LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God moves in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform; he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm. Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.
—William Cowper

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 • SANCTUARY SERVICE

** Congregation standing as you are able*

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings Josh Brower, co-director of high school ministry

Prelude Chorale Prelude on "Dundee"
C. Hubert H. Parry
(words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #128)

*** Call to worship** based on Isaiah 25

Leader: O LORD, you are our God; we will exalt you and praise your name,
for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things,
things planned long ago.

All: You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.

Leader: On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples. He will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

All: The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. In that day we will say, "Surely, this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation!"

*** Hymn of praise 2,** vv. 1, 2, 4, 5 "O Worship the King"

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!
text based on Psalm 104, by Robert Grant, 1833; music by Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806, LYONS

*** Prayer of adoration**

*** Affirmation of faith** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed is so named because it summarizes what the apostles believed and taught in Jesus' name. The earliest versions of the Creed can be traced back to the 2nd century. We use the traditional translation of the Creed which contains some unfamiliar words: "quick" instead of "living" and "catholic" instead of "universal." Also, when we say that Christ "descended into hell," we are not saying that Jesus literally entered hell; instead, we are affirming that Jesus suffered all the pains and torments of hell as he endured the unmitigated wrath of God on the cross.

Call to confession from Hebrews 10:19–22

Since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,
by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,
and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God
with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to
cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure
water.

Hymn of confession 528, vv. 1, 2, 3 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:
now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.
text by Ray Palmer, 1830; music by Lowell Mason, 1832, OLIVET

Silent prayers of confession

*** Assurance of God's pardoning grace** Romans 5:1–2

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

*** Hymn of assurance 44**, vv. 1, 3, 4 "How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy pow'r thro'out the universe displayed.

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin. *Refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art. *Refrain*
text by Stuart K. Hine, 1949; Swedish folk melody, arr. Stuart K. Hine, 1949, O STORE GUD

Call to offering Proverbs 11:24–25

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

Offertory "Let Nothing Hold You in Grief" Chancel Choir

Let nothing hold you in grief; be still, as God ordains,
so be content in my will.
And why concern yourself about tomorrow?
The One stands for all.
He gives to you, he gives to you your due.
In all things be unchanged.
Hold fast: what God decrees is always best.
Amen.
text by Paul Fleming, 1609-1640; music by Johannes Brahms, 1856

*** 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 11:1-16** Michele Davis

[1]Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her
sister Martha. [2]It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped
his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. [3]So the sisters sent to
him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." [4]But when Jesus heard it he said,
"This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of
God may be glorified through it." [5]Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and
Lazarus. [6]So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in
the place where he was.

[7]Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." [8]The
disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and
are you going there again?" [9]Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the
day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light
of this world. [10]But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light
is not in him." [11]After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus
has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." [12]The disciples said to him, "Lord, if
he has fallen asleep, he will recover." [13]Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but
they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. [14]Then Jesus told them plainly,
"Lazarus has died, [15]and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that
you may believe. But let us go to him." [16]So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his

fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

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

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "The Mysterious Love of Jesus"
Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministries

The mysterious love of Jesus:

1. often delays when invited. (vv. 1–6)

2. always walks confidently toward death. (vv. 7–16)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response 455,** vv. 1, 3, 4, 5 "And Can It Be That I Should Gain"

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
text by Charles Wesley, 1738; music by Thomas Campbell, 1825, SAGINA

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational response** "Threefold Amen"

*** Postlude** "In Christ Alone"
arr. Jason Payne

Musicians for this week:

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

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ALL AGES ARE INVITED to an Advent Music Workshop to sing old hymns and learn new ones for the Advent season. We will gather on Sunday, November 15 in the fellowship hall at 5:00 p.m. for this casual time of worship; nursery will be provided.

ANTICIPATING ADVENT: LMPC women, come enjoy dessert and decaf, assemble fresh wreaths, and discuss how to prepare our hearts for advent. Meet in the fellowship hall on Thursday, November 19 at 6:30 p.m. Please register on Realm Connect by November 17 for $20.

BOXES OF BLESSING RETURNS! This annual large-scale ministry project partners with volunteers, ministries, and churches to provide food for families in need. Please register on Realm Connect:

- Saturday, November 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Chattanooga Bakery: tape boxes and assist with warehouse set-up (middle and high school students and adults only)
- Saturday, December 5 with three shifts at the Chattanooga Bakery: filling food boxes in an assembly line (all ages)
    - ◊ Due to a generous response, shifts have filled up quickly. We hope to welcome as many volunteers as we can, so if your chosen shift is full, consider joining a waitlist.

TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD CHRISTMAS FLOWERS in memory or in honor of a loved one, please do so through Realm Connect by December 7. Memorials/honorariums will be printed in the bulletins on Sunday, December 20. Due to production deadlines, any names submitted after December 7 are not able to be included in the bulletins. For more information, please call the church office or email margaretcompton@lmpc.org.

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

IN MEMORIAM

John Frazier Risley

June 20, 1937 – October 31, 2026

The rosebud in the service this morning is for the birth of Emory Wyker Harrison, born to Bennett and Brad Harrison on October 27.