



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O Lord, forgive what I have been,
sanctify what I am,
and order what I shall be.*

Amen.

—anonymous

JULY 28, 2024 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Jesus Paid It All/Jesus Loves Me”
John T. Grape and William B. Bradbury
arr. James Michael Stevens

Welcome and greetings

John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

* **Call to worship**

from Psalm 150

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**All: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing
greatness. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!**

* **Hymn of praise 16, vv. 1, 2, 3, 4**

“Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord”

Come, let us sing unto the Lord new songs of praise with sweet accord;
for wonders great by him are done, his hand and arm have vict'ry won.

The great salvation of our God is seen through all the earth abroad;
before the heathen's wond'ring sight he has revealed his truth and right.

He called to mind his truth and grace in promise made to Israel's race;
and unto earth's remotest bound glad tidings of salvation sound.

All lands, to God lift up your voice; sing praise to him, with shouts rejoice;
with voice of joy and loud acclaim let all unite and praise his name.
text from Psalm 98; music by John Hatton, 1793, DUKE STREET

* **Prayer of adoration**

* **Affirmation of faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

**and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed is so named because it summarizes what the apostles believed and taught in Jesus' name. The earliest versions of the Creed can be traced back to the 2nd century. We use the traditional translation of the Creed which contains some unfamiliar words: "quick" instead of "living" and "catholic" instead of "universal." Also, when we say that Christ "descended into hell," we are not saying that Jesus literally entered hell; instead, we are affirming that Jesus suffered all the pains and torments of hell as he endured the unmitigated wrath of God on the cross.

Call to confession

from 1 Peter 1:14–19

Do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Silent prayers of confession

Choral prayer

"Holy Is the Lord"

Chancel Choir

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.
Holy is the Father, holy is the Son,
holy is the Spirit: blessed Three-in-One.
text from Isaiah 6:3; music by Franz Schubert, 1797–1828

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on 1 John 3 and Ephesians 2

Leader: 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!

All: **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

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

1. How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how vast be-yond all meas - ure, that
 2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on his shoul - ders; a -
 3. I will not boast in an - y - thing, no gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but

he should give his on - ly Son to make a wretch his treas - ure. How
 shamed, I hear my mock-ing voice call out a-mong the scoff - ers. It
 I will boast in Je - sus Christ, his death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

great the pain of sear-ing loss; the Fa - ther turns his face a - way, as
 was my sin that held him there un - til it was ac - com - plished; his
 should I gain from his re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer. But

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
 dy - ing breath has brought me life; I know that it is fin - ished.
 this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran - som.

text Stuart Townend © 1995 Kingsway’s Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

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

Offertory

“Jesus Paid It All”

Chancel Choir

I hear the Savior say, “Thy strength indeed is small!
 Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me thine all in all.”

Refrain: Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;
 sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I whereby thy grace to claim—
 I’ll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv’ry’s Lamb. *Refrain*

And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,
 “Jesus died my soul to save,” my lips shall still repeat. *Refrain*
 text by Elvina M. Hall, 1865; music by John T. Grape, 1868; arr. Robert Sterling, 1985

* 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**

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“Sin in the Camp”

Brian Salter, lead pastor

Scripture passage Joshua 7:1-26

¹But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the LORD burned against the people of Israel. ²Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and said to them, “Go up and spy out the land.” And the men went up and spied out Ai. ³And they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.” ⁴So about 3,000 men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, ⁵and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

⁶Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they put dust on their heads. ⁷And Joshua said, “Alas, O Lord GOD, why have you brought this people over the Jordan at all, to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan! ⁸O Lord, what can I say, when Israel has turned their backs before their enemies! ⁹For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?”

¹⁰The LORD said to Joshua, “Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? ¹¹Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings. ¹²Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you. ¹³Get up! Consecrate the people and say, ‘Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the LORD, God of Israel, “There are devoted things in your midst, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you.”’

¹⁴“In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. And the tribe that the LORD takes by lot shall come near by clans. And the clan that the LORD takes shall come near by households. And the household that the LORD takes shall come near man by man. ¹⁵And he who is taken with the devoted things shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done an outrageous thing in Israel.” ¹⁶So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken. ¹⁷And he brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken. And he brought near the clan of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was taken. ¹⁸And he brought near his household man by man, and Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. ¹⁹Then Joshua said to Achan, “My son, give glory to the LORD God of Israel and give praise to him. And tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me.” ²⁰And Achan answered Joshua, “Truly I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I did: ²¹when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”

²²So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and behold, it was hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. ²³And they took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the people of Israel. And they laid them down before the LORD. ²⁴And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the cloak and the bar of gold, and his sons and daughters and his oxen and donkeys and sheep and his tent and all that he had. And they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. ²⁵And Joshua said, “Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD brings trouble on you today.” And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. ²⁶And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his burning anger. Therefore, to this day the name of that place is called the Valley of Achor.

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

1. The tragic story of sin in the camp
 - Defeat (vv. 1-5)
 - Dismay (vv. 6-9)
 - Diagnosis (vv. 10-13)
 - Disclosure (vv. 14-21)

- Destruction (vv. 22-26)

2. The crucial takeaways from the story of sin in the camp

- Sin is never hidden.
- Sin is never merely individual.
- Sin always receives judgment.

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response**

“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 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 Wesley, 1864, AURELIA

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

*** Postlude**

“If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

J. S. Bach

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #670)

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director
Joshua Knight – organ, piano

Cindy Solfest-Wallis – flute

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR ANNUAL BUILD-A-BAG collection for the Salvation Army will begin on Sunday, August 11 and run through Sunday, September 1. Please pick up a tote then and fill it with food or toiletry items for this vital initiative.

CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF FAMILY CAMP! Join us September 6–8 at Alpine Camp. Registration on Realm Connect opens July 30. (Saturday-only option available.) Visit lmpc.org/family-camp for more information.

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

GIVING UPDATE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024

Annual Budget: \$5,860,000

2024 Giving YTD: \$2,252,966 (38%)

Remaining gifts needed: \$3,607,034 (62%)

We're grateful for the generosity at LMPC so far this year. In the first six months of 2024, 38% of our budget was given. We ask you to prayerfully consider supporting LMPC in the remaining 62% needed in the second half of this year. You can find multiple ways to give to LMPC at lmpc.org/give.

SET UP GIVING IN REALM CONNECT

Giving online through Realm or the Realm Connect App is easy and convenient! Just log in to your Realm Connect account, tap "Giving," and tap the blue button that says "+Give" (or "Make a gift" if you're on the app) to create a new gift. From there, set up a one-time or recurring gift. You also have the option to securely save your billing information in Realm for future gifts or event payments. Don't have a Realm Connect account? Request one today by visiting lmpc.org/realm.