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 • 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

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!"

*** 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** Brian Kvale (8:45)
pp. 1063-1064 in pew Bible and text printed in the bulletin Jennifer West (11:00)

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

Pastoral prayer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have previously been admitted to the Lord's Table, by the elders of this or any Gospel-proclaiming church, to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Come with joy as you actively trust in Christ and willingly forsake sin, having sought reconciliation in all relationships.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Hymn of confession 308, vv. 1, 3, 5 "Jesus Paid It All"

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace from Colossians 1:19-22

> God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ, 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. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

Words of institution

Communion affirmation

Leader: Beloved in the Lord Jesus Christ, this Holy Supper we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope.

All: **We come in remembrance that our Lord Jesus Christ was sent by the Father into the world to take on flesh. By his righteous life, atoning death, and powerful resurrection, he has accomplished for us what we could not accomplish for ourselves.**

Leader: We come to have communion with our Lord Jesus Christ, who has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world. He is the bread of heaven that nourishes our souls and the true vine in which we abide and bear fruit.

All: **We come in hope, believing that these signs are a pledge and foretaste of the wedding feast of the Lamb that we will enjoy when Christ's kingdom has fully come. We proclaim the Lord's death and profess his resurrection until he comes again. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

adapted from The Worship Sourcebook

Prayer of consecration

Distribution of the elements

For the bread "In Christ Alone" Congregational hymn

In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save;
till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,
for every sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

text by Stuart Townend © 2001 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic.# 152036

For the cup "Jesus Paid it All" Instrumental meditation
arr. Mark Hayes
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #308)

Prayer of thanksgiving

*** Hymn of response 457** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response** "Threefold Amen"

*** Postlude** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
arr. Diane Bish

Musicians for this week:

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

John 8:48-59

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.

SERMON NOTES

"The Truth Claims of Jesus"

The closing arguments concerning Jesus:

1. His character (vv. 48-51)

2. His words (vv. 52-56)

3. His identity (vv. 57-59)

Beyond the Pulpit
Resources for
Continued Study

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.

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

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, October 4

8:45 a.m.	Worship service with communion	*sanctuary & fellowship hall*
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for children	*elementary classrooms*
10:00 a.m.	Sunday school for youth	*JHYB*
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Fellowship Class	*Room 213*
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Kingdom Class	*chapel*
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Redeemer Class	*Room 211*
10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school: Sojourner Class	*Room 313*
10:00 a.m.	Elder Prayer (pray with an elder and his wife)	*Room 212*
11:00 a.m.	Worship service with communion	*sanctuary & fellowship hall*
3:00 p.m.	Handbell Ensemble practice	*Choir Room*
4:00 p.m.	Middle school small groups	*various locations*
6:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Gathering with missions prayer	*Room 211*
7:30 p.m.	High school youth group	*JHYB*

For more events this week, visit lmpc.org/events; for information on groups and classes, visit lmpc.org/groups.

SUBSCRIBE TO LMPC'S WEEKLY NEWS EMAIL

Now you can subscribe to LMPC's weekly news email through Realm. While editing your profile on Realm Connect, you'll see a new field called "Newsletter Delivery." Select "Subscribe" to begin receiving the news email each week. This new feature allows you to better customize what email you receive from LMPC. Don't have a Realm Connect account? Visit lmpc.org/realm to request yours today.

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. Devices to amplify sound are available. If you would like one, please arrive a few minutes early and ask an usher to assist you.