



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Shine from the topmost height, thou Divine Joy. Often I am led by a way which by myself I would not go. Shine out, thou Christ, and the tabernacle shall no more seem a decadence from the hilltop. Shine out, and the days of leading shall themselves be days of light, cheered by an unknown prospect, sustained by a promise of exceeding joy.

—George Matheson

JULY 20, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“He, Watching Over Israel”
Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Scholtes/Knight
(words for meditation, Psalm 121)

Welcome and greetings

Joe Donnovin, ruling elder

Introit

“Lift Thine Eyes to the Mountains”

Women’s Ensemble

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,
whence cometh, whence cometh, whence cometh help.

Thy help cometh from the Lord, from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved.
Thy Keeper will never slumber.

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,
whence cometh, whence cometh, whence cometh help.
text from Psalm 121, ed. by H. Clough-Leigher; music from Elijah, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

* Call to worship

from Psalm 27 and Psalm 89

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

All: **Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.**

Leader: I will sing of the LORD’s great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

All: **The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.**

*** 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

taken from Romans 13 and Acts 3

Let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Repent, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Prayer of confession

Leader: Merciful God, your Word tells us that you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

All: We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.

Leader: In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

All: **Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

based on Micah 6:8, Psalm 51, and The Book of Common Prayer

Silent prayers of confession

Choral prayer

“Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide”

Women’s Ensemble

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee:
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

text by Henry F. Lyte, 1847; music by William H. Monk, 1861, EVENTIDE

* Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

based on John 6

Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. Everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life.”

* Hymn of assurance 468

“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”

My faith has found a resting place, from guilt my soul is freed;
I trust the everliving One, his wounds for me shall plead.

Refrain: I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
it is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.

Enough for me that Jesus saves, this ends my fear and doubt;
a sinful soul I come to him, he’ll never cast me out. *Refrain*

My heart is leaning on the Word, the written Word of God:
salvation by my Savior's name, salvation thro' his blood. *Refrain*

My great Physician heals the sick, the lost he came to save;
for me his precious blood he shed, for me his life he gave. *Refrain*
text by Lidie H. Edmunds, 1891; music by André Grétry, 1741-1831, arr. William J. Kirkpatrick, 1891,
LANDAS

Call to offering

Luke 12:32

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Offertory

"Lord of the Small"

Women's Ensemble

Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things,
who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,
who loves the lame child and the wretch in the street,
who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.

Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid,
who girds them with courage and lends them his aid.
He pours out his Spirit on vessels so weak
that the timid can serve and the silent can speak.

Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,
who heals their afflictions, or carries them till
they leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,
to never be sick and never to die.

Praise him, O praise him, all ye who yet live,
who've been given so much and can so little give.
Our frail, lispng praise God will never despise;
he sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.
text by Johanna Anderson; music by Dan Forrest ©2011 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

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

²My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“Pilgrimage: A ‘Keeper’ Throughout Our Journey”

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. The universal anxiety about our security (v. 1)
2. The only source of true security (v. 2)
3. The unchanging character of our “Keeper” (vv. 3-8)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response 521

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. *Refrain*
text by Edward Mote, 1834; music by William B. Bradbury, 1863, SOLID ROCK

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

Fugue in E-flat, BWV 552

J. S. Bach

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #30)

Musicians for this week:

Joel Christie – Interim Ensemble Director

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Rory James Harrison, born to Bennett and Brad Harrison on July 9.

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.

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE LMPC's new Director of Choral Ministries, Brett Hyberger. Brett has a B.A. in vocal performance from Austin Peay and a Masters in Music from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. He has over 20 years of teaching experience as a voice instructor at local institutions, and ten years of church music experience. We will welcome Brett to our staff in early August; join us in thanking God for his provision and praying for Brett's transition.

OUR SECOND WOMEN'S SUMMER SUPPER will be held at 6:00 p.m. on July 24. Gather in local homes and share a meal. Please register on Realm Connect.

NEXT WEEK FOR OUR SUMMER MISSIONS SERIES, we'll hear from our High School Mexico Team about their recent trip to Acapulco. Join us in the fellowship hall on Sunday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

SEEKING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS: Adult teachers and grade level helpers are needed on Wednesday nights this fall for Kids' Club, and nursery helpers are needed for Sunday mornings this fall, especially due to our new worship schedule. Prayerfully consider volunteering. Email Director of Children's Ministries Brennan Griffin at brennan@lmpc.org for Kids' Clubs and Nursery Director Ann Williamson at ann@lmpc.org for nursery.

LMPC'S NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE begins next month. On Sunday, August 3, worship services will shift to 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall and sanctuary. The new common Sunday School hour at 10:00 a.m. will not start until August 17.

PARENTS, JOIN US FOR ORIENTATION OPPORTUNITIES on Sunday, August 3 at 10:00 a.m. If you have a 4-year-old preschooler entering worship services for the first time, bring your child to the chapel to learn about worship from a pastor. If you have a rising sixth or ninth grader, or you'd just like to learn more about LMPC youth ministry, join youth staff in Room 313 (old Upper Room classroom).

ALL ARE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, August 10 at 10:00 a.m. Visit elementary classrooms and new adult classrooms to learn about Sunday School, and visit the chapel to connect with ministries to consider how you might serve.

LMPC FAMILY CAMP: Join us September 5–7 at Alpine Camp (Saturday-only option available). Registration on Realm Connect opens July 30. Visit lmpc.org/family-camp for more information.

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