



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

---

*Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown  
when thou camest to earth for me;  
but in Bethlehem's home was there found no room  
for thy holy nativity.*

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus! There is room in my heart for thee.*

*— Emily E.S. Elliott*

DECEMBER 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. We encourage you to read the text on the front of the bulletin as we prepare to worship together.*

**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 crayons and children's bulletins.*

*\* Congregation standing as you are able*

## Order of Worship

---

### Prelude

"What Child Is This"

*arr. Beka Wilson*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #213)*

### Welcome and greetings

Brian Salter, lead pastor

### \* Call to worship

based on Psalm 98 and Luke 1

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

All: **The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel.**

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

All: **The Mighty One has done great things for us—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation!**

### \* Hymn of praise 214

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

## \* Prayer of adoration

### Call to confession

based on Romans 3:20–24

No one will be declared righteous in God's sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from the law, has been made known. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

### Silent prayers of confession

#### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from John 1 and Ephesians 1

**Leader:** Jesus came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

**All:** **In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.**

## \* Hymn of assurance 225, vv. 1, 2, 4

“Once in Royal David's City”

### Lighting the candle of peace

**Leader:** In the days of the prophet Isaiah, the people looked forward to the coming birth of a Savior whom Isaiah described as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there would be no end, and he would reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

**All:** **He himself is our peace. He came and preached peace to those who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we have access to the Father by one Spirit.**

*based on Isaiah 9:6–7; Ephesians 2:14a, 17–18*

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

### Offertory

"O Come, Divine Messiah"

Chancel Choir

O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

*Refrain:* Dear Saviour, haste; come, come to earth, dispel the night and  
show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

You come in peace and meekness, and lowly will your cradle be;  
all clothed in human weakness shall we your Godhead see. *Refrain*

O Christ, whom nations sigh for, whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
come break the captive fetters; redeem the long-lost fold. *Refrain*  
*text by Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663-1745, tr. Mary Frances Lescher, 1825-1904;*  
*16th c. French carol, arr. Howard Helvey, 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 1 Samuel 1:1-20**  
*p. 266 in the pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin*

Jen Schaefer (9:30)  
Nathan 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

"Miraculous Births: Samuel"  
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

#### Pastoral prayer

### \* Hymn of response 207

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

### \* Benediction

\* Congregational response

“Threefold Amen”

Congregational meeting

\* Postlude

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”  
*arr. Gerald Near*

---

**Musicians for this week:**

Joy Gibbons – director  
Larry Goodman – flute

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Mercy Crea Thomas**

Born asleep December 4, 2023

**ADVENT 2023**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**Sunday, December 10**

4:00 and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

*nursery available at 4:00 p.m. only*

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**Sunday, December 17**

5:00 p.m. in the community (Register on Realm Connect.)

**CHRISTMAS EVE\***

**Sunday, December 24**

LESSONS AND CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

3:00, 5:00, and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

*nursery available at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. only*

*\*Please join us for one of these Lord’s Day worship services; our morning services have been moved to these times.*

## 1 Samuel 1:1-20

<sup>1</sup>There was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite. <sup>2</sup>He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. <sup>3</sup>Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD. <sup>4</sup>On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup>But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>6</sup>And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>7</sup>So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup>And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

<sup>9</sup>After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. <sup>10</sup>She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. <sup>11</sup>And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head." <sup>12</sup>As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup>Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman. <sup>14</sup>And Eli said to her, "How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you." <sup>15</sup>But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup>Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation." <sup>17</sup>Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him." <sup>18</sup>And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your eyes." Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

<sup>19</sup>They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup>And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the LORD."

**SERMON NOTES**  
“Miraculous Births: Samuel”  
*1 Samuel 1:1-20*

1. A heartbreak endured: the triad of tragedy, taunts, and tears (vv. 1-8)
2. A grief processed: pouring out a broken heart to God in worship (vv. 9-18)
3. A child provided: The Lord Almighty sends a son. (vv. 19-20)

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



**SERMON NOTES**  
“Miraculous Births: Samuel”  
*1 Samuel 1:1-20*

**SERMON NOTES**  
“Miraculous Births: Samuel”  
*1 Samuel 1:1-20*

## **GIVING UPDATE THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

**Annual Budget:** \$5,641,820

**Giving YTD:** \$3,917,934

**Remaining Gifts Needed:** \$1,723,886 (31% of budget)

**Outstanding Pledge Balance:** \$140,515

**Unpledged Giving Need:** \$1,583,371

We're grateful for the generosity at LMPC so far this year. As we are currently 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](https://lmpc.org/give).

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANK YOU TO ALL** who participated in this year's Serve the City: Boxes of Blessing. With more than 400 volunteers signed up to serve, over 5,000 food boxes were assembled for distribution by area schools, ministries, and churches. Please pray for the recipients of each box, that the Lord would reach them at their point of need.

**THERE WILL BE A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** at the end of each worship service in the sanctuary and fellowship hall today for the purpose of approving a slate of nominees for the offices of elder and deacon for the class of 2027. Those men approved to stand for office will undergo training in the new year. The final election to office will take place in April 2024.

**JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS CONCERT** for our Sunday Evening Gathering today at either 4:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, where the Chancel Choir will lead us in worship. Nursery is provided at 4:00 p.m. only. Don't miss the prelude of instrumental seasonal music beginning 10 minutes before each concert.

**IF YOUR FAMILY OR SMALL GROUP WOULD ENJOY CAROLING** on December 17 to LMPC members who cannot join us for Christmas services, please register through Realm Connect or email Paula, paula@lmpc.org, by today.

**ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE**, our morning worship services are moved to the following times: 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. Please join us for one of these Lord's Day worship services in the sanctuary. The 5:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed.

**THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS** will be held January 19–21. We will meet Friday from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Sunday during the Sunday school hour at 11:00 a.m. If you are an adult who wants to join the church, or you would like to learn about what we believe, this class is for you. Register on Realm Connect by January 8.

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

## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, December 10

9:30 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
9:30 a.m.	Sunday school for adults .....	Conference Room
10:30 a.m.	Elders available to pray for your needs .....	Brian Salter's office
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults, youth, & children.....	various locations
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Concert with nursery .....	sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Christmas Concert .....	sanctuary

*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 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. Request your account today by visiting [lmpc.org/realm](http://lmpc.org/realm).

## 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.