



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*

**IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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*Come, thou desire of all thy saints, our humble strains attend, while with our praises  
and complaints low at thy feet we bend. When we thy wondrous glories hear, and all thy  
suff'rings trace, what sweetly awful scenes appear! What rich unbounded grace!*

*Come, Lord, thy love alone can raise in us the heav'nly flame;  
then shall our lips resound thy praise, our hearts adore thy name.  
—from "Entreating the Presence of Christ in His Churches" by Anne Steele*

MARCH 16, 2025 • 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

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Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

\* Call to worship

based on Psalm 118

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.  
Open for us the gates of righteousness; we will enter and give thanks  
to the LORD.

All: **We will give thanks, for you answered us and have become our  
salvation.**

Leader: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;  
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

All: **This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\* Hymn of praise

"Our Great God"

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown;  
your boundless love unfailing, in grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in endless flight around your glorious throne,  
they raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone.

Refrain: Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee before our sovereign God. *Refrain*

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird;  
let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth;  
let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe  
sing praises to the living God, who rules them by his Word. *Refrain*  
text and music by Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell © 2002 Word Music, LLC, ARR, ICS, UBP, CCLI Lic.#152036

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**\* Affirmation of faith**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,**

**and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The Apostles' Creed is so named because it summarizes what the apostles believed and taught in Jesus' name. The earliest versions of the Creed can be traced back to the 2nd century. We use the traditional translation of the Creed which contains some unfamiliar words: "quick" instead of "living" and "catholic" instead of "universal." Also, when we say that Christ "descended into hell," we are not saying that Jesus literally entered hell; instead, we are affirming that Jesus suffered all the pains and torments of hell as he endured the unmitigated wrath of God on the cross.*

**Call to confession**

from Isaiah 64 and Joel 2

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

## Hymn of confession

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

God, be merciful to me; on thy grace I rest my plea.  
Plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now.  
Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.  
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face.  
I confess thy judgment just; speechless, I thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just,  
let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice;  
from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew; make my spirit right and true.  
Cast me not away from thee; let thy Spirit dwell in me.  
Thy salvation's joy impart; steadfast make my willing heart.

*text from The Psalter, 1912; music by Christopher Miner, 1997*

## Silent prayers of confession

### \* Assurance of God's pardoning grace

based on 2 Corinthians 5 and Zephaniah 3

**Leader:** God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**All:** **Be glad and rejoice! The LORD has taken away our punishment. The LORD our God is with us, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in us, he will quiet us with his love, he will rejoice over us with singing.**

### \* Hymn of assurance

“How Great Thou Art”

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy pow'r thro'out the universe displayed.

**Refrain:** Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin. *Refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art. *Refrain*  
*text by Stuart K. Hine, 1949; Swedish folk melody*

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

### **Offertory hymn**

“My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who bore my pain;  
who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again;  
who crushed my curse of sinfulness, and clothed me in his light,  
and wrote his law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who walks beside;  
who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly;  
whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take,  
sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who reigns above,  
whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love.  
For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King;  
so I will give my life, my all, to love and follow him.

*text and music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2003 Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic.# 152036*

### **\* Scripture reading from Luke 23:13-25**

*text printed in the bulletin*

Rebekah Risley (9:30)

David Fowler (11:00)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word**

### **Sermon**

“The Innocent for the Guilty”

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

### **Pastoral prayer**

**\* Hymn of response**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner’s ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow’r of reigning sin, he sets the pris’ner free;  
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks and, list’ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

*text by Charles Wesley, 1739; music by Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829*

**\* 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.**

**\* Postlude**

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**Musicians for this week:**

**David Henry** – guitar, vocals  
**Jonah Hitchcock** – cello  
**Hannah Lutz** – viola  
**Hannah Perry** – flute

**Emmie Thompson** – vocals  
**Bob Wharton** – piano  
**Donna Wharton** – vocals

## 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.

**LAST WEEK WAS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**, and 2025 pledge cards were distributed after the presentation. On Sunday, March 23 during the offering, we will bring our pledge cards forward as an act of worship. Even if you update your pledge online at [lmpc.org/give](https://lmpc.org/give) or through Realm Connect, we would invite you to bring a card forward on that Sunday. The goal on that Sunday is not to be showy, but for us to have a physical reminder that this is a part of our worship and that we do it together. More pledge cards are available in the fellowship hall lobby, sanctuary Narthex, and church office. Thank you for your support of the ministries and work here at LMPC.

**THERE WILL BE LIMITED WEDNESDAY EVENING** activities on March 19 due to spring break: Chancel Choir will rehearse and Wed. Evening Prayer will be held at 6:15 p.m.

**WE WILL WELCOME THE COVENANT SINGERS**, under the direction of Christine Hassevoort, to our sanctuary worship services on Sunday, March 23.

**LMPC HAS A JOB OPENING** for the position of Director of Choral Ministries. For more information and to apply, please contact David Henry at [davidh@lmpc.org](mailto:davidh@lmpc.org).

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

## SUNDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE

Our evening communion services take place in the sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month, combining the beauty of the sanctuary with the instrumentation of the fellowship hall. Our pastors will launch a new series today on the topic of our six values as a church: Primacy of the Gospel, Vitality of Worship, Indispensability of the Church, Necessity of Prayer, Centrality of Community, and Priority of Mission. Each month, we will see how our beliefs guide our behavior. On Sunday evenings, communion is celebrated in smaller groups. Nursery is always provided. We encourage everyone to attend, including small groups that meet on Sunday nights, that we might enjoy the unifying and nourishing power of the Lord's Supper together.

*To see upcoming Sunday Evening Gatherings, visit [lmpc.org/sunday-night](https://lmpc.org/sunday-night).*

### Luke 23:13-25

<sup>13</sup>Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, <sup>14</sup>and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. <sup>15</sup>Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. <sup>16</sup>I will therefore punish and release him.”

<sup>18</sup>But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas” —<sup>19</sup>a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. <sup>20</sup>Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, <sup>21</sup>but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” <sup>22</sup>A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” <sup>23</sup>But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.

<sup>24</sup>So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup>He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.



**SERMON NOTES**  
“The Innocent for the Guilty”  
*Luke 23:13-25*

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“The Innocent for the Guilty”  
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## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, March 16

9:30 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
9:30 a.m.	Sunday school for adults (Redeemer class) .....	Room 211
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for youth & children .....	various locations
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults (Fellowship class).....	Room 211
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults (Kingdom class) .....	JHYB high school room
11:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults (Sojourners class) .....	Conference Room
6:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Gathering with communion .....	sanctuary

For more events this week, visit [lmpc.org/events](http://lmpc.org/events); for information on groups and classes, visit [lmpc.org/groups](http://lmpc.org/groups).

## JOIN REALM CONNECT

Do you have a Realm Connect account? Join our invitation-only networking site to access the LMPC online directory, manage giving, register for events, and fill out your Serving profile. Request your account today by visiting [lmpc.org/realm](http://lmpc.org/realm).

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