



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Spirit of Holiness, take of the things of Christ and show them unto me. Let me learn before I die to love the things on the other bank of death: I would not meet them as the objects of a foreign land. Teach me here the rudiments of heaven, that to please God may already be my pleasure, that to serve God may already be my freedom, that to know God may already be my life. Show me the joy of thy salvation.

—George Matheson, Day unto Day

OCTOBER 20, 2024 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

arr. Albert Travis

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #649)

Welcome and greetings

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

* Call to worship

based on Ephesians 1

Leader: All glorious God, we give you thanks, for in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.

All: You chose us, before the creation of the world, to be your people, holy and blameless in your sight. In love, you predestined us to be adopted as your children through Jesus Christ. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Leader: You have made known to us the mystery of your will, to bring all things in heaven and earth into unity in Christ. You have given us your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of our inheritance.

All: All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your grace, for the splendor of your gifts, for the wonder of your love.

* Hymn of praise 170, vv. 1, 3, 4

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heav’n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.
text from Münster Gesangbuch, 1677; Silesian folk song, CRUSADER'S HYMN

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

based on 1 Peter 1

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

All: **He has given us an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade, kept in heaven for us. We, through faith, are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.**

Leader: In this we greatly rejoice, though now for a little while we may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that our faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine, and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

All: **Though we have not seen him, we love him; and even though we do not see him now, we believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for we are receiving the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.**

Call to confession

based on Titus 2

The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, a people eager to do what is good.

Hymn of confession 461, vv. 1, 2

“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 work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin;
thy blood alone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace within.
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to thee,
can rid me of this dark unrest, and set my spirit free.

text by Horatius Bonar, 1861; music by George William Martin, 1862, arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874,

LEOMINSTER

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Romans 5:1-2

Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

* Hymn of assurance 461, vv. 3, 4, 5

“Not What My Hands Have Done”

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 George William Martin, 1862, arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874,

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

Offertory

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”

Chancel Choir

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh.
Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand;
arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

text by Laurentius Laurenti, 1700; trans. Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1854; Welsh folk melody, LLANGLOFFAN

*** 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 21:5-11**

Brian Kvale

⁵And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”

⁷And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.”

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“Preparation for Faithful Service, Part 1”
John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

Jesus prepares his disciples for faithful service by calling them to:

1. **be careful:** don't presume on spiritual safety. (vv. 5-6)

2. **be cautious:** don't be deceived by end times speculation. (vv. 7-8)

3. **be calm:** don't be alarmed by world chaos. (vv. 9-11)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes”

Jesus, thy church with longing eyes
for thine expected coming waits.
When will the promised Light arise
and glory beam from Zion's gates?

E'en now, when tempests round us fall
and wintry clouds o'er cast the sky,
thy words with pleasure we recall
and deem that our redemption's nigh.

Teach us, in watchfulness and prayer,
to wait for the appointed hour,
and fit us by thy grace to share
the triumphs of thy conquering power.

text by William Bathurst, 1831; music by John Hatton, 1793, DUKE STREET

* Benediction

* Congregational response

“Threefold Amen”

* Postlude

Toccata
Fernand de La Tombelle

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director

Joshua Knight – organ

IN MEMORIAM

Robert W. Jennings

January 4, 1930 – October 12, 2024

IN MEMORIAM

Cindy A. Tucker

October 16, 1959 – October 15, 2024

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.

IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN AN ADULT SMALL GROUP, either as a participant or a facilitator, please stop and see Chad Middlebrooks and Julie Dean on the chapel lawn today after either the 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. service in an effort to update our records.

DUE TO CONSTRUCTION CONSTRAINTS, there will be no evening communion today.

FAITH CO-OP HAS PUBLISHED A PRAYER GUIDE, “The Posture of Our Politics,” short prayers written by local leaders including our own Brian Salter and Chad Middlebrooks. Access the prayer guide through the link on our website home page, and pair it with the recent LMPC podcast episode, “How Can Christians Live Faithfully in the Current Political Moment?” (parts 1 and 2).

THE LMPC PLAYGROUND will be closed this week for sewer work; please comply with all safety instructions on posted signage.

JOIN US FOR A WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP PICNIC on October 23 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 **by Monday, October 21**; regular Wednesday dinner rates apply. (Gluten-free/dairy-free option available.)

THE REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Chattanooga. Combined choirs and instrumentalists from First Presbyterian, Covenant College, and LMPC will lead us in worship and congregational hymns.

MEN, COME FOR PRAYER, breakfast, and fellowship on Tuesday, October 29 from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building. Feel free to bring a friend as we continue to seek the Lord’s grace for renewal.

WOMEN'S FALL SUPPERS will be held in individual homes on Tuesday, October 29. Invite your friends and neighbors, and please register on Realm Connect by October 25.

WOMEN, JOIN US AT THE GA TOWN HALL for dessert and discussion on November 12 at 7:00 p.m. to explore Jonathan Haidt's book, *The Anxious Generation*, and how technology and social media are shaping our kids. The night will include small group discussion and a panel of LMPC women. Please register for this free event on Realm Connect by November 11.

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

JOIN THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our online church directory allows our members to easily find contact information for one another. And it is private, which means it is only accessible through a Realm Connect account. If you do not have an account, or if you have hidden your information, others in the church cannot find you. Find more details on joining and using Realm Connect at lmpc.org/realm.