



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Be light to our darkness, wisdom to our folly, and manifest your strength in weakness. Remember us according to the favor which you bear to your own people; stir us up to seek your face, and to lay hold on your covenant; and make us find that it is indeed good for us to draw nigh unto you, and to wait upon you in and through the name and merits of Jesus Christ, our only mediator and advocate. Amen.

—Augustus Toplady

AUGUST 31, 2025 • FELLOWSHIP HALL SERVICE • 8:45 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

Welcome and greetings

Josh Brower, co-director of high school ministry

*** Call to worship**

taken from Isaiah 40

Leader: The sovereign LORD sits enthroned above the circle of the earth.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy. Lift up your eyes and look
to the heavens: Who created all these?

All: He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by
name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of
them is missing.

Leader: The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

All: He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can
fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of
the weak.

*** Hymn of praise**

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall;
we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all;
we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

text by Edward Perronet, 1779, and John Rippon, 1787; music by Oliver Holden, 1793

*** 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

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hymn of confession

“Depth of Mercy”

Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy reaching even me?
God, the Just, his wrath forbears; me, the chief of sinners, spares.
So many times my heart has strayed from his kind and perfect ways,
making clear my desp’rate need for his blood poured out for me.

Give me grace, Lord, let me own all the wrongs that I have done.
Let me now my sins deplore, look to you and sin no more.
There, for me, the Savior stands holding forth his wounded hands,
scars which ever cry for me; once condemned but now set free.

text by Charles Wesley, 1740; music by Bob Kaufflin, 1997

Silent prayers of confession

* Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

based on John 3:16–17 and Ephesians 5:1–2

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children. Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

* Hymn of assurance

“His Mercy Is More”

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;
thrown into the sea without bottom or shore:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, his mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev’ry morn—
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

What riches of kindness he lavished on us.
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost.
We stood ’neath a debt we could never afford:
our sins, they are many, his mercy is more. *Refrain*

text and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa ©2016 Getty Music ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

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

Offertory hymn

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
for my love is often cold; he must hold me fast.

Refrain: He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
for my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight; Christ will hold me fast;
precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last;
bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast. *Refrain*

For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast.

Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last! *Refrain*

original text by Ada Habershon, 1906; alt. text and music by Matt Merker ©2013 Matthew Merker Music, ARP,
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* Scripture reading from 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

text printed in the bulletin

Diana Reed (8:45)

Barbara Wingard (11:00)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"Characteristics of Gospel-Centered Community"

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"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 (3x), 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 (3x), he presents our souls to God.

continued

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqueror's crown:
he who washed us with his blood (3x), soon will bring us home 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:
"Thou hast washed us with thy blood (3x); thou art worthy, Lamb of God!"

text by John Newton, 1774; music by Laura Taylor © 2001 Laura Taylor Music CCLI Lic. #152036

*** 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**

Musicians for this week:

Joel Christie – vocals
Christy Gambrell – vocals
Wesley Heinecke – violin
David Henry – guitar, vocals

Hannah Lutz – viola
Anna Stroud – vocals
Jeremy Taylor – piano
Chapman Whitted – guitar

Celebrating the baptisms of Declan Douglas Wright, Abbott Enzo Wright, and Aprilia Lusk Wright at the 11:00 service in the sanctuary today are their mother, Acacia Wright, and their grandparents, Peggy and Ken Littrell, and Janet and Greg Wright.

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Sophia Marie Baxley born to Luisa and Drew Baxley on August 25.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE'RE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE LMPC LIBRARY has reopened! Follow the signs from the fellowship hall lobby or the stairs under the sanctuary. Whenever the main church building is open, the library is open, and all are welcome to check out books, including community members and visitors.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES vary in day, time, and format so each woman at LMPC can find a place for deeper connection to the Word and to others. All studies begin after Labor Day; find the full list of offerings at lmpc.org/groups. For any questions or to get connected to a group, contact Caroline Scruggs at caroline@lmpc.org.

OUR ANNUAL BUILD-A-BAG COLLECTION is in progress. Don't forget to bring your filled bag back to the porte cochère on a Sunday morning by September 7. If you need to return your bag during the week, drop it at the church office building between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

RENEW YOUR MARRIAGE with the Marriage Course. This seven-week video series beginning Tuesday, September 16 will help you strengthen your communication and grow your relationship. Register on Realm Connect for \$50/couple. You will sit at your own table and only interact as a couple. Meets in Room 211 at 6:30 p.m.

MEN'S STEAK NIGHT, on Thursday, September 25, is a great opportunity to gather at a home with 8-10 other men to enjoy fellowship and eat meat. Please register on Realm Connect by Sept. 18.

MEMBERS, PLEASE NOMINATE OFFICERS at lmpc.org/officers by September 29. Prayerfully nominating officer candidates is an important responsibility of your membership at LMPC. On that webpage you may also access information about the nomination process, answers to frequently asked questions, and a list of those eligible to serve as officers. Alternatively, request a paper nominating ballot from the church office.

MOST WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES will resume on September 3, including an adult class at 4:30 p.m.; fellowship dinner at 5:45 p.m.; Chancel Choir, Kids' Clubs, and Wednesday Prayer all at 6:15 p.m.; and Middle School Youth Group at 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir is open to middle school through adult.

SOME WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES will resume on September 10, including Music Makers (register on Realm Connect) for ages 4-5 and Children's Choir (register on Realm Connect) for Grades 1-5, both at 5:00 p.m.; and Middle School Girls' Ensemble at 5:30 p.m. Contact Director of Choral Ministries Brett Hyberger, brett@lmpc.org, with any choir questions. Find more information at lmpc.org/Wednesday and lmpc.org/groups. Note new dinner prices.

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

¹⁷But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, ¹⁸because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. ¹⁹For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? ²⁰For you are our glory and joy.

¹Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone, ²and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith, ³that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. ⁴For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know. ⁵For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain.

IN MEMORIAM

John Scott Muller

November 13, 1942 – August 25, 2025

SERMON NOTES

“Characteristics of Gospel-Centered Community”

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

SERMON NOTES

“Characteristics of Gospel-Centered Community”

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, August 31

8:45 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for children.....	children's classrooms
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for youth	JHYB
10:00 a.m.	Parenting in the Pew (adult elective)	Room 313
10:00 a.m.	The Gospel & Christianity (adult elective).....	fellowship hall
10:00 a.m.	Male and Female He Created Them (adult elective)	Room 213
10:00 a.m.	Peace in the Midst of the Storm (adult elective)	chapel
10:00 a.m.	Faith & Work (adult elective).....	Room 211
10:00 a.m.	Prayer Room	Room 212
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall

For more events this week, visit lmpc.org/events; for information on groups and classes, visit lmpc.org/groups.

GIVING UPDATE THROUGH JULY 31, 2025

Total 2025 Budget: \$5,633,000

2025 Gifts Received: \$2,896,177 (51%)

Remainder needed: \$2,736,823 (49%)

Thank you to those who have given towards the 2025 operating budget of LMPC. You may give online at lmpc.org/give, through Realm Connect, or in the offering plate.

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
Lookout Mountain, TN 37350

Web: lmpc.org

Email: info@lmpc.org

Phone: 423.821.4528

Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.