



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
*Presbyterian Church*

**IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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*Dear God, silence all voices in our minds but your own.  
May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith,  
that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever.*

*In Jesus' name, amen.*

*- from The Worship Sourcebook*

AUGUST 17, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

\* Congregation standing as you are able

## Order of Worship

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### Prelude

“Sheep May Safely Graze”

*J. S. Bach, arr. Chuck Seipp*

### Welcome and greetings

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

### \* Call to worship

based on Psalm 99

Leader: The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

All: **Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations. Let us praise your great and awesome name—for you are holy.**

Leader: You are the mighty King, and you love justice. In Jacob you have done what is just and right. We exalt you, our LORD and God, and worship at your footstool, for you are holy.

All: **We exalt you, O LORD our God, for you are holy!**

### \* Hymn of praise 76, vv. 1, 2, 3, 5

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;  
praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless;  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes;  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, widely as his mercy goes.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space,  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.  
*text by Henry F. Lyte, 1834, based on Psalm 103; music by John Goss, 1869, LAUDA ANIMA*

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**Affirmation of faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism, question one

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: **That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

**Call to confession**

based on 1 Peter 1 and 2

We have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. Therefore, let us rid ourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, let us crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it we may grow up in our salvation, now that we have tasted that the Lord is good.

**Hymn of confession 486, vv. 1, 4, 5, 6**

“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.

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.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to thee;  
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love;  
touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

*text from Psalm 51:1-15 and The Psalter, 1912; music by Richard Redhead, 1853, REDHEAD*

## Prayer of confession

Leader: O Lord, as long as I am apart from you, I am self-satisfied, because I have no standard by which to measure my low stature. But when I come near to you, there I see myself clearly.

All: **In your light, I behold my darkness. In your purity, I behold my corruption.**

Leader: O Lord, let me gaze on you more and more—

All: **Until, in the vision of your brightness, I loathe the sight of my impurity; until, in the blaze of your glory, I fall to my knees, blinded and broken, to rise again as a new creation in you.**

*adapted from a prayer by George Matheson*

## Silent prayers of confession

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

based on 1 John 3 and Ephesians 2

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

For because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. For it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this not from ourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

### \* Hymn of assurance 172, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:  
he has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,  
called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:  
he has washed us with his blood, he presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;  
when through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:  
he who washed us with his blood has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;  
here they trusted him before us, now their praises fill the sky:  
“You have washed us with your blood; you are worthy, Lamb of God!”  
*text by John Newton, 1774; music from Darmstadt Gesangbuch, 1698, ALL SAINTS OLD*

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

**Offertory**

“It Is Well with My Soul”

Instrumental meditation

*arr. Jay Althouse*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #691)*

**\* 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 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

Merrile Stroud

<sup>1</sup>For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain.

<sup>2</sup>But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict.

<sup>3</sup>For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, <sup>4</sup>but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.

<sup>5</sup>For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. <sup>6</sup>Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. <sup>8</sup>So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. <sup>9</sup>For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. <sup>10</sup>You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. <sup>11</sup>For you know how, like a father with his children, <sup>12</sup>we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Sermon** "The Marks of Faithful Gospel Labor"  
Brian Salter, lead pastor

**BIG IDEA:** Faithful Gospel labor is marked by confidence, integrity, and love.

1. Confidence to proclaim the Gospel even when opposed (vv. 1-2)
2. Integrity of motives before God and others (vv. 3-6)
3. Love that gently and firmly gives itself away (vv. 7-12)

### **Pastoral prayer**

\* **Hymn of response 585**, vv. 1, 2, 3, 6

"Take My Life, and Let It Be"

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

*text by Frances Havergal, 1874; music by Henri César Malan, 1827, HENDON*

\* **Benediction**

\* **Congregational response**

"Threefold Amen"

\* **Postlude**

"Festive Trumpet Tune"  
*David German*

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Joshua Knight** – organ, piano

**Harrison Wells** – trumpet

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Margaret Probasco Jones**

August 21, 1934 – August 4, 2025

**Celebrating the baptism** of Margaret Louise Chapin at the 8:45 service in the fellowship hall today are her parents, Clark and Doug Chapin, and her grandparents, Traci and Randall Boutwell and Joan and Bill Chapin, and her great-grandparents, Mary Boutwell and Louise Boone.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYER ROOM:** Each Sunday at 10:00 a.m., Room 212 is available as a quiet space to seek the Lord in prayer. The weekly prayer list will be provided.

