LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We come before you, O God, confident in Christ's victory over sickness and death.
Heal us again from sin, which divides us, and from prejudice, which isolates us.
Bring us to wholeness of life through the pardon you grant your people.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.
—Opening Prayers

OCTOBER 18, 2026 • FELLOWSHIP HALL 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 "Speak, O Lord" Instrumental ensemble

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness;
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—let their truth prevail over unbelief.
text and music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2005 Thankyou Music, ARR, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

*** Call to worship** taken from Psalm 9

Leader: We will praise you, O Lord, with our whole hearts; we will tell of all your wonders.

All: We will be glad and rejoice in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Leader: The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

All: Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

*** Hymn of praise** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew what the Almighty will do,
if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly fore'er we adore him.
text by Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; music in Stralsund Gesangbuch, *1665*

*** Prayer of adoration**

*** Affirmation of faith** The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Call to confession Isaiah 64:6 and Joel 2:12–13

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Hymn of confession "To Thee I Come"

To thee I come, a sinner poor, and wait for mercy at thy door;
indeed, I've nowhere else to flee; O God, be merciful to me.
To thee I come, a sinner weak, and scarce know how to pray or speak;
from fear and weakness set me free; O God, be merciful to me!

To thee I come, a sinner vile; upon me, Lord, vouchsafe to smile;
mercy through blood I make my plea; O God, be merciful to me.
To thee I come, a sinner great, and well thou knowest all my state;
yet full forgiveness is with thee; O God, be merciful to me!

To thee I come, a sinner lost, nor have I aught wherein to trust;
but where thou art, Lord, I would be; O God, be merciful to me.
To glory bring me, Lord, at last, and there, when all my sins are past,
with all the saints I'll then agree: O, God was merciful to me!
O, God was merciful to me!
text by Samuel Medley, 1738–1799; music by Clint Wells, 2006

Prayer of confession

Leader: As we come to you today to confess our weakness and rebellion against you, we thank you that you have chosen to love desperate sinners like ourselves.

All: **Your loving determination to rescue us from our sin gives us the courage to admit the profound depravity of our desires, thoughts, and actions.**

Leader: We are people who want our kingdoms to come and our wills to be done.

All: **Instead of pursuing your wisdom with all our strength, we are delighted by our own wisdom and impressed with our own understanding.**

Leader: We try to earn your love rather than resting in the radiant worthiness of your Son.

All: **Father, forgive us. Give us eyes to behold our risen Lamb, perfect, spotless, and worthy to receive all our worship, love, and praise.**
adapted from Prone to Wander, *Duguid and Houk*

Silent prayers of confession

*** Assurance of God's pardoning grace** 1 John 4:9–10, 15

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

*** Hymn of assurance** "I Will Glory in My Redeemer"

I will glory in my Redeemer, whose priceless blood has ransomed me;
mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails and hung him on that judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who crushed the pow'r of sin and death;
my only Savior before the holy Judge: the Lamb who is my righteousness,
the Lamb who is my righteousness.

I will glory in my Redeemer; my life he bought, my love he owns.
I have no longings for another; I'm satisfied in him alone.
I will glory in my Redeemer, his faithfulness my standing place.
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me, my feet are firm, held by his grace,
my feet are firm, held by his grace.

I will glory in my Redeemer, who carries me on eagle's wings;
he crowns my life with lovingkindness, his triumph song I'll ever sing.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who waits for me at gates of gold.
And when he calls me, it will be paradise: his face forever to behold,
his face forever to behold.
text and music by Steve and Vikki Cook © 2000 Sovereign Grace Worship ARR, ICS, UBP, CCLI Lic.#152036

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

Offertory hymn "He Will Hold Me Fast"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
for my love is often cold; he must hold me fast.

continued

Refrain: He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
for my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight; Christ will hold me fast;
precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last;
bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast. *Refrain*

For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last! *Refrain*

original text by Ada Habershon, 1906; alt. text and music by Matt Merker ©2013 Matthew Merker Music, ARP, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

*** Scripture reading from John 9:24-41** James Stevens (8:45)
text printed in the bulletin David Paschall (11:00)

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "Who Sees?"
John Mark Scruggs, pastor of congregational care

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response** "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

*** Benediction**

*** 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.

*** Postlude**

Musicians for this week:

Xaris Emmett – violin
Krista Gibson – vocals
David Henry – guitar, vocals
Hannah Lutz – viola
Emmie Thompson – vocals
Bob Wharton – piano

The flowers in the service today are given in honor of Frank Hitchings and his 35 years of faithful pastoral ministry at LMPC.

John 9:24-41

24So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to
God. We know that this man is a sinner.” 25He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know.
One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26They said to him, “What did he do to
you? How did he open your eyes?” 27He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would
not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28And
they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29We know that
God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30The
man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet
he opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper
of God and does his will, God listens to him. 32Never since the world began has it been heard
that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. 33If this man were not from God, he could do
nothing.” 34They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they
cast him out.

35Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the
Son of Man?” 36He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” 37Jesus said to him,
“You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” 38He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he
worshiped him.

39Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those
who see may become blind.” 40Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to
him, “Are we also blind?” 41Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but
now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

SERMON NOTES

"Who Sees?"

John 9:24-41

1. The blind man who now sees is:

   - cast out. (vv. 24-34)

   - sought out. (vv. 35-38)

2. The religious people who think they see are:

   - called out. (vv. 39-41)

Beyond the Pulpit
Resources for
Continued Study

SERMON NOTES

"Who Sees?"

John 9:24-41

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR FRANK HITCHINGS will be held today at 5:30 p.m. Join us for a hymn sing in the fellowship hall followed by a milk and cookies reception. Nursery will be available. If you'd like to bring a note for Frank, we will collect them for him to read.

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.

THE ANNUAL REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, on Sunday, November 1 at 6:00 p.m. A festival choir and orchestra comprised of musicians from LMPC, First Presbyterian, and Covenant College will lead us in great hymns of faith. Foundational readings and Scripture will remind us of the important significance of this day. Come and worship together.

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

TODAY AT LMPC

Sunday, October 18

8:45 a.m.	Worship service	*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	*sanctuary & fellowship hall*
3:00 p.m.	Handbell Ensemble practice	*Choir Room*
5:30 p.m.	Retirement Celebration for Frank Hitchings	*fellowship hall*
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.

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 "Weekly News Email." 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.