



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*

**IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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*Evil can only break itself apart, recoiling back into its own destruction  
and digging its own grave. It has no part in the true Kingdom.*

*All its desolation will fall away to nothing and be gone,  
before the splendor of the resurrection.*

*—Malcolm Guite, from Psalm 7, “VII Domine, Deus meus”*

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 • FELLOWSHIP HALL SERVICE • 9:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

**WELCOME TO LMPC!** *We're so glad you are with us today. Please scan the QR code on the back of your bulletin to share important information with us through an online form. 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

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**Welcome and greetings**

John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

**\* Call to worship**

based on Psalm 99

**Leader:** The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

**All:** **Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.  
Let us praise your great and awesome name—for you are holy.**

**Leader:** You are the mighty King, and you love justice. In Jacob you have done what is just and right. We exalt you, our LORD and God, and worship at your footstool, for you are holy.

**All:** **We exalt you, O LORD our God, for you are holy!**

**\* Hymn of praise**

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!  
*text by Reginald Heber, 1826; music by John B. Dykes, 1861*

**\* 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**

**"I Set My Hope on Jesus"**

1. When this life of tri-als tests my faith, I set my hope on Je - sus. When the  
 2. Though I fal - ter in this war with sin, I set my hope on Je - sus. When I  
 3. Though the world call me to leave my Lord, I set my hope on Je - sus. Though it

ques-tions come and doubts re - main, I set my hope on Je - sus. For the  
 fail the fight and sink with - in, I set my hope on Je - sus. Though the  
 of - fer all its vain re - wards, I set my hope on Je - sus. Though this

deep - est wounds that time won't heal, there's a joy that runs still deep - er. There's a  
 shame would drown me in its sea, and I dread the waves of jus - tice, I will  
 heart of mine is prone to stray, give me grace e - nough to fin - ish. Till I

truth that's more than all I feel; I set my hope on Je - sus. I set my hope on  
 cast my life on Cal - va - ry; I set my hope on Je - sus.  
 wor - ship on that fi - nal day, I set my hope on Je - sus.

Je - sus, my rock my on - ly trust, who set his heart up -  
 on me first. I set my hope on Je - sus.

\* **Scripture reading from Luke 20:9-19**  
*text printed in the bulletin*

David Fowler (9:30)  
Jim Richter (11:00)

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

### **Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word**

**Sermon** "The Parable of the Wicked Tenants"  
Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

### **Pastoral prayer**

### **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

*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.*

*Those seated in the back rows will come forward to be served first, finishing with those in the front rows. Come down the center aisle, partake of the elements, and return to your seat by the outside aisles. If you are unable to come forward for any reason, alert the elder circulating with the elements, and he will serve you at your seat. The bread is gluten-free and dairy-free. When you come to receive from this table of grace, please meditate on the words of the hymns and prepare your hearts as the musicians play and sing.*

**Hymn of confession** "Jesus Paid It All"

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small,  
child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your 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.

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,  
can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone. *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 DH, 2012

### **Silent prayers of confession**

## Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on 1 Peter 2:24 and 2 Corinthians 8:9

**Leader:** Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

**All:** For we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that we through his poverty, might become rich.

## Words of institution

### Communion affirmation

**Leader:** We come to this feast in obedience and with thanksgiving.

**All:** By dying, Christ destroyed our death. By rising, he gave us life. It is in his great love and sacrifice that we have been set free, and given hope for an eternal future that can never perish, spoil, or fade.

**Leader:** In this feast, our God is present with us by his Spirit.

**All:** When we share this bread, we share in the body of Christ: we are sustained and nourished to love and serve as our Savior did.

When we share this cup, we share in the blood of Christ: we take part in his suffering and are formed into people who bring life out of death.

When we share this meal with each other, we are united in faith and mission, and we yearn for Christ's return and the restoration of all things. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*adapted from The Worship Sourcebook*

## Prayer of consecration

### Distribution of the elements

Songs for meditation

"In Feast or Fallow"

When the fields are dry and the winter is long,  
blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor;  
when my soul is downcast and my voice has no song,  
for mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord.

*continued*

*Refrain:* In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,  
my certain hope is in Jesus found;  
my lot, my cup, my portion sure;  
whatever comes, we shall endure.  
Whatever comes, we shall endure.

On a cross of wood where his blood was outpoured,  
he rose from the ground like a bird to the sky;  
bringing peace to our violence and crushing death's door,  
our Maker incarnate, our God who provides. *Refrain*

Come, O come, Emmanuel.  
Come, O come, Emmanuel.

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes,  
not a sparrow falls nor a hair from my head  
without his hand to guide me, my shield and my strength;  
in joy or in sorrow, in life or in death. *Refrain*

text by Sandra McCracken ©2010 Drink Your Tea Music, ARR, ICS, UBP, CCLI Lic.#152036

### “Not What My Hands Have Done”

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul;  
not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.  
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;  
not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.

Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak;  
thy pow'r alone, O Son of God, can this sore bondage break.  
No other work, save thine, no other blood will do;  
no strength, save that which is divine, can bear me safely through.

I bless the Christ of God; I rest on love divine;  
and with unfalt'ring lip and heart, I call this Savior mine.  
His cross dispels each doubt; I bury in his tomb  
each thought of unbelief and fear, each ling'ring shade of gloom.

