



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*“God of salvation, the splendor of your glory dispels the darkness of the earth,
for in Christ we behold the nearness of your Kingdom.*

Now make us quick to follow where he beckons, eager to embrace the tasks of the Gospel.

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.”*

from Opening Prayers

NOVEMBER 16, 2025 . SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
arr. Robert Hobby
(words may be found in your hymnal, #715)

Welcome and greetings

Peter Lindquist, ruling elder

* **Call to worship**

from Revelation 4 and 5

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

All: **You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.**

Leader: You are worthy, Lord Jesus, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

All: **To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!**

* **Hymn of praise 100**

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
text by Reginald Heber, 1783-1826; music by John B. Dykes, 1861, NICAEA

*** 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 10:19-22

Since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,
by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,
and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God
with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to
cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure
water.

Hymn of confession 252, vv. 1, 2, 4

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

text by Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709; Gregorian chant, arr. Lowell Mason, 1824, HAMBURG

Prayer of confession

Leader: O Lord, in your hands are life and death. In your power we are sustained and in your mercy we are spared.

All: **Forgive us, for we have neglected the duties you have assigned to us. We have allowed the days and hours, of which we must give account, to pass away without any endeavor to accomplish your will.**

Leader: Make us to remember, O God, that every day is your gift, and ought to be used according to your command.

All: **Move us to repentance, by your grace, that we may know your mercy and pass our remaining time here on earth in diligent obedience to your commands, through Jesus Christ.**

based on a prayer by Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

Silent prayers of confession

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

based on Ephesians 2:4-10

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—it is by grace we have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 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. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

*** Hymn of assurance**

“Here Is Love”

(continue scrolling for words and music)

“Here Is Love”



1. Here is love vast as the o - cean, lov - ing - kind - ness as a flood, when the
 2. On the mount of cru - ci - fix - ion foun - tains o - pened deep and wide. Through the
 3. In thy truth thou dost di - rect me by thy Spir - it through thy Word; and thy
 4. Let me, all thy love ac - cept - ing, love thee e - ver all my days; let me



Prince of life, our ran - som, shed for us his pre - cious blood. Here is love, Lord we re -
 flood - gates of your mer - cy flowed a vast and gra - cious tide. Here is love like might - y
 grace my need is meet - ing as I trust in you, my Lord. Of thy full - ness, thou art
 seek thy king - dom on - ly, and my life be to thy praise. Thou a - lone shalt be my
Here is love, Lord we re -



mem - ber; from our hearts we lift your praise, rais - ing
 riv - ers poured un - ceas - ing from a - bove: heav - en's
 pour - ing thy great love and pow'r on me, with - out
 glo - ry, no - thing in the world I see. Thou hast
mem - ber; from our hearts we lift your praise, rais - ing



high the liv - ing an - them all will sing through end - less days.
 peace and per - fect jus - tice kissed a guilt - y world in love.
 meas - ure, full and bound - less, draw - ing out my heart to thee.
 cleans'd and sanc - ti - fied me; thou thy - self hast set me free.
high the liv - ing an - them all will sing through end - less days.

text by William Rees, 1802-1883; music by Robert Lowry, 1876

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

Offertory

“Be Thou My Vision”
 arr. Benjamin David Knoedler

Chancel Choir

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
 naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
 thou my best thought by day or by night,
 waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
 I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou my great Father, I thy true son;
 thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.
*ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent, tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; traditional Irish melody, arr. Benjamin
David Knoedler ©2023 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**

*** Scripture reading from 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18**

Merrile Stroud

⁶Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

¹¹For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good. ¹⁴If anyone does not obey what we say in this letter, take note of that person, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed. ¹⁵Do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

¹⁶Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all. ¹⁷I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the sign of genuineness in every letter of mine; it is the way I write. ¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“The Dangers of Idleness”
Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministries

1. A pattern to follow: Free grace leads to hard work. (vv. 6–10)
2. A responsibility to own: Christian community holds itself accountable. (vv. 11–15)
3. A blessing to receive: The Lord provides grace and peace. (vv. 16–18)

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 672**, vv. 1, 3, 4, 5

“Trust and Obey”

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief nor a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. *Refrain*

But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, and the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. *Refrain*

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go,
never fear, only trust and obey. *Refrain*

text by John H. Sammis, 1887; music by Daniel B. Towner, 1887, TRUST AND OBEY

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

Postlude on a Theme of Orlando Gibbons
C. V. Stanford.

Musicians for this week:

Brett Hyberger – choral director

Joshua Knight – organ, piano

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING today, we invite you to an informal Advent Music Workshop to learn new music for both the fellowship hall and the sanctuary for the Advent season. We will gather in the fellowship hall at 5:00 p.m. and nursery is provided.

ANTICIPATING ADVENT WOMEN’S EVENT: Meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 20 in the fellowship hall for dessert and decaf, advent wreath-making, and a devotional from Christy Gambrell. Register on Realm Connect by November 18 for \$15.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE FOR BOXES OF BLESSING have been filling up quickly; thank you! Currently, the biggest need is for more hands on the Prep Day, Saturday, November 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at either the fellowship hall or Chattanooga Bakery. Please find all details at lmpc.org and register for a shift if you can help.

WOMEN OF LMPC, celebrate the Christmas season together at our annual gathering at Canopy Coffee on Tuesday, December 2 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase. No registration required.

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

Celebrating the baptism of Harris John MacGregor at the 8:45 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Katherine and Roy MacGregor, and his grandparents, Katie and Jan Frederic Dudt and Pat and Paul MacGregor.

Celebrating the baptism of Henry DuBose Marshall at the 11:00 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Rochelle and Cal Marshall, and his grandparents, Carmen and Jeff Taylor and Susan and Calvin Marshall Sr.