



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 • SANCTUARY 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

Prelude

Andante
Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and greetings

Derek Halvorson, ruling elder

Introit

“The Call”

soloist

Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a way, as gives us breath:
such a truth, as ends all strife: such a life, as killeth death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light, as shows a feast:
such a feast, as mends in length: such a strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy, as none can move:
such a love, as none can part: such a heart, as joys in love.

text by George Herbert, 1633; music by Ralph Vaughn Williams, from Five Mystical Songs, 1911

*** 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 296, vv. 1, 3, 5, 6

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

* Prayer of adoration

* Affirmation of faith (8:45)

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.

Sacrament of baptism (11:00)

Acacia Wright bringing Declan Douglas Wright, Abbott Enzo Wright, and Aprilia Lusk Wright

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 252, vv. 1, 3, 4 (8:45)

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

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 529, vv. 1, 3, 4

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

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

Offertory hymn 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

* 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 2:17-3:5**
p. 1173 in the pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin

Barby Gifford (8:45)
Michal Parsley (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"
John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 355**

"We Are God's People"

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

"Threefold Amen"

* **Postlude**

Postlude in D
Healey Willan

Musicians for this week:

Brett Hyberger – soloist

Joshua Knight – organ

IN MEMORIAM

John Scott Muller

November 13, 1942 – August 25, 2025

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

The flowers in the sanctuary today are from the wedding of Ellie Thompson and Carson Hendon on August 30 and are given in loving memory of their grandparents: Ellen and John Thompson, Donald Lamb, and Martha and Norris "Tom" Steadman.

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.

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.

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.