



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God, living and true, look upon your people, whose dry and stony hearts are parched with thirst. Unseal the living water of your Spirit; let it become within us an ever-flowing spring, leading up to eternal life. Thus may we worship you in spirit and in truth through Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, holy and mighty God for ever and ever. Amen.

—from Opening Prayers

MARCH 23, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal”

Covenant Singers

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore,
as I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.

And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
passes swiftly o’er those waters to the city far away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.

Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest;
and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.

text from The Olive Leaf, 1878; arr. Mark Hayes, 2012

Welcome and greetings

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

Introit

“Joyfully Sing”

Covenant Singers

Joyfully sing alleluia, glory in the highest,
praising the name of God above, glory in the highest.
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now gladly sing unto our God.
text and music by Linda Steen Spevacek, 1990

* Call to worship

from Psalm 104

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

All: **How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Leader: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

All: I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

*** Hymn of praise**

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

Christ is our cornerstone, on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone the courts of heav’n are filled.
On his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joys above.

Here may we gain from heav’n the grace which we implore,
and may that grace, once giv’n, be with us evermore
until that day when all the blest to endless rest are called away.

O, then, with hymns of praise these hallowed courts shall ring;
our voices we will raise, the Three in One to sing,
and thus proclaim in joyful song, both loud and long, that glorious name.
8th c. hymn, tr. John Chandler; music by John Darwall, 1770, DARWALL

*** Prayer of adoration**

Sacrament of baptism

Ciara and Joseph Lentini bringing Joseph Westley Lentini

Call to confession

from 1 Peter 1:14-19

Do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” Since you call on a Father who judges each man’s work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Silent prayers of confession

*** Assurance of God’s pardoning grace**

from 2 Timothy 1:9-10

God has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

* Hymn of assurance

“The Power of the Cross”



1.O, to see the dawn of the dark - est day; Christ on the
2.O, to see the pain writ - ten on your face, bear - ing the
3.Now the day - light flees; now the ground be - neath quakes as its
4.O, to see my name writ - ten in the wounds, for through your



road to Cal - va - ry. Tried by sin - ful men, torn and beat - en,
awe - some weight of sin. Ev - 'ry bit - ter thought, ev - 'ry ev - il
Ma - ker bows his head. Cur - tain torn in two, dead are raised to
suf - fering I am free. Death is crushed to death, life is mine to



then nailed to a cross of wood. This the pow'r of the
deed crown - ing your blood-stained brow.
life. "Fin - ished!" the vic - t'ry cry.
live, won through your self - less love!



cross; 1,2,3.Christ be - came sin for us, took the
4.Son of God slain for us. What a



blame, bore the wrath. We stand for - giv - en at the cross.
love, what a cost!

text and music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend ©2005 Thankyou Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

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

Offertory

“All Things New”

Covenant Singers

Light after darkness, gain after loss, strength after weakness, crown after cross,
sweet after bitter, hope after fears, home after wand'ring, praise after tears.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end, he is making all things new.
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear. He is making all things new.

Sight after myst'ry, sun after rain, joy after sorrow, peace after pain,
near after distant, gleam after gloom, love after loneliness, life after tomb.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end, he is making all things new.
Spirings of living water shall wash away each tear. He is making all things new.
He is making all things new.

text by Frances Havergal; music by Elaine Hagenberg © 2021 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. 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 23:26-31**

Brian Kvale

²⁶And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The Agony of Jesus"

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

1. The imposed burden: Simon is forced to carry the cross for the suffering Savior. (v. 26)
2. The impending judgment: Jesus compassionately redirects the women's weeping to a greater concern. (vv. 27-31)

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 246**

“Man of Sorrows! What a Name”

Man of Sorrows! what a name for the Son of God, who came
ruined sinners to reclaim: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he;
full atonement! can it be? Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die, “It is finished!” was his cry;
now in heav’n exalted high: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we’ll sing: Hallelujah! what a Savior!
text and music by Philip P. Bliss, 1875, HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR!

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

Musicians for this week:

Covenant Singers, directed by Christine Hassevoort
Joshua Knight – organ, piano

Celebrating the baptism of Joseph Westley Lentini at the 9:30 service in the sanctuary today are his parents, Ciara and Joseph Lentini, and his grandparents, Denise and Westley Wilke and Susan and Joseph Lentini, and his great-grandmother, Marylou Winfield.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY DURING THE OFFERING, you will be asked to bring your pledge card forward. If you're not prepared to turn in a pledge card today, you may bring it to the church office this week, or make your pledge online at lmpc.org/give or on Realm Connect.

WE WELCOME THE COVENANT SINGERS, under the direction of Christine Hassevoort, to our sanctuary worship services today. Next Sunday, March 30, we will welcome the Covenant College Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Scott Finch, to our sanctuary worship services.

TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD EASTER FLOWERS in memory or in honor of a loved one, please do so through Realm Connect by April 7. For more information, please call the church office.

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.

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

SET UP GIVING IN REALM CONNECT

Giving online through Realm or the Realm Connect App is easy and convenient! Just log in to your Realm Connect account, tap "Giving," and tap the blue button that says "+Give" (or "Make a gift" if you're on the app) to create a new gift. From there, set up a one-time or recurring gift. You also have the option to securely save your billing information in Realm for future gifts or event payments. Don't have a Realm Connect account? Request one today by visiting lmpc.org/realm.