LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O eternal Light, shine into our hearts. O eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.
O eternal Power, be thou our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us. Grant unto us that with all our hearts,
and minds, and strength, we may evermore seek thy face;
and finally bring us, in thine infinite mercy, to thy holy presence.
—Alcuinus, A.D. 780

OCTOBER 11, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

** Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings Steve Kaufmann, ruling elder

Prelude Paraphrase on "Amazing Grace!"
Hans-André Stamm
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #460)

*** Call to worship** Psalm 111

Leader: Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

All: **Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.**

Leader: He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness.

All: **He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.**

*** Hymn of praise 164,** vv. 1, 2, 3, 5 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.
text by Charles Wesley, 1739; music by Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839, AZMON

*** Prayer of adoration**

Call to confession Ecclesiastes 12:13b–14 and Isaiah 55:6–7

Here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

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, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Hymn of confession 688 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord!"

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!
text by Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902; music by George C. Stebbins, 1907, HOLY DESIRE

Silent prayers of confession

*** Assurance of God's pardoning grace** from Romans 5 and Colossians 1

Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*** Hymn of assurance 535** "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!"

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;
how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.
text by Samuel Trevor Francis, 1834-1925; music by Thomas John Williams, 1890, EBENEZER

Prayer of intercession

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

Offertory "Be Thou My Vision" Chancel Choir
arr. Benjamin David Knoedler

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.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.
ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent, tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; traditional Irish melody, arr. Benjamin David Knoedler *©2023 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. CCLI Lic. #152036*

*** 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 9:1-23** Sandy Gardner

1As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2And his disciples asked him,
"Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3Jesus
answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works
of God might be displayed in him. 4We must work the works of him who sent
me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5As long as I am in
the world, I am the light of the world."

6Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva.
Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud 7and said to him, "Go, wash
in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came
back seeing. 8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar
were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9Some said, "It is
he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."
10So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11He answered, "The
man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam
and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." 12They said to him,
"Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

13They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now
it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15So the
Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them,
"He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." 16Some of the Pharisees
said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others
said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division
among them. 17So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about
him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." 18The Jews
did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they
called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them,
"Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

[20]His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born
blind. [21]But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened
his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." [22](His parents said
these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed
that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the
synagogue.) [23]Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "When the Light Breaks In!"
Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

When Jesus, the light of the world, breaks in, he:

1. reveals our misguided assumptions. (vv. 1-5)
2. displays his sovereign power. (vv. 6-12)
3. exposes our true allegiances. (vv. 13-23)

Pastoral prayer

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

My faith has found a resting place, from guilt my soul is freed;
I trust the everliving One, his wounds for me shall plead.

Refrain: I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
it is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.

Enough for me that Jesus saves, this ends my fear and doubt;
a sinful soul I come to him, he'll never cast me out. *Refrain*

My heart is leaning on the Word, the written Word of God:
salvation by my Savior's name, salvation thro' his blood. *Refrain*

My great Physician heals the sick, the lost he came to save;
for me his precious blood he shed, for me his life he gave. *Refrain*
text by Lidie H. Edmunds, 1891; music by André Grétry, 1741-1831, arr. William J. Kirkpatrick, 1891, LANDAS

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response** "Threefold Amen"

*** Postlude** Toccata on "And Can It Be That I Should Gain"
John Innes
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #455)

Musicians for this week:

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

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE STUDENTS, join us for lunch today in the Jane Harris Youth Building at 12:15 p.m.

THE CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER support group will meet Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 212, with speaker Charlie Ingram of Right at Home discussing in-home care. All are welcome. For more information, contact Lee Ballenger or Ed Salter.

FALL BREAK: There will be no Women's Bible Study, children's choirs, adult class, fellowship dinner, or kids' clubs this *Wednesday, October 14*. Evening Prayer and Chancel Choir will still meet.

REMEMBER, THE RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR FRANK HITCHINGS will be held on Sunday, October 18. 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. If you would like to write a letter to Frank, we will collect them for him to read.

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.

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