



# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

## *Presbyterian Church*

### IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O God, most high and most near, you send glad tidings to the lowly, you hide not your face from the poor; those who dwell in darkness you call into the light. Take away our blindness, remove the hardness of our hearts, and form us into a humble people, that, at the advent of your Son, we may recognize him in our midst and find joy in his saving presence.*

*We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near:  
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. —from Opening Prayers*

DECEMBER 21, 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

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### Prelude

Prelude on "Divinum Mysterium"

*John Watkinson*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #162)*

### Welcome and greetings

John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

### \* Call to worship

based on Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

All: **We will praise the LORD all our lives; we will sing praise to our God as long as we live.**

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—the LORD, who remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

All: **The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow. The LORD reigns forever, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

**\* Hymn of praise**

“Hark the Glad Sound, the Savior Comes”



1. Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior prom - ised long!\_\_\_  
2. He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's bond - age held;\_\_\_  
3. He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing soul\_ to cure,\_\_\_  
4. Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come shall\_ pro - claim,\_\_\_



— Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare\_ a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
— the gates of brass be - fore\_ him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
— and with\_ the trea - sures of\_ his grace, to en - rich\_ the hum - ble poor.  
— and heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es ring with thy\_ be - lov - ed name.

*text by Philip Doddridge, 1735; music by Thomas Haweis, 1791, from The English Hymnal, 1906, RICHMOND CM*

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**Call to confession**

based on Titus 2

The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, a people eager to do what is good.

**Silent prayers of confession**

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

from Titus 3:4-7

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

**\* Hymn of assurance 197**

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

## Advent candle lighting

from James 5 and Isaiah 12

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

## Advent prayer

**Leader:** O Lord our Lord, you are among us. You have come to us, fully God and fully man, to live as we do—to walk on the earth, to breathe in the air, to embody the deepest parts of human experience. You have also given us your Spirit, who lives in us and is with us always, uniting us to you every moment of every day.

**All:** **You are the light of the world. Whoever follows you will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.**

**Leader:** Impress on our hearts how precious this gift of yourself is. Help us to slow down and fully revel in the good news that we have been given the light of life.

**All:** **Guide our hearts to sense and delight in your nearness to us this season. Teach us to walk in the light, as you are in the light, as we eagerly anticipate being in your presence for all eternity.**

*based on John 8 and 1 John 1*

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

### Offertory

"The Wexford Carol"

Chancel Choir

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind what our good God for us has done in sending his beloved Son.

With Mary holy we should pray, to God with love this Christmas day;  
in Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep,  
to whom God's angel did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear.

"Prepare and go," the angels said, "to Bethlehem, be not afraid;  
for there you'll find, this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus, born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find,  
and as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.

Within a manger he was laid, and by his side a virgin maid  
attending on the Lord of Life, who came on earth to end all strife.  
*text and music from traditional Irish carol, arr. Howard Helvey ©2014 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 John 1:14-18**  
*p. 1053 in the pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin*

David Wharton (8:45)  
Brett Hyberger (11:00)

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

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

**Sermon** "The Fullness of God's Glory and Grace"  
Brian Salter, lead pastor

**Pastoral prayer**

**\* Hymn of response 195** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

**\* Benediction**

**\* Congregational response** "Threefold Amen"

**\* Postlude** "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"  
*arr. David N. Johnson*

The King shall come when morning dawns, and light and beauty brings.  
Hail! Christ the Lord; thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings!

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Brett Hyberger** – choral director

**Joshua Knight** – organ, piano

**John 1:14-18**

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”)

<sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

**The rosebud in the service today** is for the birth of Freeman Salt Doster, born to Caroline and Cross Doster on December 13.

## SERMON NOTES

“The Fullness of God’s Glory and Grace”

*John 1:14-18*

When the Word entered the world, he revealed:

1. the fullness of God’s glory. (vv. 14-15, 18)

2. the fullness of God’s grace. (vv. 16-17)

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



## **SERMON NOTES**

“The Fullness of God’s Glory and Grace”

*John 1:14-18*

### **RESULTS OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON 12/14/25**

We are glad to report that, after counting the ballots, we did have a quorum and the full slate of officer nominees was approved. On the same ballot, Laura Bailey was elected as a new director to serve a four-year term on the board of LMPC, Inc. The members approved to commence officer training for the class of 2029 are listed below:

#### **ELDER NOMINEES**

Stephen Barnes  
Robby Bosshardt  
Eric Ellis  
Tripp Johnston  
Dustin Koehl  
Peter Lindquist  
Grayson Lowery  
John Stroud  
David Wharton  
Dan Wykoff

#### **DEACON NOMINEES**

Nathan Allison  
Don Bailey ('28)  
Thomas Clark  
Chuck Denham ('28)  
Alan Doak  
Brent Faulk  
Neil Groothuis  
Tim Hewitt  
Trey Lannae  
Ben Wharton  
Wes Young

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COME CAROL TODAY** at 1:30 p.m. at Morning Pointe at Happy Valley or 3:15 p.m. at Thrive at Brow Wood. Or, come to both!

**LAST WEEK WAS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**, and 2026 pledge cards were distributed after the presentation. Today during the hymn of response, we will bring our pledge cards forward as an act of worship. Even if you update your pledge online at [lmpc.org/give](https://lmpc.org/give) or through Realm Connect, we would invite you to bring a card forward. The goal is not to be showy, but for us to have a physical reminder that this is a part of our worship and that we do it together. More pledge cards are available in the fellowship hall lobby, sanctuary Narthex, and church office. Thank you for your support of the ministries and work of LMPC this year and in the year ahead!

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed December 24, 25, and 26 for Christmas, and January 1 and 2 for New Year's Day.

**ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**, join us for a Christmas Eve service at 3:00 or 5:00 p.m. in either the sanctuary or fellowship hall. Nursery will be provided and the 5:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed. During these services, the offering taken will be for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund. This fund provides practical help for widows and ministry families in need across the PCA. We have previously collected for the Mercy Fund on Christmas Eve; this fund is currently at a healthy amount. If you would like to contribute, come prepared for that moment in the service.

**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.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS SOON!** Sunday School for children, youth, and adults will resume on January 4 at 10:00 a.m. Find a full list of classes and locations at [lmpc.org/groups](https://lmpc.org/groups), where you may sort by category and age group. There is a new slate of adult electives.

**SACRED STUDIO**, an in-town retreat at LMPC on January 23 and 24, will give women the opportunity to connect over good food, Gospel teaching, and creative workshops. Please register on Realm Connect by January 15 to make your studio selections (first come, first served). Studios include mindful movement, iPhone photography, writing, collage, and more.

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

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:**

**Belva Bailey** by Don Bailey Sr.

**Peggy Christine Ballenger** by Lee and Ross Ballenger

**Vera and Marion Barnes** by Elizabeth Ann and Stephen Barnes

**Dick Bodine** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison

**Betsy Caulkins Bookout** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins and Caroline and Larry Bentley

**Dr. Richard J. Bowers** by Becky Bowers

**Donnie Brock** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins

**Mr. and Mrs. Winford Brock** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins

**Brenda Brown** by Kristy Presley

**Walter Brice Burbank** by the Walley family

**Betsy Caldwell** by Margaret, Jeff, Corley, Gracie, and Catherine Compton and the Walley family

**Hardwick Caldwell** by the Walley Family

**Thomas M. Carr Jr.** by Anne and Trey Carr, Caroline, Catherine, and Margaret and Ann Henley and Doug Perry

**Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Caulkins III** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins and Caroline and Larry Bentley

**Mrs. Peggy Chunn** by Karen and Miller Welborn

**Konnie Erickson** by Dave Erickson and family

**Family members in heaven** by Jan and Keith Michaels

**Lynda Fray** by David Fray, Kristin and Dan Wykoff, Adalynn, Brooks, Isaiah, and Tiya

**Roger Gulick** by the Heald and Lindquist families

**Lisa Durrett Hailey** by Cindy and Jerry Evans

**Merilyn and Ross Hall** by Stephanie, David, and Sadie Wharton, and the Ben Wharton family

**Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Halvorson** by Marni and Steve Halvorson

**Dr. B. Daniel Harnsberger** by his children and grandchildren

**Charles H. Harris III** by Lee and Ross Ballenger

**Marian Harris** by Lee and Ross Ballenger and Ann Henley and Doug Perry

**Elizabeth Mills Bookout Hood** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins and Caroline and Larry Bentley

**Frank Jemison** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison

**Bunny and Ted King** by Hilda and Marshall Jemison

**Dick Lindeman** by his family

**Nancy and Hugh O. Maclellan** by the Heald and Lindquist families

**Aaron Madaris** by Carolyn and Bill Caulkins

**Jack McEwen** by Lori and Richard Krabbendam and Merrile and John Stroud

**Corinne G. McGee** by her huge Lookout Mountain family

**Joseph Hardin Meadows** by the Jeff Compton family

**The Very Rev. and Mrs. Norman Milbank** by Marni and Steve Halvorson

**Betty and L.D. Miller Jr.** by Becky Bowers

**Carol Mutter** by Mitch Mutter

**Alice O'Ferrall** by Carter, Glenn, Caroline, and Gigi Breazeale and the Doug Perry family

**Larry Paulk** by the Walley family

**Beebe Phillips** by Merrile and John Stroud

**Bob Phillips** by his children and grandchildren

**Taylor Phillips** by Merrile and John Stroud

**Doug Sizemore** by Evelyn Sizemore and Stephanie and Mike Nadeja

**Jeff Stroud** by Merrile and John Stroud

**Joseph Stroud** by Merrile and John Stroud

**Len Teague** by his family

**Gregg Terry** by Jessi and Andrew Cook

**Martha and Richard Thatcher** by Elizabeth and Carter Thatcher

**Ellen Thompson** by the Thompson family

**John Tolson** by his family and Jessi and Andrew Cook

**Barbara Ann Vermeer** by Ann and Dan Vermeer

**Mr. A.W. Welborn Jr.** by Karen and Miller Welborn

**Robert A. Wharton Sr.** by Stephanie, David, and Sadie Wharton, and the Ben Wharton family

**Chandler White** by Ann and Dan Vermeer

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN HONOR OF:**

**Laura Bennett** by Sadie Wharton

**Catherine and Chip Kelley** by Dana and Kristian Driver

**Our children and their spouses** by Ann Henley and Doug Perry

**Sarah and James Stevens, Phoebe, Asher, Tripp, and Thad** by Anne and Trey Carr, Caroline, Catherine, and Margaret

## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, December 21

8:45 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
10:00 a.m.	Prayer Room .....	Room 212
11:00 a.m.	Worship service.....	sanctuary & fellowship hall
1:30 p.m.	Christmas Caroling.....	Morning Pointe at Happy Valley
3:15 p.m.	Christmas Caroling.....	Thrive at Brow Wood

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).

### GIVING UPDATE THROUGH DECEMBER 16, 2025

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

**2025 Gifts Received:** \$5,132,682

**Remaining Gifts Needed:** \$500,318

**Outstanding Pledge Balance:** \$176,076

Thank you for your generosity in 2025. If you would like to give toward the 2025 budget, please note that your gift must be received or postmarked by December 31. Thank you for your support of the ministry and work of our church.

### 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.