LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Help us to set our hope on your name, Lord. You are the origin and source of all creation. You open the eyes of our hearts so we can know you. You alone abide highest in the lofty place. You are holy in the holy. You lay low the insolence of the proud, set the lowly on high, and bring down the lofty. You make rich and poor, give life and death. You alone are the benefactor of spirits and the God of all flesh.

—Clement of Rome

OCTOBER 4, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

** Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

Prelude "The God of Abraham Praise"
arr. Richard Elliott
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #34)

*** Call to worship** from Psalm 118

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

All: **Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.**

Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: **You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever.**

*** Hymn of praise 100** "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
text by Reginald Heber, 1783-1826; music by John B. Dykes, 1861, NICAEA

*** 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.

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

Offertory "Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal" Chancel Choir

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore,
as I near those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.

And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.

Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest,
and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.
traditional hymn, INVITATION, *arr. Alice Parker* *©1967 Lawson-Gould Music Publishers, Inc.*

*** 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 8:48-59** Jennifer West

48 The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan
and have a demon?" 49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my
Father, and you dishonor me. 50 Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One
who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51 Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my
word, he will never see death."

52 The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died,
as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste
death.' 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets
died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" 54 Jesus answered, "If I glorify
myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say,
'He is our God.' 55 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that
I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his
word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and
was glad."

57 So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen
Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham
was, I am." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself
and went out of the temple.

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "The Truth Claims of Jesus"
John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

The closing arguments concerning Jesus:

1. His character (vv. 48-51)
2. His words (vv. 52-56)
3. His identity (vv. 57-59)

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:

Brett Hyberger – choral director **Joshua Knight** – organ, piano

The rosebud in the service today is for the birth of Judah Mitchell Perry, born to Hannah and Mark Perry on September 22.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHER TO PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS PARTNERS today in Room 211 at 6:00 p.m.

COLLEGE STUDENTS, you're invited for lunch and a time of connection in the Jane Harris Youth Building on Sunday, October 11 at 12:15 p.m.

REMEMBER, THE RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR FRANK HITCHINGS will be held on Sunday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m. Bring the whole family for a hymn sing from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, followed by a reception. Nursery will be available.

VIPS, COME ENJOY SOUP, SALAD, AND THE MOVIE *A Great Awakening* on October 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the Jane Harris Youth Building. Please register on Realm Connect by October 16 for $10. *The VIP group is made up of mostly retired adults (ages 65+) from LMPC and the community who meet monthly for fun and fellowship.*

WOMEN, GET AWAY FROM THE NOISE and pace of life at a Semi-Silent Retreat. Come to Rising Fawn Gardens on Saturday, October 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to rest and spend time with the Lord. Cost is $25 (breakfast is included) and space is limited; please register on Realm Connect.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY CLASSES begin today at 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Class (Room 213) / Teacher: John Plating
Topic: The Life of the Apostle Paul: From Damascus to Rome

Kingdom Class (chapel) / Teachers: Tim & Annette Gulick; LMPC pastors
Topic: The Gospel of Luke

Redeemer Class (Room 211) / Teacher: Dan Wykoff
Topic: The Attributes of God

Sojourner Class (Room 313) / Teachers: Glenn Breazeale, Jay Everett, Jamison Griffin
Topic: *A Meal with Jesus* by Tim Chester

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