



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 • SANCTUARY 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

Prelude

Prelude & Pastorale on "Wachet Auf"

Wayne Wold

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #317)

Welcome and greetings

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

Introit

"Sussex Carol"

Girls Ensemble

On Christmas night, all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

The King of kings to us is giv'n, the Lord of earth and King of heav'n.
Heaven and earth with joy may sing all for to see the newborn King.

Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:

"Glory to God, and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen!"

traditional English carol; arr. Dan Forrest, 2015

*** 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 26**

“Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord”

*** 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 211**

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

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

Magnificat

Chancel Choir

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his name.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

text from Luke 1:46-55; music by Charles Villiers Stanford, 1852-1924

*** 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 1:46-55**

p. 1017 in the pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin

Olivia Oster (9:30)

Julie Dean (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”
Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 199, vv. 1, 2, 5, 6**

“See, amid the Winter's Snow”

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

RENEW update

*** Postlude**

“Sing We Now of Christmas”
arr. Richard Hudson

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director, piano
Joshua Knight – organ

Kara Riley – Girls Ensemble director

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*

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.