**MOMS WHO NEED A QUIET PLACE** to nurse or comfort your baby while still viewing the service, the room located off the fellowship hall lobby now has a space for your use. You will be able to view the fellowship hall service inside. Access a changing table in the adjacent women's restroom.

**FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING** today, we will worship and celebrate communion at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Nursery will be provided.

**THE ANNUAL BUILD-A-BAG COLLECTION** benefitting the Chattanooga Area Salvation Army begins today; please join us by picking up a tote bag in the sanctuary Narthex, fellowship hall lobby, or at one of the adult classroom coffee stations. Consult the attached list, go shopping, and bring your bag back on a Sunday morning by September 7.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** on Wednesday, August 20 for a staff development day off site.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED** that on Sunday, August 24 there will be filming in the worship services for the purpose of capturing footage for future LMPC videos.

**COME TO A KICKOFF WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP PICNIC** at The Commons on August 27 at 5:30 p.m. *New this year, please register on Realm Connect by Monday for each Wednesday dinner.* Costs are \$8 for teens/adults, \$5 for elementary-age, and free for ages 5 and under (\$30 family max). All other Wednesday night activities resume September 3; more info at [lmpc.org/wednesday](http://lmpc.org/wednesday).

**VIP MOVIE NIGHT:** Come enjoy an evening of fellowship, popcorn, and the movie *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* with friends on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 213. No registration required. *VIPs is a group of mostly retired adults from Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church and the community.*

**MAKE A LARGE CHURCH FEEL A LITTLE SMALLER** by joining an adult small group. Our small groups afford a unique opportunity to connect with other believers in friendship and grow in faith outside of Sunday morning. Let us help connect you: fill out the Small Group Interest Form at [lmpc.org/adults](http://lmpc.org/adults) or scan the QR code at the welcome station in the fellowship hall lobby.

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

## SUNDAY SCHOOL/10:00-10:45 A.M./BEGINS TODAY

### Elementary school:

- Room 201: PreK
- Room 200: Kindergarten
- Room 204: 1st Grade
- Room 301: 2nd Grade
- Room 300: 3rd Grade
- Room 202: 4th & 5th Grade

### Youth:

Students in middle and high school will meet at the Jane Harris Youth Building.

### Adult Electives:

*August 17 - September 21*

Our regular community Sunday School classes will resume on September 28 after electives classes have concluded. Details on room assignments to follow.

#### **Parenting in the Pew** (*Room 313*)

Explore the biblical vision for families worshiping together and receive practical tips for training young hearts and hands to engage in corporate worship. Teachers: various

#### **The Gospel & Christianity** (*chapel*)

Walk through an overview of the Gospel—the good news of what God has done through Jesus for us. Teachers: Pastoral team

#### **Male and Female He Created Them** (*Room 213*)

Consider human sexuality and the ongoing sexual revolution in the light of God's revelation, with the aim of cultivating Gospel hope and holiness. Teacher: John Wingard

#### **Peace in the Midst of the Storm: A Biblical Perspective on Anxiety** (*Room 312*)

Explore anxiety using a biblical framework while integrating practical applications from clinical mental health counseling. Teachers: Mallory Dean, Erin & Griffin Hatcliff

#### **Faith & Work** (*Room 211*)

Gain a better sense of what the Bible says about our daily work, including resources to equip us to have eyes to see how God meets us in our labor. Teacher: Jonathan Ingraham