I praise the God of grace; I trust his truth and might;  
he calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my light.  
'Tis he who saveth me, and freely pardon gives;  
I love because he loveth me, I live because he lives.

text by Horatius Bonar, 1861; music by DH, 2019

**\* Prayer of thanksgiving**

**\* Hymn of praise**

“We Will Feast in the House of Zion”

We will not be burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God.  
We are not consumed by the flood;  
upheld, protected, gathered up.

*Refrain:* We will feast in the house of Zion.  
We will sing with our hearts restored.  
“He has done great things,” we will say together.  
We will feast and weep no more.

In the dark of night before the dawn, my soul be not afraid.  
For the promised morning, O how long?  
O God of Jacob be my strength. *Refrain*

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed. You are the faithful one.  
And from the garden to the grave,  
bind us together, bring shalom. *Refrain*

text and music by Joshua Moore and Sandra McCracken © 2015 Drink Your Tea Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic.# 152036

**\* Benediction**

**\* 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.**

**\* Postlude**

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Christley Bergeron** – vocals  
**David Henry** – guitar, vocals  
**Hannah Lutz** – viola

**Hannah Perry** – flute  
**Maria Rhodes** – vocals  
**Bob Wharton** – piano

## Luke 20:9-19

<sup>9</sup>And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while.

<sup>10</sup>“When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>11</sup>And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>12</sup>And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. <sup>13</sup>Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’

<sup>14</sup>“But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ <sup>15</sup>And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? <sup>16</sup>He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” <sup>17</sup>But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’? <sup>18</sup>Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” <sup>19</sup>The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people.

**Celebrating the baptism** of William Stroud Helm at the 9:30 service in the sanctuary today are his parents, Tay Tay and Carter Helm, and his grandparents, Merrile and John Stroud and Barbara and Andrew Helm.

## SERMON NOTES

### “The Parable of the Wicked Tenants”

*Luke 20:9-19*

The parable of the wicked tenants reminds us of:

1. the gracious provision of God as vineyard owner. (v. 9)
2. the remarkable patience of God for faithless people. (vv. 10-13)
3. the ultimate consequences of unyielding resistance to God and his beloved Son. (vv. 14-19)

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



Concerning one who says a thing cannot be wrong unless it hurts other human beings: “He quite understands that he must not damage the other ships in the convoy but he honestly thinks that what he does to the ship is simply his own business. But does it not make a great difference whether his ship is his property or not? Does it not make a great difference whether I am, so to speak the landlord of my own mind and body, or only a tenant, responsible to the real landlord? If somebody else made me, for his own purposes, then I shall have a lot of duties which I should not have if I simply belonged to myself.” C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, p. 47

## **SERMON NOTES**

**“The Parable of the Wicked Tenants”**

*Luke 20:9-19*

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FELLOWSHIP HALL SERVICES** will meet in the Lookout Mountain School auditorium across the street at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. until the truss work is completed.

**HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW CHILDREN'S RESOURCE?** Each week, pick up Table Talk for kids with reading and discussion questions to continue the conversation during the week after the sermon. Find it on our website or on the back of the weekly coloring sheet.

**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 children and youth programming. Adults are welcome to attend at 9:30 a.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building, beginning today.

**LMPC'S PODCAST, PILLAR & GROUND**, has returned for the fall. New and upcoming episodes include interviews with church members and partners, a conversation about Christians and politics, and overviews from the Westminster Confession of Faith on topics like repentance, good works, and perseverance. Listen to Pillar & Ground wherever you get your podcasts.

**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](mailto:joy@lmpc.org) if you have questions.

**JOIN US FOR A WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP PICNIC** on September 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Commons. We'll enjoy pizza, cookies, and conversation while the children play on the playground. Register on Realm Connect; regular Wednesday dinner rates apply.

**MEN'S STEAK NIGHT** will take place on Thursday, September 26, and is a great opportunity to be with 8-10 other men to enjoy fellowship and eat meat. Please register on Realm Connect by Wednesday, September 18. To host a dinner, please contact Julie Dean, [julie@lmpc.org](mailto:julie@lmpc.org).

**MEMBERS, PLEASE NOMINATE OFFICERS** at [lmpc.org/officers](http://lmpc.org/officers) by September 29. On that webpage you may also access information about the nomination process, answers to frequently asked questions, and a list of those eligible to serve as officers. Alternatively, request a paper nominating ballot from the church office. Questions? Email [nominations@lmpc.org](mailto:nominations@lmpc.org).

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

## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, September 15

9:30 a.m.	Worship service with communion.....	sanctuary & LMS auditorium
9:30 a.m.	Sunday school for adults (Redeemer class) .....	JHYB
10:30 a.m.	Elders available to pray for your needs .....	Children's Education building, E-200
10:30 a.m.	Fellowship: cookies & lemonade .....	playground & chapel lawn
11:00 a.m.	Worship service with communion.....	sanctuary & LMS auditorium
4:00 p.m.	Middle school small groups .....	JHYB
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group .....	JHYB

*For more events this week, visit [lmpc.org/events](http://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](mailto:onrealm@lmpc.org) to update your email preferences.

### 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

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Worship services with Communion will be held in the morning on the third Sunday in September. Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.