



# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

## *Presbyterian Church*

### **IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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*O dearest Lord, raise my devotion to the highest pitch it can possibly reach, to praise you.  
Enlarge my soul to its utmost extent, to love you! Blessing, honor, glory, and power be unto  
him who sits on the throne, and unto the lamb forever! Rejoice in the Lord Jesus,  
O my soul, for of him comes my salvation. I will love you, O Lord, my King,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever!*

*—Thomas Ken*

**APRIL 26, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE**

\* Congregation standing as you are able

## Order of Worship

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### Prelude

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

*arr. Robert Gower*

*(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #690)*

### Welcome and greetings

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

### \* Call to worship

from Psalm 86

Leader: There is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.

**All: All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.**

Leader: We will praise you, O Lord our God, with all our hearts; we will glorify your name forever.

**All: For great is your love toward us; you have delivered us from the depths of the grave. You, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, abounding in love and faithfulness.**

### \* Hymn of praise 76, vv. 1, 2, 3, 5

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;  
praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless;  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes;  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, widely as his mercy goes.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space,  
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.  
*text by Henry F. Lyte, 1834, based on Psalm 103; music by John Goss, 1869, LAUDA ANIMA*

**\* Prayer of adoration**

**Call to confession**

from Isaiah 55:6-7

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. Let him turn to our God, for he will freely pardon.

**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 498, vv. 1, 2, 5**

“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!”

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! lover of my soul;  
friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

*Refrain:* Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;  
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins. *Refrain*

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;  
he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine. *Refrain*  
*text by J. Wilbur Chapman, 1910; music by Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855, HYFRYDOL*

**Call to offering**

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me?  
Can my God his wrath forbear; me, the chief of sinners, spare?  
There for me the Savior stands, holding forth his wounded hands.  
God is love! I know, I feel; Jesus weeps and loves me still.  
*text by Charles Wesley, 1740; music by David Rasbach ©2015 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.*

**\* 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 5:30-47**

Dorcas Crenshaw

<sup>30</sup>"I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>31</sup>If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. <sup>32</sup>There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true.

<sup>33</sup>"You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. <sup>34</sup>Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. <sup>35</sup>He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. <sup>36</sup>But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me. <sup>37</sup>And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, <sup>38</sup>and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

<sup>39</sup>"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, <sup>40</sup>yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. <sup>41</sup>I do not receive glory from people. <sup>42</sup>But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. <sup>43</sup>I have come in my Father's name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. <sup>44</sup>How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? <sup>45</sup>Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. <sup>46</sup>For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. <sup>47</sup>But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Sermon**                                    “The Threefold Witness to the Son's Authority”  
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

Jesus' absolute authority over all people is undeniable because:

1. it is not based on self-promotion. (vv. 30–32)
2. it is not dependent upon human testimony. (vv. 33–38)
3. it is divinely revealed in the Scriptures. (vv. 39–47)

### **Pastoral prayer**

\* **Hymn of response 642**, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

“Be Thou My Vision”

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
thou my best thought by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent; Traditional Irish melody, SLANE*

\* **Benediction**

\* **Congregational response**

“Threefold Amen”

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### Musicians for this week:

**Brett Hyberger** – choral director

**Joshua Knight** – organ

**The flowers in the sanctuary today** are from the wedding of Hannah Beatty and Rhett Pierce on April 24 and are in honor of the bride's grandmother, Sharon Chambers.

### WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THERE WILL BE A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** at the end of each worship service today, for the purpose of electing the nominated elders and deacons to the class of 2029.

**IF YOU PICKED UP A BAG TO PARTICIPATE** in the Choices Collection, please remember to drop it off in the porte-cochere (covered drive) today or next Sunday. Alternatively, return the bag to the church office building between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST LOGAN DREW** will join the Care for the Caregiver support group on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 pm in Room 212. He will cover movement issues related to normal aging, dementia, and Parkinson's. All are welcome to attend.

**WE WILL RECOGNIZE TERESA DABBS** at Wednesday's fellowship dinner (5:45 p.m.) on April 29 before she retires in May. Join us in thanking her and congratulating her on 30 years of service at LMPC.

**THE REDEEMING TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE**, featuring guest speaker Robert Cunningham, will be held this upcoming weekend over three sessions: Friday, May 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Sunday, May 3 from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Find more information at [lmpc.org](http://lmpc.org).

**BEAST FEAST:** Men, join us on Saturday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Registration is required on Realm Connect by April 29.

**SCRIPTURE & SONG**, featuring our Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Girls' Ensemble, and Handbell Ensemble, will be held on Sunday, May 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. *Bring your kids! We'll have a special bulletin just for them to follow along and engage with the music and stories, and nursery will also be available.*

**THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CLOSING PICNIC** will be held on May 6, 5:45 p.m. at The Commons. Bring the whole family and enjoy hot dogs, slaw, chips, and cookies. Regular dinner prices apply.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP** for VBS on July 21-23! Register on Realm Connect as an adult/high school volunteer or a middle school volunteer, and select your area of interest.

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