LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

To suffer my own dereliction for me, to be my shepherd, and to lead me through the grave and gate of death, in strength and mercy Christ has come down. At last I've found the true Shepherd and the false just fade away before him.
—*Malcolm Guite, from* Psalm 23: XXIII Dominus regit me

OCTOBER 25, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

** Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

Prelude "Brother James' Air"
arr. Dale Wood
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #86)

*** Call to worship** Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

All: **Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

All: **For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

*** Hymn of praise 92,** vv. 1, 2, 4 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.
based on Psalm 46, text and music by Martin Luther, 1529; EIN'FESTE BURG

*** Prayer of adoration**

Sacrament of baptism

Hendley and Hugh Morton bringing William Owen Morton

Call to confession Micah 7:18–19

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Prayer of confession taken from Psalm 51

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

All: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

Leader: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

All: Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Silent prayers of confession

*** Assurance of God's pardoning grace** based on 1 Peter 2:9–10, 24–25

We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once we were not a people, but now we are the people of God; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed. For we were like sheep going astray, but now we have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls.

*** Hymn of assurance 172**, vv. 1, 2, 4 "Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
he has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
he has washed us with his blood, he presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;
when through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:
he who washed us with his blood has secured our way to God.
text by John Newton, 1774; music from Darmstadt Gesangbuch, *1698,* ALL SAINTS OLD

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

Offertory "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Chancel Choir

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.
Where streams of living water flow my ransom'd soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.
Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O the transport of delight with which my cup o'erfloweth.
And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever! Amen.
text based on Psalm 23, by Henry W. Baker, 1868; Irish melody, arr. Harry Rowe Shelley *©1886, 1914 G. Shirmer, 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 10:1–21** Warren McEwen

[1]"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door
but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. [2]But he who
enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. [3]To him the gatekeeper opens.
The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them
out. [4]When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep
follow him, for they know his voice. [5]A stranger they will not follow, but they
will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." [6]This figure of
speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying
to them.

[7]So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the
sheep. [8]All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not
listen to them. [9]I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and
will go in and out and find pasture. [10]The thief comes only to steal and kill and
destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

[11]"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
[12]He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees
the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and
scatters them. [13]He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the
sheep. [14]I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, [15]just
as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the
sheep. [16]And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also,
and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. [17]For
this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it
up again. [18]No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have
authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge
I have received from my Father." [19]There was again a division among the Jews
because of these words. [20]Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane;
why listen to him?" [21]Others said, "These are not the words of one who is
oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "The Good Shepherd"
Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. The shepherd's voice: familiarity and intimacy (vv. 1-6, 14)

2. The sheep's gate: provision and protection (vv. 7-10)

3. The shepherd's care: service and sacrifice (vv. 11-21)

Paul Tripp's definition of love: "Love is willing self-sacrifice for the good of another that does not demand reciprocation or that the person being loved is deserving."

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 599** "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine; do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.
from Hymns for the Young, *1836, attr. Dorothy Anne Thrupp; music by William B. Bradbury, 1859,* SHEPHERD

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response** "Threefold Amen"

*** Postlude** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
arr. J. Bert Carlson
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #598)

Musicians for this week:

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

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of William Owen Morton by his grandparents, Katie and Don Morton.

Celebrating the baptism of Caroline Kaufmann at the 8:45 service in the sanctuary today are her parents, Rachel and David Kaufmann, and her grandparents, Shari and Roger Collins and Mary and Steve Kaufmann.

Celebrating the baptism of William Owen Morton at the 11:00 service in the sanctuary today are his parents, Hendley and Hugh Morton, and his grandparents, Jenny and Philip Badcock and Katie and Don Morton.

Celebrating the baptism of Anna James Elizabeth Helm at the 8:45 service in the fellowship hall today are her parents, Tay Tay and Carter Helm, and her grandparents, Merrile and John Stroud and Barb and Andy Helm.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER support group will meet Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 212 for a presentation from an excellent new resource, *Tender Hearts, Tired Hands*. Come for information, inspiration, and intercession.

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. Join us!

INTERESTED IN JOINING LMPC? The next membership class begins January 3. Find more details and register on Realm Connect.

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