



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Heavenly Father, we bow in your presence. May your Word be our rule,
your Spirit our teacher, and your greater glory our supreme concern,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

—John Stott

FEBRUARY 1, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able

Order of Worship

Prelude

Prelude in G Major, Op. 37, No. 2
Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and greetings

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministries

* **Call to worship**

based on Job 38

Leader: Who laid the earth's foundation and marked off its dimensions?
Who stretched a measuring line across it—while the morning stars
sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

All: The Lord God Almighty!

Leader: Who has given orders to the morning, or shown the dawn its
place? Who has journeyed to the springs of the sea and walked in
the recesses of the deep? Who has been shown the gates of death?
And who knows the way to the abode of light?

All: The Lord God Almighty!

Leader: Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the
thunderstorm? Who waters a land where no man lives, to satisfy a
desolate wasteland and make it sprout with grass?

All: The Lord God Almighty! Praise his name forever.

* **Hymn of praise 53, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief,
spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly fore'er we adore him.

*text based on Psalm 103 by Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; music in
Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665, LOBE DEN HERREN*

*** Prayer of adoration and the Lord's prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Call to offering

1 Chronicles 29:12-14

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

Offertory

"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"

Chancel Choir

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers,
the moon and stars suspended in space,
what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor
and have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.
But what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name
transcends the earth and fills the heavens.

O Lord, our God, little children praise you perfectly,
and so would we, and so would we.

Alleluia, alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name.
Alleluia, alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
text based on Psalm 8 by Linda Lee Johnson; music by Tom Fettke, 1979

*** Gloria Patri 735**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

*** Prayer of dedication and thanksgiving**

*** Scripture reading from John 2:13-25**

Michele Davis

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

"The True Temple"
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. Jesus purifies his Father's house. (vv. 13-17)
2. Jesus identifies himself as the true temple. (vv. 18-22)
3. Jesus exposes superficial faith. (vv. 23-25)

Pastoral prayer

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper. This celebration is a sacred time during which God's people enjoy communion with him and unity with each other. We believe that the Lord's Supper is meant for the body of Christ as a gathered, corporate reality and not merely for personal or individual edification. For this reason, the livestream is ending at the conclusion of the sermon and will not include the celebration of the sacrament.

Musicians for this week:

Emily Drexler – violin

Brett Hyberger – choral director

Joshua Knight – organ

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We're grateful for those of you who gave so generously to LMPC in 2025. Our 2025 receipts exceeded budgeted income, and our 2025 expenses were under budget. The LMPC Finance Committee made a recommendation to the Session in January for how to handle the underspending and surplus income. Our Session voted and approved that underspending in Home and World Missions be returned to their reserves and the remainder of the funds be applied to our loan. Between RENEW pledges received and this excess income, we are able to make a \$2,500,000 debt payment and lower our line of credit from \$3,900,000 to \$1,400,000. Thanks be to God for his provision!

YEAR-END GIVING THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

Annual Budget: \$5,633,000

2025 Receipts: \$6,028,833

2025 Expenses: \$5,489,270

Net Income: \$539,563

2026 BUDGET

Annual Budget: \$6,173,052

2026 Pledges Received: \$3,644,868 (59% of total budget)

Number of Giving Units Pledged: 224 (Total of 561 giving units at LMPC)

In 2025, we received pledges from 272 families. If you have not made a 2026 pledge yet, please consider how you might be able to contribute towards our mission of spreading God's glory on the mountain, in the city, and around the world this year. Find multiple ways to give at lmpc.org/give.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE STUDENTS, COME CONNECT over lunch today at 12:15 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building.

OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING today will be a time of prayer for our missionary partners at 6:00 p.m. in Room 211.

RENEW YOUR MARRIAGE by attending the Marriage Course, held on seven Tuesday evenings beginning February 3 at 6:30 p.m. Today is the deadline to register on Realm Connect.

GRIEF IS A JOURNEY: find support through LMPC. GriefShare is a 13-week seminar led by trained facilitators, meeting on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. beginning February 3. A \$20 fee covers the cost of the workbook; register on Realm Connect.

AN EVENING OF MISSIONS FAMILY FUN will be held on Wednesday, February 4 at 5:45 p.m. We'll hear from supported missionaries Chris and Savanna and learn about their work in London. Register on Realm Connect by February 2; regular Wednesday dinner rates apply. Dairy-free/gluten-free options available.

LMPC WILL HOST AN ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP, welcoming Dr. Jana Pressley from the Complex Trauma Treatment Center in Boston. Explore how chronic, relational trauma shapes the whole person, and learn how the church can become a wiser, safer, and more compassionate community of care. Join us in the evening on February 6 and in the morning on February 7 and 8. Find details at lmpc.org.

VIPS, COME TO A CHEERFUL VALENTINE'S BRUNCH where friends, laughter, and good times come together. We'll meet at Lookout Mtn., GA, City Hall on February 13 at 10:30 a.m. Register for \$5 on Realm Connect or by calling the church office by February 9. *The VIP group is made up of mostly retired adults (ages 65+) from LMPC and the community who meet bi-monthly for fun and fellowship.*

WOMEN'S WINTER SUPPERS will be held on Tuesday, February 24 at 6:00 p.m. in individual homes. Invite your friends and neighbors and register on Realm Connect by February 24. Can you host a supper? Email Caroline Scruggs, caroline@lmpc.org.

SAVE THE DATE for our annual World Missions Conference, March 1-4. This year's conference will feature guests from Mission India, and will include events for children, youth, and adults.

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