



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*

**IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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*O Lord my God, light of the blind, and strength of the weak, yes, also light of those that see,  
and strength of the strong, hearken unto my soul, and hear it crying out of the depths.*

*—St. Augustine*

MAY 25, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

\* Congregation standing as you are able

## Order of Worship

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### Prelude

“How Great Thou Art”

*arr. John Purifoy*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #44)*

### Welcome and greetings

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

### \* Call to worship

based on Isaiah 25

**Leader:** O LORD, you are our God; we will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago.

**All:** **You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.**

**Leader:** On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples. He will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

**All:** **The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. In that day we will say, “Surely, this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”**

### \* Hymn of praise 2, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

“O Worship the King”

O worship the King all glorious above,  
and gratefully sing his pow’r and his love;  
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;  
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!  
*based on Psalm 104, text by Robert Grant, 1833; music by J. Michael Haydn, 1737-1806, LYONS*

**\* 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**

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the  
remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show  
mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot  
and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

**Hymn of confession 308**

"Jesus Paid It All"

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small,  
child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."

*Refrain:* Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;  
sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,  
can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone. *Refrain*

For nothing good have I whereby your grace to claim—  
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb. *Refrain*

And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,  
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat. *Refrain*  
*text by Elvina M. Hall, 1865; music by John T. Grape, 1868, ALL TO CHRIST*

### **Prayer of confession**

**Leader:** Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways  
like lost sheep.

**All:** We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those  
things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things  
which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy on us.  
*adapted from The Book of Common Prayer*

### **Silent prayers of confession**

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

from Romans 8

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because  
through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin  
and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the  
sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to  
be a sin offering. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels  
nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height  
nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the  
love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### **\* 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.



<sup>1</sup>How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? <sup>2</sup>How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

<sup>3</sup>Consider and answer me, O LORD my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, <sup>4</sup>lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

<sup>5</sup>But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. <sup>6</sup>I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

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

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

#### **Sermon**

"Lament: From Despair to Trust"

John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

When God feels distant and despair feels near, we can learn from David's posture of:

1. honest lament. (vv. 1-2)
2. heartfelt plea. (vv. 3-4)
3. humble trust. (vv. 5-6)

#### **Pastoral prayer**

#### \* Hymn of response 75

"O Father, You Are Sovereign"

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;  
your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.  
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,  
sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;  
no pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.  
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,  
you hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,  
transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.  
All evil overruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,  
your love pursues its purpose—our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,  
but soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.  
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:  
our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you!  
*text by Margaret Clarkson, 1982; music by Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615, ST. THEODULPH*

\* **Benediction**

\* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

\* **Postlude**

Voluntary on “All My Hope on God Is Founded”  
*Michael Burkhardt*

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Joshua Knight** – organ, piano

**Cindy Solfest-Wallis** – flute

**Celebrating the baptism** of Mabel Grace Whitted at the 11:00 service in the sanctuary today are her parents, Bethany and Chapman Whitted, and her grandparents, Karen and David Sikkink and Lisa and Scott Whitted.

**Celebrating the baptism** of Theodore Hayes at the 11:00 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Emma and Dustin Hayes, his grandparents, Dana and Kristian Driver, Meredith and David Nahabedian, and Heather Hayes, and his great-grandmothers, Gwen Fink and Jo Ann Martin.

**The flowers in the sanctuary today** are from the wedding of Elizabeth Marie “Liza” Reynolds and Nathan Connor on May 24.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MANY OF YOU ARE EAGER FOR THE LIBRARY'S REOPENING**, but due to a delay with new shelving, it will be a little longer until library services resume. Please begin returning library books now to the return cart outside the library so we can integrate them with the collection when we begin reshelving. Thank you!

**WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY** will be held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for four weeks beginning May 28. We will join our church body in a "Summer in the Psalms." Nursery and elementary childcare will be provided. Come as you are able.

**POPSICLES ON THE PLAYGROUND** is back on Friday, May 30, with more dates in June and July. Meet at the Commons from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. to fellowship with other women; bring your kids!

**VIPS, JOIN THE PASTORS** for ice cream in the chapel on Monday, June 2 at 6:30 p.m. Participate in a Q&A and learn more about the pastoral philosophy of ministry at LMPC. *VIPs is a group of mostly retired adults from Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church and the community.*

**INTERESTED IN SINGING THIS SUMMER?** Look for more information coming next week on our Women's and Men's Ensembles.

**WE WILL HOST VBS** this summer, June 17-19, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please register on Realm Connect; cost is \$20 per child and includes dinner. If you can volunteer, please register through the separate event on Realm Connect.

**WOMEN'S SUMMER BOOK CLUBS** aren't until July 10, but now is the time to reserve your spot and start reading your book! Make your selection and find details on Realm Connect.

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

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) COMING TO CHATTANOOGA - JUNE 23-27**

### **Volunteer opportunities:**

If you are interested in serving, please follow the link in the QR code. Please note that the list you will see is not reflective of which opportunities are filled and which still need more volunteers. Most of the **unfilled** positions are: Move In/Move Out, Nursery, Women's Hospitality (Totes), Youth Events, Children's Events, Ushers, Elders serving communion (Tuesday), and Communion Prep (Tuesday). Please consider helping in these areas specifically.



### **Tennessee Valley Presbytery GA Prayer Meeting:**

Join this presbytery-wide prayer meeting to interact with other TVP churches and intercede for our branch of Christ's church.

Sunday, June 8, at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, TN.

### **GA Worship Services at the Chattanooga Convention Center:**

These services are open to all; come and worship at General Assembly!

Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25 at 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, June 26 at 7:30 p.m.