

# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

## *Presbyterian Church*

### IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Merciful Lord, the comforter and teacher of your faithful people, increase in your church the desires which you have given, and confirm the hearts of those who hope in you by enabling them to understand the depth of your promises, that all of your adopted children may even now behold, with the eyes of faith, and patiently wait for, the light which as yet you do not openly manifest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*—from a prayer by St. Ambrose*

NOVEMBER 30, 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

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**Welcome and greetings**

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

**\* Call to worship**

from Psalm 33

**Leader:** Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

**All:** **For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.**

**Leader:** Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. The plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

**All:** **We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.**

**\* Hymn of praise**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”

*Liturgy of St. James, 5th century; French melody, 17th century; arr. Ralph Vaugh Williams, 1906*

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**Call to confession**

1 John 1:8–9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and  
purify us from all unrighteousness.

**Silent prayers of confession**

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

from 2 Timothy 1

God has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have  
done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in  
Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through  
the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has  
brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

\* Hymn of assurance

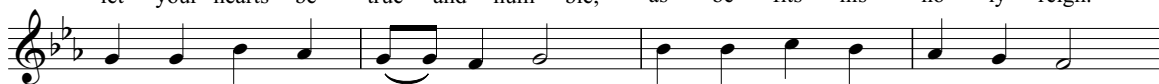
“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”



1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
2. Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each dark mis - deed;  
3. For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
4. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;



com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load.  
all that well de - served his an - ger he no more will see or heed.  
bid - ding all men to re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.  
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
She hath suf - fered man - y a day, now her griefs have passed a - way;  
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
God will change her pin - ing sad - ness in - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken, that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

*text by Johannes Olearius, 1671, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551*

**Lighting the Advent candle**

from Isaiah 40 and Jeremiah 33

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for. “Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land, and he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.”

## Advent prayer

Leader: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever present with us by your Spirit, we rejoice in hope at your coming.

All: **You, LORD, are our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?**

Leader: Remove all that hinders us from worshiping you in spirit and truth this season, and make us ready for your return.

All: **You, LORD, are our stronghold; of whom shall we be afraid?**

Leader: Give us a glimpse now, during this season, of the glory that we will someday see in full when all will be made new through Christ, our Lord and our Light.

All: **We believe that we shall see your goodness, O LORD, in the land of the living. We wait for you; give us strength, and fill us with courage as we wait for you! Amen.**

*adapted from The Worship Sourcebook and Psalm 27*

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

### Offertory hymn

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright  
she bore to men a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.  
True man, yet very God;  
from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know,  
bring us at length, we pray,  
to the bright courts of heaven and to the endless day.

*text by Theodore Baker, 1894, Harriett Spaeth, 1875, John Mattes, 1914; German melody, 15th c.*

\* **Scripture reading from John 1:1-5**  
*text printed in the bulletin*

Tabitha Kapic (8:45)  
David Paschall (11:00)

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

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

**Sermon** "Waiting for the Word"  
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

**Pastoral prayer**

\* **Hymn of response** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*text based on Psalm 98, Isaac Watts, 1719; music by George F. Handel, 1742*

\* **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**

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Ismael Bartolome** – violin

**Greta Erickson** – vocals

**Anna Hawkins** – piano

**David Henry** – guitar, vocals

**Hannah Lutz** – viola

**Matthew Mindeman** – vocals

**Anna Stroud** – vocals

**The rosebud in the service today** is for the birth of Isaac Lee Basey, born to Lauren and Jeff Basey on November 24.

## **CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2025**

### **CHRISTMAS HYMN SING**

**Sunday, December 7**

6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall

*nursery available*

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**Sunday, December 14**

5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

*nursery available*

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**Sunday, December 21**

time and locations TBD

### **CHRISTMAS EVE\***

**Wednesday, December 24**

**LESSONS AND CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

3:00 and 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

3:00 and 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall

*nursery available*

*\*The Session has approved an increase to four live services on Christmas Eve, similar to a typical Sunday schedule, in order to engage people graciously and make for a more hospitable experience as we worship together.*

## John 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God.

<sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

### **NEW SERMON SERIES—GOSPEL OF JOHN: THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE**

John wrote his Gospel so that ordinary people, like us, might see Jesus clearly and believe in him deeply. In “That You May Believe,” we’ll journey together through the stories, miracles, and encounters that reveal the heart of our Savior and the beauty of his grace. Along the way, we’ll see how Jesus meets us in our doubts and desires, speaks truth into our confusion, and draws us into a life shaped by his love. Come discover the One who offers true life that never ends.

