



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lord God, be my best good and the highest goal of my life. Let Jesus Christ be my Prince and Saviour. Let the Holy Spirit be my Sanctifier, Teacher, Guide, and Comforter. Enable me to deny ungodliness, and give me the grace to live righteously and godly in this present world.

Keep me always looking for the hope of Christ's return in glory.

—adapted from a prayer by Matthew Henry

JANUARY 19, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Talk About A Child That Do Love Jesus”
arr. Calvin Taylor

Welcome and greetings

Brian Salter, lead pastor

* **Call to worship**

from Revelation 4 and 5

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

All: **You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.**

Leader: You are worthy, Lord Jesus, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

All: **To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!**

* **Hymn of praise 111**

“This Is My Father’s World”

This is my Father’s world, and to my list’ning ears,
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker’s praise.
This is my Father’s world: he shines in all that’s fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father’s world, O let me ne’er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father’s world: the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav’n be one.

text by Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901; music by Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926, TERRA BEATA

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

from Philippians 2:6-11

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

Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable:

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Silent prayers of confession

Choral meditation

“If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments”

Chancel Choir

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you forever,
e'en the Spirit of truth, that he may abide with you forever.

text from John 14:15-17; music by Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on Ephesians 2

Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. For it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

* Hymn of assurance 703, vv. 1, 3, 4

“Loved with Everlasting Love”

Loved with everlasting love, drawn by grace that love to know,
Spirit sent from Christ above, thou dost witness it is so.
O this full and precious peace from his presence all divine;
in a love that cannot cease, I am his and he is mine;
in a love that cannot cease, I am his and he is mine.

Taste the goodness of the Lord: welcomed home to his embrace,
all his love as blood outpoured seals the pardon of his grace.
Can I doubt his love for me, when I trace that love's design?
By the cross of Calvary I am his and he is mine.
By the cross of Calvary I am his and he is mine.

His forever, only his—who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss Christ can fill the loving heart.
Heav'n and earth may fade and flee, firstborn light in gloom decline,
but while God and I shall be, I am his and he is mine;
but while God and I shall be, I am his and he is mine.
text by George W. Robinson, 1890; music by James Mountain, ca. 1890, EVERLASTING LOVE

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

Offertory

“You Are Before Me, Lord”

Chancel Choir

You are before me, Lord; you are behind,
and over me you have spread out your hand.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too high to grasp, too great to understand.

Then from your Spirit where, Lord, shall I go,
and from your presence where, Lord, shall I fly?
If I ascend to heaven you are there,
and still are with me if in the depths I lie.

If I should take my flight into the dawn,
if I should dwell on ocean's farthest shore,
your mighty hand will rest upon me still,
and your right hand will guard me evermore.

If I should say, "Let darkness cover me,
and I shall hide within the veil of night,"
surely the darkness is not dark to you:
the night is as day, the darkness, light.

Search me, O God, search me and know my heart:
try me, O God, my mind and spirit try;
keep me from any path that gives you pain,
and lead me in the everlasting way.

text based on Psalm 139, by Ian Pitt-Watson © 1973 Ian Pitt-Watson Trust, CCLI Lic. #152036

*** 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 22:24-30**

Stephanie Wharton

²⁴A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors.

²⁶"But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

²⁸"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The Disciples' Dispute"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

The disciples' dispute highlights contrasting views of stewarding power:

1. Worldly stewardship of power (vv. 24-25)
2. Kingdom stewardship of power (vv. 26-27)
3. The King's gracious gift of power (vv. 28-30)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 125**

“Let All Things Now Living”

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

His law he enforces: the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit, obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
'til all things now living unite in thanksgiving
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

text by Katherine K. Davis, 1939, traditional Welsh melody, ASH GROVE

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

*** Postlude**

Sonata No. 2, III. Allegro maestoso e vivace
Felix Mendelssohn

Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director

Joshua Knight – organ

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING today we will worship and celebrate communion at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Nursery will be provided.

MEN, JOIN US FOR LUNCH at Feed Table & Tavern (201 W Main St.) at 11:45 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month, January through May. Feel free to invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to join us.

MAKE A LARGE CHURCH FEEL A LITTLE SMALLER by joining an adult small group this year. Our small groups afford a unique opportunity to connect with other believers in friendship and to grow in faith outside of Sunday morning. To join, please visit the fellowship hall reception area after one of the worship services on Sunday, January 26. If you miss that date but are interested, please contact Julie Dean or Chad Middlebrooks by calling the church office.

COLLEGE STUDENTS are invited to lunch on February 2 at 12:15 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building. We'd love to connect with you! No registration is required.

OUR ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE will be held February 9-12. See the full schedule of events at lmpc.org/wmc and note that several events require registration on Realm Connect.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE COMING BACK! We will resume fellowship dinners, Kids' Clubs, and children's choirs on Wednesday, February 26. Children's choirs require registration on Realm Connect and begin at 4:45 p.m. Dinner is at 5:45 p.m. and Kids' Clubs begin at 6:10. More details may be found at lmpc.org/wednesday and lmpc.org/groups.

ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP! Please reach out to Brennan Griffin at brennan@lmpc.org if you are willing to serve in any of these roles: Sunday School subs, Sunday School buddies with an individual child (once/month), Wednesday Evening Kids' Club teachers and subs.

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

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Margaret Louise Chapin, born to Clark and Doug Chapin on January 8.

SPOTLIGHT: SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

On Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, we are reminded of the beautiful truth that every human life is created by God, made in his image, and deeply loved and valued. On this day, we have a powerful opportunity for the church to affirm the inherent dignity of every person and to stand as a voice for the voiceless in a culture where life is too often devalued.

**Taken from a letter written by Jennie Landreth of Choices; altered, with permission.*

See our local, supported ministries below and contact them or our Missions Coordinator at stephanie@lmpc.org for more information.

CHOICES is a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to providing no-cost support and resources to women, men, and families facing unplanned pregnancies. Guided by the Gospel, Choices offers services such as pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, abortion pill reversal, parenting programs, and after-abortion care to empower individuals to choose life. With over 5,900 appointments last year, 88% of patients came considering abortion, and 90% of known outcomes chose life. By partnering with churches and volunteers from the community, Choices transforms lives. Volunteer opportunities include helping with reception, data entry, and patient advocacy/mentorship. Additionally, Choices' community-wide Walk for Life will take place on Saturday, April 5; if interested, contact Anna Stroud or Judy Pepper. (team.choiceschattanooga.org)

LOOKOUT FOR ORPHANS is a community of believers on Lookout Mountain and beyond seeking to promote, celebrate, and nurture adopted children. Through fervent prayer, intentional communication, and financial support, they provide awareness of the need for adoption and support to the families choosing to adopt children. Volunteer opportunities include helping with facility cleaning and yardwork. (lookoutfororphans.com)

THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOR THE UNBORN is dedicated to serving those who experience loss and grief associated with the abortion of unborn children. By valuing the brief life of the unborn child with a permanent memorial in a place of dignity and respect, the National Memorial for the Unborn assists in moving from pain and guilt to forgiveness and restoration in Jesus. Located in Chattanooga, the 50-foot granite "Wall of Names" holds small brass plates with words of remembrance from individuals and families all over the world seeking post-abortion healing. There are monthly ceremonies, a virtual wall, healing resources, and a reflective gazebo garden honoring miscarried babies with brick pavers placed by parents. (memorialfortheunborn.org)