**For the cup 429**

“Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured”

**Prayer of thanksgiving**

\* **Hymn of response 441**, vv. 1, 2, 3, 5

“Jesus Shall Reign”

\* **Benediction**

\* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

\* **Postlude**

Prelude in F  
*Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel*

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**Musicians for this week:**

**William Darby** – soloist  
**David Fray** – cello  
**Joy Gibbons** – director

**Joshua Knight** – organ, piano  
**Patricia Nagle** – violin

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TONIGHT FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING**, we will have a time of prayer devoted to the missionaries supported by LMPC. Join us at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's Build-a-Bag collection for the Salvation Army. We collected a total of 285 bags for their area food pantry!

**LMPC YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 23-40)** are invited to the home of Mary and Wil Nettleton for a potluck dinner on Thursday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a salad, side, or dessert to share; the Nettletons will provide the meat. Kids are welcome! Please register on Realm Connect by Tuesday, September 12.

**AARON TOLSON AND CHAD MIDDLEBROOKS** will be installed as our new associate pastors during the Sunday Evening Gathering communion service on September 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Nursery will be provided.

**OFFICER NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN UNTIL SEPTEMBER 24.** Please visit [lmpc.org/officers](http://lmpc.org/officers) to not only submit your nominations but also see a list of those eligible to serve as officers, a video explanation, and answers to frequently asked questions. Submit nominations online OR call the church office at 423-821-4528 to request a paper ballot. Questions? Email [nominations@lmpc.org](mailto:nominations@lmpc.org).

**STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMUNICATION AND GROW YOUR RELATIONSHIP!** Couples, come to The Marriage Course, held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for seven weeks, beginning September 26. The cost is \$50 and dessert is provided. You and your spouse will be seated at a table to discuss the video course only with each other. Even a great marriage can be better. Register on Realm Connect by Sunday, September 24.

**WOMEN'S FALL BOOK CLUBS** will be held on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Choose a book and register for the corresponding location to eat and discuss together. See all options and register on Realm Connect by September 24.

**MEN'S STEAK NIGHT** will be held in various homes on Thursday, September 28. Build friendships, laugh hard, and eat meat! Please register on Realm Connect by September 20, and let us know if you are bringing a friend.

**IN RESPONSE TO THE DEVASTATING FIRES** in Lahaina, Maui, the Home Missions Committee has made a donation to disaster response efforts to assist with relief. For more information, please visit [pcamna.org/maui-fires](http://pcamna.org/maui-fires).

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

## Luke 12:49-59

<sup>49</sup>“I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. <sup>52</sup>For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup>They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

<sup>57</sup>“And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? <sup>58</sup>As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. <sup>59</sup>I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny.”

**SERMON NOTES**  
“Discerning the Times”  
*Luke 12:49-59*

1. The reality of distress in Jesus (vv. 49-50)
2. The inevitability of division because of Jesus (vv. 51-53)
3. The urgency for discernment concerning Jesus (vv. 54-59)

*Further Up, Further In,*  
Resources for  
Continued Study



**SERMON NOTES**  
"Discerning the Times"  
*Luke 12:49-59*

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"Discerning the Times"  
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## TODAY AT LMPC

*Sunday, September 10*

9:30 a.m.	Worship service with communion.....	<i>sanctuary &amp; fellowship hall</i>
9:30 a.m.	Sunday school for adults.....	<i>Conference Room</i>
10:30 a.m.	Elders available to pray for your needs .....	<i>Brian Salter's office</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship service with communion.....	<i>sanctuary &amp; fellowship hall</i>
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults, youth, & children.....	<i>various locations</i>
6:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Gathering with missionary prayer .....	<i>chapel</i>
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group .....	<i>JHYB</i>

*Additional seating for the sanctuary services is available in the chapel.*

*For more events this week, visit [lmpc.org/events](http://lmpc.org/events).*

### JOIN US ON REALM CONNECT:

- 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](http://lmpc.org/realm).

For additional help with Realm Connect, or to request an account, email Katie Holstege at [katie@lmpc.org](mailto:katie@lmpc.org).

### 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. Please scan the QR code below and fill out an online information form. We will follow up with you about next steps. We are here to serve you!



### 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](http://lmpc.org)  
Email: [info@lmpc.org](mailto:info@lmpc.org)  
Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first Sunday of every month in all morning services and in the evening on the third Sunday of every month. Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.