**SERMON NOTES**  
“Waiting for the Word”  
*John 1:1-5*

We wait expectantly for the Word who:

1. exists eternally. (vv. 1-2)
2. creates all things. (v. 3)
3. shines light in the darkness. (vv. 4-5)

*Further Up, Further In,*  
Resources for  
Continued Study



## **GIVING UPDATE THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2025**

**Total 2025 Budget:** \$5,633,000

**2025 Gifts Received:** \$4,073,828

**Remaining Gifts Needed:** \$1,559,172

**Outstanding Pledge Balance:** \$1,206,726

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

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL** for all ages until January 4. During the month of December, nursery will operate normally for service times but will NOT be offered during the Sunday School hour (10:00-10:45 a.m.). Please pick up your child(ren) from the nursery as soon as the service is ended.

**ADVENT WEEKLY REFLECTIONS:** As you exit the service, ushers will hand out Week 2 of our Advent Reflections. This resource includes readings, art, song links, a children's section, and more. Use the Reflection each week for family devotions, small group study, and/or individual use leading into the next Sunday morning. If you'd rather view this online, find it alongside each Sunday's resources at [lmpc.org/sermons](http://lmpc.org/sermons). If you missed it, copies of Week 1 are available in the fellowship hall lobby and Narthex.

**ALL WOMEN OF LMPC** are invited to our annual Christmas 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.

**FAMILY NIGHT** will be held on Wednesday, December 3 at 5:45 p.m. We will enjoy pizza together before playing bingo for prizes. Please register on Realm Connect by December 1; regular dinner rates apply, and gluten-free/dairy-free options are available.

**VIPS, THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** will be held on Tuesday, December 9 at 12:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. After lunch, we'll hear from a special children's ensemble. Register on Realm Connect or by calling the church office by December 4. *The VIP group is made up of mostly retired adults (ages 65+) from LMPC and the community.*

**A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held at the end of each worship service on Sunday, December 14, for the two-fold purpose of approving nominees for the offices of elder and deacon for the class of 2029 and electing a member-at-large to serve as a director on the board of LMPC, Inc. Those men approved to stand for office will undergo training in the new year.

**TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION** toward Christmas flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please do so through Realm Connect by December 14. For more information, please call the church office or email [margaretcompton@lmpc.org](mailto:margaretcompton@lmpc.org).

**THE NEXT INTRO TO LMPC** membership class is scheduled to be held as a Sunday School elective from January 4 through February 22. If you are interested, please register on Realm Connect by December 23.

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

## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, November 30

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.	Adult Sunday school: Fellowship class.....	Room 213
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Kingdom class .....	chapel
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Redeemer class .....	Room 211
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Sojourner class .....	Room 313
10:00 a.m.	Prayer room.....	Room 212
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
3:00 p.m.	Handbell Ensemble practice .....	Choir Room
4:00 p.m.	Middle school small groups.....	various locations

For more events this week, visit [lmpc.org/events](http://lmpc.org/events); for information on groups and classes, visit [lmpc.org/groups](http://lmpc.org/groups).

### UPDATE YOUR REALM CONNECT PHOTO

Did you know you can update your profile picture in Realm Connect? Keeping your photo current helps staff and church members, especially newcomers, feel more connected. Update your photo by logging in, going to More → your current photo or initials → My Profile → then tapping the pencil next to your picture at the top of the screen to either take a photo or choose one from your device. Need help? Contact [onrealm@lmpc.org](mailto:onrealm@lmpc.org) for assistance.

### 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](http://lmpc.org)  
Email: [info@lmpc.org](mailto:info@lmpc.org)  
Phone: 423.821.4528

Worship services with Communion are held on the first Sunday of every month in all morning services. Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.