



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God our King, who by the resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, didst conquer sin, put death to flight, and give us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive us our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise thee and to do thy will; and strengthen us to wait for the consummation of thy Kingdom on the last great day, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Anglican Service Book

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

Larry Goodman, ruling elder

* Call to worship

based on Daniel 2:20–23

Leader: Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

**All: He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them.
He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.
He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness,
and light dwells with him. We thank and praise you, O God of our
fathers.**

* Hymn of praise 165

“Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh—his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right,
all glory and pow’r, and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

text by Charles Wesley, 1744; music by Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806, LYONS

*** Prayer of adoration**

Affirmation of faith

from Philippians 2:5-11

Leader: What do the Scriptures teach us about Jesus Christ:

All: **That he, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!**

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Call to confession

from Isaiah 30

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.”

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you.

Hymn of confession 500

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

text by Augustus Toplady, 1776; music by James Ward, 1984, NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP

Prayer of confession

Leader: Merciful God, we confess to you that we have sinned.

All: We confess the sins that no one knows and the sins that everyone knows. We confess the sins that are a burden to us and the sins that do not bother us because we have grown used to them.

Leader: We confess our sins as a church.

All: We have not loved one another as Christ loved us. We have not forgiven one another as we have been forgiven. We have not given ourselves in love and service for the world as Christ gave himself for us.

Leader: Father, forgive us.

All: May your Holy Spirit move and convict our hearts, that we might live as you have created us to live.

adapted from Covenant Presbyterian Church, St. Louis

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from Colossians 2

We have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

* Hymn of assurance

“Complete in Thee”

Complete in thee! No work of mine may take, dear Lord, the place of thine;
thy blood hath pardon bought for me, and I am now complete in thee.

Refrain: Yea, justified! O blessed thought! And sanctified! Salvation wrought!
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me, and glorified, I, too, shall be.

Complete in thee! No more shall sin, thy grace hath conquered, reign within;
thy voice shall bid the tempter flee, and I shall stand, complete in thee. *Refrain*
text by Aaron R. Wolfe, 1858; music by John Hatton, 1793, DUKE STREET

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

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
 I hear the sweet though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
 It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
 What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.
 No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
 Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?
 No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
 Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
 Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
*text and music by Robert Lowry, arr. Timothy Shaw © 2013 Hope Publishing Company,
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*** 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 20:1-8**

Mary Kaufmann

¹One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up ²and said to him, “Tell us by what authority you do these things, or who it is that gave you this authority.”

³He answered them, “I also will ask you a question. Now tell me, ⁴was the baptism of John from heaven or from man?” ⁵And they discussed it with one another, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why did you not believe him?’ ⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ all the people will stone us to death, for they are convinced that John was a prophet.” ⁷So they answered that they did not know where it came from. ⁸And Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“The Question of Authority”
Rev. David Arthur

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 295**, vv. 1, 2, 4

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me:
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.
text by Matthew Bridges, 1851; music by George J. Elvey, 1868, DIADEMATA

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director
Joshua Knight – organ, piano

Cindy Solfest-Wallis – flute

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Lenora Jane “L.J.” Allen, born to Gracie and David Allen on August 30.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY THAT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL SERVICES meet in the Lookout Mountain School auditorium across the street at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. This will continue until further notice. During this season, please enjoy cookies and lemonade between services, at 10:30 a.m., on the chapel lawn and at the playground.

BRINGING SOMEONE A MEAL is one of the most tangible ways we can demonstrate the love of Christ. The Food for Friends ministry at LMPC is in need of volunteers; can you help? Visit lmpc.org/food-for-friends for more information and to contact Pamela Wilson, coordinator.

CARING FOR A LOVED ONE can present many challenges to the caregiver. Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building for our Care for the Caregiver Group.

KNITWITS KNITTING GROUP will resume on September 12 and continue on every 2nd and 4th Thursday each month until the end of May. Meet from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Dottie Brock's home; email dottiebrock65@gmail.com for more information. Knitwits knit care packets for newborns at the Southside Clinic and Lifespring Family Clinic.

THE SESSION HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for children, youth, or adults until the chapel and three children's classrooms under it are ready to be used. There is **one exception: the Redeemer class**, as it is mostly independent of the need for children and youth programming. Any adults are welcome to attend at 9:30 a.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building, beginning September 15.

MORNING COMMUNION THIS MONTH will be held on the third Sunday, September 15, instead of the first. Due to construction constraints, there will be no evening communion in September.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS will resume on Wednesday, September 18 and run weekly through the fall from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m. Music Makers is for ages 4 & 5 and Kingdom Kids is for grades 1-5. Please register on Realm Connect and email Joy Gibbons at joy@lmpc.org if you have questions.

THE NEXT MEN'S STEAK NIGHT will take place on Thursday, September 26. Enjoy meat and conversation! Please register on Realm Connect by Wednesday, September 18. If you are willing to host a dinner, please contact Julie Dean, julie@lmpc.org.

MEMBERS, PLEASE NOMINATE OFFICERS at lmpc.org/officers by September 29. Alternatively, request a paper nominating ballot from the church office. Questions? Email nominations@lmpc.org.

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

RECEIVE LMPC'S WEEKLY NEWS EMAIL

Don't miss out on upcoming church events, building updates, resources, and other news. Stay informed by contacting onrealm@lmpc.org to update your email preferences.