



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O God, our true life, to know you is life, to serve you is freedom, to enjoy you is a kingdom,
to praise you is the joy and happiness of the soul. I praise and bless and adore you,
I worship you, I glorify you. I give thanks to you for your great glory. I humbly
beg you to live with me, to reign in me, to make this heart of mine a holy temple,
a fit habitation for your divine majesty.*

—St. Augustine

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

arr. David Lowe

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #708)

Welcome and greetings

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministries

* Call to worship

based on Psalm 9

Leader: We will praise you, O LORD, with our whole hearts; we will tell of all your wonders.

All: We will be glad and rejoice in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Leader: The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

All: Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

* Hymn of praise 38

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

text by Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; traditional Welsh hymn melody, JOANNA

* 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

from Colossians 3

Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where
Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Put to death whatever belongs to your
earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which
is idolatry. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now
you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander,
and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have
taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is
being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Hymn of confession 528, vv. 1, 2, 3

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:
now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

text by Ray Palmer, 1830; music by Lowell Mason, 1832, OLIVET

Prayer of confession

Leader: Lord, hear us as we pray together:

All: O Lord Jesus, who came down from heaven to redeem us from all iniquity, forgive us for the ways we have consciously and unconsciously rejected your rule in our lives. We beseech you to write your Word in our hearts that we may know you, and the power of your resurrection, and to express it by turning from our sins. Rule in our hearts by faith, that being dead to sin and alive to righteousness, we may bear the fruit of holiness and grow in grace and in knowledge of you.

adapted from a prayer by Henry Hammond

Silent prayers of confession

* Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from 1 John 4:9-10, 15

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

* Hymn of assurance 535

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!”

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;
how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

text by Samuel Trevor Francis, 1834-1925; music by Thomas John Williams, 1890, EBENEZER

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

My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,
 love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
 O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;
 resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
 Then “Crucify!” is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done to cause this rage and spite?
 He made the lame to walk, and he gave the blind their sight.
 What injuries! Yet these are why the Lord most high, so cruelly dies.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;
 never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
 This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days will gladly spend.

My song is love unknown.

*text by Samuel Crossman, 1664; music by John Baptiste Calkin, 1827-1905, arr. Molly Ijames ©2012
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*** 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 4:9-12**

David Wharton

⁹Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, ¹⁰for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more,

¹¹and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, ¹²so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“Christian Living: Part 2”
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

The Christian’s aim is to:

1. strive increasingly to love one another. (vv. 9–10)
2. strive quietly for godly living before a watching world. (vv. 11–12)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 644**

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
by his love and pow’r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through his pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

text by Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925, ST. LEONARDS

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

*** Postlude**

“In Christ There Is No East or West”
arr. Gilbert Martin

Musicians for this week:

Brett Hyberger – choral director

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth “Betsy” H. W. Caldwell.

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.

ARE YOU CARING FOR A LOVED ONE? Join the Care for the Caregiver support group for encouragement and information. Meetings begin Tuesday, September 23 and continue on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Room 212. Contact Lee Ballenger or Ed Salter on Realm for more information.

MEMBERS, DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE OFFICERS at lmpc.org/officers by September 29.

WOMEN'S FALL SUPPERS will be hosted in individual homes on Tuesday, September 30. Invite your friends and neighbors, and please register on Realm Connect.

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING the end of our four-year capital campaign, RENEW, with a worship service and a meal together. The service will be held on Sunday, October 19 at 5:00 p.m., followed by a picnic on the grounds. Registration is required on Realm Connect by October 3 if you plan to attend dinner. Family-friendly activities will be available for all as we fellowship together.

WILL THE IMPENDING HOLIDAY SEASON be difficult for you because you have lost a loved one? Come to "Surviving the Holidays," a two-hour seminar at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 4 in Room 211. Please register on Realm Connect.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CLASSES: As electives draw to a close, prepare to connect with a community SS class, September 28 through November 30.

Fellowship Class (Room 213) / Teacher: Dan Wykoff
Topic: *Genesis: Jacob, Joseph, & the Migration to Egypt*

Kingdom Class (chapel) / Teachers: Kelly Kopic & Joseph Wingfield
Topic: *Luke's Gospel: A Discussion-Based Reflection*

Redeemer Class (Room 211) / Teacher: John Plating
Topic: *The Life of the Apostle Paul: from Damascus to Rome*

Sojourner Class (Room 313) / Teachers: Glenn Breazeale, Jason Lehn, Doug Perry, Trey Carr, & Stephen Barnes
Topic: *Encounters with Jesus*

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

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