



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Say unto my soul, I am your salvation. Speak it out, that I may hear you.
Behold, the ears of my heart are before you, O Lord; open them, and say unto my soul,
I am your salvation. I will run after that voice, and take hold of you.*

—Augustine of Hippo

JANUARY 18, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

“Jesus Calls Us”

arr. Dale Wood

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #591)

Welcome and greetings

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

* Call to worship

based on 1 Peter 1 and 1 Corinthians 8

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

All: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

Leader: There is one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live.

All: And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

* Hymn of praise 115, vv. 1, 2, 3, 5

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
text by Francis of Assisi, 1225; German tune, 1623, LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Prayer of adoration

Affirmation of faith

from Colossians 1:15-20

Leader: Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

All: **For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**

Leader: And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

All: **For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.**

Call to confession

Ecclesiastes 12:13b-14 and Isaiah 55:6-7

Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

I hear the Savior say, “Your strength indeed is small,
child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all.”

Refrain: Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,
can change the leper’s spots, and melt the heart of stone. *Refrain*

For nothing good have I whereby your grace to claim—
I’ll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv’ry’s Lamb. *Refrain*
text by Elvina M. Hall, 1865; music by John T. Grape, 1868, ALL TO CHRIST

Prayer of confession

Leader: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:

All: **Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
from The Cloud of Unknowing, 14th c., translated by Thomas Cranmer

Silent prayers of confession

* Assurance of God’s pardoning grace

from John 6

Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. Everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life.”

* Hymn of assurance 679, vv. 1, 2, 4

“’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

’Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;
just to rest upon his promise; just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I’ve proved him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
just in simple faith to plunge me ’neath the healing, cleansing flood! *Refrain*

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
and I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end. *Refrain*
text by Louisa M. R. Stead, 1882; music by William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882, TRUST IN JESUS

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

Offertory

"My Eternal King"

Chancel Choir

My God, I love thee; not because I hope for heav'n thereby,
nor yet because who love thee not must die eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, thou didst me upon the cross embrace;
for me didst bear the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace.

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heav'n or of escaping hell;
not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward;
but as thyself hast loved me, O everloving Lord!

E'en so I love thee, and will love, and in thy praise will sing,
solely because thou art my God and my eternal King.

17th century Latin poem, tr. Rev. Edward Caswall; music by Jane M. Marshall © 1954 Carl Fischer, LLC, 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 1:43-51

Margaret Stewart

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

⁵⁰Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“Following Jesus, Part 2”

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

Being found by Jesus entails:

1. bearing faithful witness. (vv. 43-46)
2. bringing honest questions. (vv. 46-49)
3. beholding more of Jesus. (vv. 50-51)

Pastoral prayer

* **Hymn of response 455**, vv. 1, 3, 5

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

And can it be that I should gain an int’rest in the Savior’s blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain: Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father’s throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.
’Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. *Refrain*

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th’eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. *Refrain*
text by Charles Wesley, 1738; music by Thomas Campbell, 1825, SAGINA

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

* **Postlude**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

arr. John Innes

(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #598)

Musicians for this week:

Randall Crenshaw – guest conductor

Joshua Knight – organ

SPOTLIGHT: SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

On Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, we are reminded of the beautiful truth that every human life is created by God, made in his image, and deeply loved and valued. On this day, we have a powerful opportunity for the church to affirm the inherent dignity of every person and to stand as a voice for the voiceless in a culture where life is too often devalued.

**Taken from a letter written by Jennie Landreth of Choices; altered, with permission.*

See our local, supported ministries below and contact them or our Missions Coordinator at stephanie@lmpc.org for more information.

CHOICES is a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to providing no-cost support and resources to women, men, and families facing unplanned pregnancies. Guided by the Gospel, Choices offers services such as pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, abortion pill reversal, parenting programs, and after-abortion care to empower individuals to choose life. In over 7700 appointments last year, 88% of patients came considering abortion, and 89% of known outcomes chose life. Choices also serves and supports those who have experienced abortion to find healing and forgiveness in Christ, honoring the life of their baby at the National Memorial for the Unborn, which merged with Choices this year. By partnering with churches and volunteers from the community, Choices transforms lives.

friendsofchoiceschattanooga.org

LOOKOUT FOR ORPHANS is a Christ-centered ministry answering God’s call to care for the fatherless (James 1:27). The ministry serves vulnerable children and families by providing practical support, adoption advocacy, and post-adoption counseling—working to protect children, strengthen families, and pursue healing and permanency. To date, 80 children have been brought into Gospel-centered homes. Through prayer, financial support, and compassionate action, Lookout for Orphans seeks to reflect God’s love to those who need it most. *lookoutfororphans.com*

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Toby Silberman.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING today, we will worship and celebrate communion at 6:00 p.m., now in the chapel. Pastor Brian Salter will preach on “What Happens at This Table?” from 1 Corinthians 10:16 and 11:26. Nursery will be provided.

ARE YOU READY TO RENEW YOUR MARRIAGE? Whether you are newlyweds or married many years, struggling or simply desire to deepen your relationship, the Marriage Course can help you strengthen your communication. It is open to members and friends of LMPC and will be held on seven Tuesday evenings beginning February 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The course is a video series where each couple sits at their own table and interacts only with each other. Register on Realm Connect for \$50/couple by February 1.

GRIEF IS A JOURNEY AND PROCESS, not an event. LMPC wants to give support to those who have experienced loss. GriefShare is a 13-week seminar led by trained facilitators, meeting on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. beginning February 3. Each session will include a video, workbook, and discussion. A \$20 fee covers the cost of the workbook. For more information, please contact Ed Salter at 678-358-8782 or edwardsalter815@gmail.com.

LMPC WILL HOST AN ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP the first weekend in February, welcoming Dr. Jana Pressley from the Complex Trauma Treatment Center in Boston. This training will explore how chronic, relational trauma shapes the whole person, and how the church can become a wiser, safer, and more compassionate community of care. Practical application will focus on awareness, compassion, and support. Join us in the chapel on Friday evening, February 6 and Saturday morning, February 7; and in the JHYB on Sunday, February 8 during the Sunday School hour. All details may be found on lmpc.org.

MEN'S BOOK DISCUSSIONS meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Room 211. On February 12 and March 12, come and discuss Mark Noll's *Christians in the American Revolution*.

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