



# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

## *Presbyterian Church*

### IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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*Almighty and eternal Lord God, you are the Creator and Continual Preserver of all things, both in heaven and earth. By your gracious providence I was at first fearfully and wonderfully made, and even now you keep me and preserve me. I am the workmanship of your hands, and I desire to humble both soul and body before your heavenly majesty.*

*—from a prayer by Robert Parker*

JANUARY 26, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

\* Congregation standing as you are able

# Order of Worship

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## Prelude

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

*arr. Cathy DeRousse*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #648)*

## Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

## \* Call to worship

from Psalm 36 and Lamentations 3

Leader: Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep.

All: O LORD, you preserve both man and beast. How priceless is your unfailing love!

Leader: Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.

All: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

## \* Hymn of praise 32

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:* Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*  
*text by Thomas O. Chisolm, 1923; music by William M. Runyan, 1923, FAITHFULNESS*

## \* Prayer of adoration

### Call to confession

based on Isaiah 55 and Psalm 51

**Leader:** Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let us turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on us. Let us turn to our God, for he will freely pardon.

**All:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions. Create in us a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us.

### Silent prayers of confession

#### Choral meditation

“Let Me Be Thine Forever”

Chancel Choir

Let me be thine forever, my gracious God and Lord,  
may I forsake thee never, nor wander from thy Word:  
preserve me from the mazes of error and distrust,  
and I shall sing thy praises forever with the just.

Lord Jesus, bounteous giver of light and life divine,  
thou didst my soul deliver, to thee I all resign:  
thou hast in mercy bought me with blood and bitter pain;  
let me, since thou hast sought me, eternal life obtain.

O Holy Ghost who pourest sweet peace into my heart,  
and who my soul restorest, let not thy grace depart.  
And while his name confessing whom I by faith have known,  
grant me thy constant blessing, make me for aye thine own.  
*text by Nicolaus Selnecker, 1572; music by Hans Leo Hassler, 1601, PASSION CHORALE*

#### Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from Isaiah 53

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors; he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;  
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”  
*Rippon’s Selection of Hymns, 1787; traditional American melody, FOUNDATION*

## Worship in the giving of God’s tithe and our offerings

### Offertory

“Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul”

Chancel Choir

Dear refuge of my weary soul, on you, when sorrows rise,  
on you, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies.  
To you I tell each rising grief, for you alone can heal;  
your Word can bring a sweet relief for ev’ry pain I feel.

Have you bid me seek your face, and shall I seek in vain?  
Can the ear of sov’rign grace be deaf when I complain?  
No, still the ear of sov’rign grace attends the mourner’s prayer;  
may I ever find a place to breathe my sorrows there.

O gracious God, where shall I flee? You are my only trust;  
my weary soul will cleave to you, though prostrate in the dust.  
Your mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat;  
with humble hope attend your will, and wait beneath your feet.

Dear refuge of my weary soul, I wait beneath your feet.  
*text by Anne Steele, 1717-1778; music by Matthew Merker, 2016; arr. Shelton Ridge Love © 2016*  
*Matthew Merker Music / Sovereign Grace Praise, 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 22:31-38**

Prissy Thrash

<sup>31</sup>“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup>but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” <sup>33</sup>Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.”

<sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?” They said, “Nothing.” <sup>36</sup>He said to them, “But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. <sup>37</sup>For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about me has its fulfillment.” <sup>38</sup>And they said, “Look, Lord, here are two swords.” And he said to them, “It is enough.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word**

**Sermon**

“Jesus’ Provision for Endangered Disciples”

Brian Salter, lead pastor

1. The complex dangers facing Jesus’ followers
  - Imminent danger of Satan’s sifting (v. 31)
  - Misplaced confidence in ourselves (vv. 33-34)
  - Rising hostility to the person of Jesus (vv. 35-36)

## 2. The compassionate responses of Jesus

- Earnestly prays for our faith not to fail (v. 32a)
- Graciously anticipates our restoration (v. 32b)
- Willingly atones for our sin (v. 37)
- Patiently bears with our constant misunderstanding (v. 38)

### Pastoral prayer

#### \* Hymn of response 644

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,  
by his love and pow’r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through his pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;  
him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,  
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

*text by Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925, ST. LEONARDS*

#### \* Benediction

#### \* Congregational response

“Threefold Amen”

#### \* Postlude

Improvisation on “How Firm a Foundation”

*Richard Elliott*

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### Musicians for this week:

Joy Gibbons – choral director  
Rebecca James – violin

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

**Celebrating the baptism** of Nathan Russell Ellis at the 9:30 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Sarah and Mark Ellis, and his grandparents, Nancy and Chris Stowell and Melinda and Eric Ellis.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MAKE A LARGE CHURCH FEEL A LITTLE SMALLER** by joining an adult small group this year. If you would like to sign up for a small group, please visit the fellowship hall reception area after one of the worship services today.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL NOW** be located in the new church office building, adjacent to the Jane Harris Youth Building, as of Monday, January 27. If you are in a group that meets during the week, you will remain in your current location unless you hear differently from your leader, as some construction is still being completed.

**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.

**THE MARRIAGE COURSE** can help you strengthen your communication and grow your relationship, whether you are newlyweds or have been married many years. Each couple will sit at their own table and only interact with each other while participating in a video course. The course runs on Tuesday nights from February 11 until March 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please register on Realm Connect for \$50 per couple.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL COMING SOON!** Sunday School for all ages will begin on February 9. Volunteers will assist you in finding classrooms as needed. Find a full list of classes and locations at [lmpc.org/groups](http://lmpc.org/groups), where you may sort by category and age group. Classes for all ages meet at 11:00 a.m. (with the exception of one 9:30 adult class).

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS COMING SOON!** Fellowship dinners, Kids' Clubs, and children's choirs start again 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](http://lmpc.org/wednesday) and [lmpc.org/groups](http://lmpc.org/groups).

**ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!** Please reach out to Brennan Griffin at [brennan@lmpc.org](mailto: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.

**THE ANNUAL COMMUNICANTS CLASS** will be held for youth in grades 6-12 interested in joining LMPC. The class will be February 28-March 2 and meet on Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Sunday during the Sunday School hour. Please register on Realm Connect by February 21.

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

**2025 WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE  
IN JOYFUL PARTNERSHIP - PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

*Please note that events with an asterisk require registration. Follow the registration links at [lmpc.org/wmc](https://lmpc.org/wmc) or head straight to Realm Connect.*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

**Morning Worship & Sunday School Presentations**

9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., *nursery available*

**Q&A Panel: Get to Know Our Guests**

4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, *nursery available*

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

**Men's Breakfast: Stories from the Field**

6:30 a.m. in the JHYB gathering room

**Missions Luncheon\***

11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

**Prayer for Guests**

4:30 p.m. location TBD

**Family Dinner: Exploring Central Asia\***

5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall, *nursery available*



**YEAR-END GIVING UPDATE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**Annual Budget:** \$5,860,000

**2024 Receipts:** \$5,428,900

**2024 Expenses:** \$5,474,426

**Budget Shortfall:** (\$431,100)

**Net Income:** (\$45,525)

Thank you for your giving in 2024. Please pray as we adjust our 2025 budget, given our 2024 receipts. We will share the revised 2025 budget upon approval.

Consider how you might be able to contribute toward our mission of giving our lives away on the mountain, in the city, and around the world.

Find multiple ways to give at [lmpc.org/give](https://lmpc.org/give).