



# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

## *Presbyterian Church*

### IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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*Are you not amazed sometimes that you should have so much as a hope, that, poor and needy as you are, the Lord thinks of you? But let not all you feel discourage you; for if our Physician is almighty, our disease cannot be desperate; and if he casts none out who come to him, why should you fear? Our sins are many, but his mercies are more. Our sins are great, but his righteousness is greater. We are weak, but he is power.*

*—John Newton*

FEBRUARY 22, 2026 • 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

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

*arr. Robert Lind*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #167)*

### Welcome and greetings

John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

### \* Call to worship

Psalm 95:1-7

**Leader:** Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

**All:** **For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.**

**Leader:** Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

**All:** **For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.**

### \* Hymn of praise 101

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

## \* Prayer of adoration

### Sacrament of baptism (11:00)

Gaelin and Dakota Hardin bringing Easton Creed Hardin and Luna Charlotte Rose Hardin

### 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.

### Hymn of confession (8:45)

“Come, Ye Sinners”

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r:  
he is able, he is able, he is willing; doubt no more;  
he is able, he is able, he is willing; doubt no more.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;  
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him;  
this he gives you, this he gives you; 'tis the Spirit's rising beam;  
this he gives you, this he gives you; 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Come, ye weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all:  
not the righteous, not the righteous—sinners Jesus came to save;  
not the righteous, not the righteous—sinners Jesus came to save.  
*text by Joseph Hart, 1759; music by B. F. White, 1844*

### Prayer of confession (8:45)

**Leader:** Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**All:** **We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy on us.**

*adapted from The Book of Common Prayer*

### Silent prayers of confession

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

Romans 5:6-8

At just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**\* Hymn of assurance 498, vv. 1, 2, 5**

"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

**Prayer of intercession**

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

**Offertory**

"In My Father's House"

Chancel Choir

*Refrain:* In my Father's house are many dwellings,  
and if I go to prepare a place for you,  
I will come back again and take you to myself,  
so that where I am you also may be.

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me.  
In my Father's house are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you I am going to prepare a place for you? *Refrain*

Where I am going, you know the way. For I am the way, the truth, and the life;  
no one comes to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you also know my Father. *Refrain*

My Spirit will be with you always.

The Advocate, the Spirit of Truth will remind you of all I have said.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled; do not be afraid.

I have told you I will come back to you; have faith in me. *Refrain*

*text from John 14; music by Philip W. J. Stopford, 2015*

**\* 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 3:22-36**  
*pp. 1055-1056 in the pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin*

Barby Gifford (8:45)  
Warren McEwen (11:00)

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

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

**Sermon** "He Must Increase"  
Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

**Pastoral prayer**

\* **Hymn of response 468** "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"

\* **Benediction**

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

\* **Postlude** Fanfare and Chorale  
*Calvin Fuller*

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**Musicians for this week:**

**Brett Hyberger** – choral director

**Joshua Knight** – organ

**Celebrating the baptisms** of Easton Creed Hardin and Luna Charlotte Rose Hardin at the 11:00 service in the sanctuary today are their parents, Gaelin and Dakota Hardin, their grandparents, Sophie and Travis Knight and Paula and Mark Wilson, and their great-grandmother, Wanda Morrow.

**Celebrating the baptism** of Everett Scott Webb at the 8:45 service in the fellowship hall today are his parents, Emily and Scotty Webb Jr., and his grandparents, Mikki and Tim Brown and Sue and Scott Webb.

## John 3:22-36

<sup>22</sup>After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. <sup>23</sup>John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized <sup>24</sup>(for John had not yet been put in prison). <sup>25</sup>Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification.

<sup>26</sup>And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him."

<sup>27</sup>John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.

<sup>28</sup>You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' <sup>29</sup>The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. <sup>30</sup>He must increase, but I must decrease."

<sup>31</sup>He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup>He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. <sup>33</sup>Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. <sup>34</sup>For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. <sup>35</sup>The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. <sup>36</sup>Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

### SERMON NOTES

#### "He Must Increase"

1. When Jesus displaces us: our fearful insecurity (vv. 22-26)
2. How we must respond when Jesus displaces us: humility and joy (vv. 27-30)
3. Why Jesus must displace us: the supremacy of the beloved, Spirit-filled Son (vv. 31-36)

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



## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**AS WE MOVE THROUGH THE LENTEN SEASON**, please take note of the sparse floral decor in the chancel area. This serves as a visual reminder of the simplicity of Lent: a time of prayer, reflection, and self-examining humility before we celebrate Christ's Resurrection Day in beauty and splendor.

**LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE:** Wishing to spend more time browsing in our church library? Drop in for as long as you like between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28. Tea and scones will be served, and there's no agenda other than discovering new books.

**THIS YEAR'S WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE**, held March 1-4, will spotlight India, specifically the work of our our partner ministry Mission India. The full calendar of activities is available at [lmpc.org/wmc](http://lmpc.org/wmc) or as a handout in the sanctuary Narthex or fellowship hall lobby. Two events require registration: a Missions Lunch on Tuesday, March 3 at 11:30 a.m. and a Family Dinner on Wednesday, March 4 at 5:30 p.m., both in the fellowship hall. Register on Realm Connect by March 2. There will also be a Men's Breakfast on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:45 a.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building; no registration needed.

**ADULT COMMUNITY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** begin today at 10:00 a.m. Find locations/topics below.

**Fellowship Class** (Room 213)

Teacher: Dan Wykoff

Topic: "Genesis 43-50: The Beginning Ends"

**Kingdom Class** (chapel)

Teacher: Kelly Kopic

Topic: "Luke's Gospel: A Discussion-based Reflection"

**Redeemer Class** (Room 211)

Teacher: John Plating

Topic: "Jesus and the Kingdom of God"

**Sojourner Class** (Room 313)

Teachers: Stephen Barnes, Glenn Breazeale, Trey Carr, Jason Lehn, Doug Perry

Topic: "Guarding the Heart: Lessons from Solomon's Life"

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

## TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, February 22

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.	Sunday school for adults - Fellowship class.....	Room 213
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults -Kingdom class .....	chapel
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults -Redeemer class .....	Room 211
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for adults -Sojourner class .....	Room 313
10:00 a.m.	Intro to LMPC (registrants only).....	Conference Room
10:00 a.m.	Elder Prayer .....	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
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group.....	JHYB

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

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