



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation.
Make us ready for the message that prepares the way,
that with uprightness of heart and holy joy
we may eagerly await the Kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.*
—The Worship Sourcebook

DECEMBER 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

Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

*** Call to worship**

from Psalm 150 and Hebrews 1

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.

Leader: In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

All: The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

*** Hymn of praise**

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
text by James Montgomery, 1816; music by Henry Smart, 1867

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

from Romans 13 and Proverbs 28

The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from Ephesians 1

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. 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

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

continued

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. *Refrain*

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might." *Refrain*

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm, and wind:
and went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find. *Refrain*
English carol and melody, 18th century

Lighting the candle of joy

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."
from Luke 2:8-11

Advent prayer

Leader: O Lord our Lord, in you is life, and that life is the light of men. Your light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: We ask, O Lord, that just as the shepherds were filled with joy at the angels' announcement, so also would we be filled with that same joy today! Even when our hearts feel cloaked in sadness and despair, remind us that you have come and will come again. Your light will never be overcome by the darkness.

Leader: Jesus, you said of yourself, "I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."

All: May our joy flow from deep and abiding relationship with you, and may it be expressed in loving service to every person we encounter. Grow your light in us, that the world may know that real joy is found in you. Amen.
from John 1 and 12

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

Offertory hymn

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Stars were gleaming, shepherds dreaming, O the night was dark and chill;
angel's story, manger glory, shepherds heard it on the hill.
Ah, that singing, hear it ringing, earthward winging, praises bringing:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.
Polish carol, paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed, ca. 1925; traditional Polish melody

* **Scripture reading from Luke 1:46-55**
text printed in the bulletin

Maryellen Mixon (9:30)
Emmie 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

"Truths to Make Your Heart Sing"
Brian Salter, lead pastor

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response**

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*

continued

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. *Refrain*
text by Charles Wesley, 1739; music by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William H. Cummings, 1856

*** 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.**

RENEW update

Musicians for this week:

Amy Barham – vocals

Xaris Emmett – violin

Greta Erickson – vocals

David Henry – guitar, vocals

Jonah Hitchcock – cello

Hannah Lutz – viola

Ethan Rester – piano

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Scotlynn Rose Maclellan, born to Brooke and Reid Maclellan on December 4.

Christian sympathy is expressed to LMPC supported missionary Pete Mitchell on the passing of his wife, Ruth Mitchell, on December 10. Pete and Ruth have served with MTW in France for 32 years.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY AT THE END OF ALL SERVICES, there will be a RENEW update. For more details on where we are in the process, listen to the November 25 episode of LMPC's podcast, Pillar & Ground. Stuart Bickley and John Stroud recap some of the recently-completed work on our campus.

JOIN US THIS EVENING FOR OUR CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERT at 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Nursery will be provided at 4:00 p.m. only. Experience "O Holy Night" with our chancel choir and instrumentalists.

BRING YOUR FAMILY OR SMALL GROUP AND GO CAROLING on Sunday, December 22 at 1:30 p.m. at Morning Pointe at Happy Valley or 3:15 p.m. at Thrive at Brow Wood. Or, come to both! Please register on Realm Connect.

THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC CLASS will be held January 24-26. 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. 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 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Register on Realm Connect by January 10.

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

ADVENT 2024

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 15

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

nursery available at 4:00 p.m. only

CHRISTMAS CAROLING*

Sunday, December 22

1:30 p.m. Morning Pointe at Happy Valley

3:15 p.m. Thrive at Brow Wood

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24

LESSONS AND CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

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

5:00 p.m. also available by livestream

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

**register on Realm Connect*

Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹“for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹“He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵²he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

SERMON NOTES

“Truths to Make Your Heart Sing”

Luke 1:46-55

Mary’s song reminds us that joyful worship is always the proper response when we know:

1. Who God sees: the humble and lowly (vv. 46-48)
2. Who God is: mighty, holy, and merciful (vv. 49-50)
3. What God does: brings his Kingdom in unexpected ways (vv. 51-55)

Further Up, Further In,
Resources for
Continued Study



SERMON NOTES
"Truths to Make Your Heart Sing"
Luke 1:46-55

SERMON NOTES
"Truths to Make Your Heart Sing"
Luke 1:46-55

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, December 15

9:30 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
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
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Concert (with nursery).....	sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Christmas Concert.....	sanctuary

For more events this week, visit lmpc.org/events.

GIVING UPDATE THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2024

Annual Budget: \$5,860,000

2024 Giving YTD: \$4,184,849

Remaining Gifts Needed: \$1,675,151

Outstanding Pledge Balance: \$554,409

We're grateful for the generosity at LMPC so far in 2024. As we near the end of the year, please consider how you might contribute towards our mission of glorifying God by growing in grace and giving our lives away on the mountain, in the city, and around the world. Find ways to give at lmpc.org/give.

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

Email: info@lmpc.org

Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first Sunday of every month in all morning services. Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.