



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 1, 2023 | Fellowship Hall Service

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 103

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. He forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases, he redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with love and compassion.

All: He satisfies our desires with good things so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Leader: He made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the people of Israel. The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love.

All: The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul!

* Hymn of praise

"Come, People of the Risen King"

Come, people of the risen King, who delight to bring him praise.
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to him,
where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Let ev'ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun and those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won and those struggling in the fight.
For his perfect love will never change, and his mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace. *Refrain*

Come, young and old from ev'ry land, men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands; find the riches of his grace.
Over all the world his people sing; shore to shore we hear them call
the truth that cries through every age: "Our God is all in all." *Refrain*

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*** 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 hymn

"Yet Not I, but through Christ in Me"

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer?
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,
for my life is wholly bound to his.
O how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken,
for by my side, the Savior, he will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
for in my need his power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me;
through the deepest valley he will lead.
O the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
the future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
and he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated;
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
O the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free!"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With ev'ry breath, I long to follow Jesus,
for he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day, I know he will renew me
until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus;
all the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat,
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me."

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*** Scripture reading from Luke 13:18-21**

Rachel Adams

¹⁸He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? ¹⁹It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

²⁰And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? ²¹It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened."

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The Nature of the Kingdom"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

The Kingdom of God is marked by:

1. small beginnings but an irrepressible end. (vv. 18-19)
2. small deposits but a permeating effect. (vv. 20-21)

Pastoral prayer

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper. This celebration is a sacred time during which God's people enjoy communion with him and unity with each other. We believe that the Lord's Supper is meant for the body of Christ as a gathered, corporate reality and not merely for personal or individual edification. For this reason, the livestream is ending at the conclusion of the sermon and will not include the celebration of the sacrament.

Musicians for this week:

Isaiah Braddock – cello

David Henry – guitar, vocals

Hannah Lutz – viola

Hannah Perry – flute

Hallie Blair Quatro – vocals

Maria Rhodes – vocals

Jeremy Taylor – piano

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE STUDENTS, join us for lunch TODAY at 12:15 p.m. at the Jane Harris Youth Building and learn how to get connected at LMPC.

WE WILL COMMISSION JIM SUTHERLAND AND PETER LINDQUIST for their upcoming trip to South Sudan at our Sunday Evening Gathering tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel, where we will also pray for our supported missionaries.

INTERESTED IN A SHORT-TERM OPPORTUNITY? Join the team traveling to Juba, South Sudan, November 1-10 with Reconciliation Ministries (RMNi.org) and utilize your gifts. Contact Jim Sutherland at jim@RMNi.org for more information.

LMPC MEN, save the date for a breakfast on Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 a.m.

THE TENNESSEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL is Sunday, October 29 at 6:00 p.m. Save the date and plan on joining us at First Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga.

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

GIVING UPDATE THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2023

Annual Budget: \$5,641,820

Giving YTD: \$2,812,469

Remaining Gifts Needed: \$2,829,351 (50% of budget)

Outstanding Pledge Balance: \$822,938

Unpledged Giving Need: \$2,006,413

We're grateful for the generosity at LMPC so far this year. As we are currently about 8% (or \$256,000) behind last year's giving, please consider contributing toward the 2023 budget if you haven't yet this year. You can find multiple ways to give to LMPC at lmpc.org/give.

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.

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