

September 21, 2025

Worship and Livestream | 10 am



LEXINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For God's glory, we are making disciples of Jesus as we worship, love, and serve.

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We invite you to experience the meaning of the Gospel through this service, which reflects both ancient and modern elements of Christian worship. When we gather as a worshipping community, we enter into a dialogue with the living God. God calls us into worship, we rejoice in the hope of the Gospel, confess our sins, lament the brokenness of our world, give our offerings, and hear God's Word read and preached. We hope that by worshipping with us, you will experience joy and hope from a community of people who love Jesus.

At Lexington Presbyterian Church, for God's glory, we are making disciples of Jesus as we worship, love, and serve.

Complete our Connect Card at lexpreschurch.com/connect to join us on mission!

General inquiries: hello@lexpreschurch.com

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

* Congregation, please stand if able

Prelude

PRAISE

Updates | Following Christ Together

* **Call to Worship** | Psalm 34:1-5, 8

*Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

*All: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.*

*Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!*
*I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.*

*All: Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.*

*Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*

* A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1.A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing; our
 2.Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing; were
 3.And though this world with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us, we
 4.That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'r, no thanks to them, a bid - eth; the

5 help - er he a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For
 not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing. Dost
 will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri - umph through us. The
 Spir - it and the gifts are ours through him who with us sid - eth. Let

9 still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are
 ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his
 prince of dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en -
 goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may

14 great; and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 name, from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 dure, for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 kill: God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Words: Martin Luther, 1529 (based on Psalm 46)
 Music: Martin Luther, 1529

* Prayer of Invocation

* **Scripture Reading** | 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 16-27 | Pew Bible pp. 239-240

1 Samuel 17:1-11

Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle. And they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines. And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And his shield-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

1 Samuel 17:16-27

For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening. And Jesse said to David his son, "Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them."

Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. And David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he

came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry. And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage and ran to the ranks and went and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid. And the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel." And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" And the people answered him in the same way, "So shall it be done to the man who kills him."

Lead on, O King Eternal

1. Lead on, O King e-ter - nal, The day of march has come; —
 2. Lead on, O King, e-ter - nal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease; —
 3. Lead on, O King, e-ter - nal, We fol - low, not with fears, —

— Hence - forth in fields of con - quest, Thy tents shall be our home. —
 — And ho - li - ness shall whis - per, The sweet a - men of peace. —
 — For glad - ness breaks like morn - ing, Wher - e'er - Thy face ap - pears —

— Through days of prep - a - ra - tion, Thy grace has made us strong; —
 — For not with swords' loud clash - ing, Nor roll of stir - ring drums; —
 — Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us, We jour - ney in its light —

— And now, O King e - ter - nal, We lift our bat - tle song. —
 — With deeds of love and mer - cy, The heaven - ly king - dom comes. —
 — The crown a - waits the con - quest; Lead on, O God of might. —

— So lead on, O King, — Lead on, O King, —

— Lead on, O King, — Lead on. —

Words: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1888
 Music: Jeff Pardo, 2005

RENEWAL

Call to Confession | Psalm 38:3-4

*Leader: There is no soundness in my flesh
 because of your indignation;
 there is no health in my bones
 because of my sin.
 For my iniquities have gone over my head;
 like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.*

Corporate Confession of Sin

*All: O Lord of Hosts,
 perfect in splendor and majestic in power,
 hear our prayers of repentance
 and sorrow over the sin that easily besets us.
 You alone are the source of life, truth, love, and hope.
 You alone are the fountain of goodness, righteousness, and justice.
 All too often we violate Your good and perfect ways.
 All too often we are prone to wander
 from Your straight and narrow path.
 Hear our cries for cleansing,
 and fill us with the power and courage of the Holy Spirit,
 and grant us Your peace that passes all understanding.
 We ask this in Jesus' precious Name,
 Amen.*

Silent Confession

*** Words of Comfort** | Ephesians 2:13-15

Leader: But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace...

*** Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

* Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor



1. Christ, the sure and stead-y an - chor, in the fu - ry of the storm;
 2. Christ, the sure and stead-y an - chor, while the tem - pest rag - es on.
 3. Christ, the sure and stead-y an - chor, thru the floods of un - be - lief.
 4. Christ, the sure and stead-y an - chor, as we face the wave of death.



when the winds of doubt blow thru me and my sails have all been torn.
 When temp - ta - tion claims the bat - tle and it seems the night has won,
 Hope - less some - how, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Cal - va - ry!
 When these trials give way to glo - ry, as we draw our fi - nal breath,



In the suf - fring, in the sor - row, when my sink - ing hopes are few,
 deep - er still then goes the an - chor, tho' I just - ly stand ac - cused.
 This my bal - last of as - sur - ance, see His love for - ev - er proved.
 we will cross that great ho - ri - zon, clouds be - hind and life se - cure.
 (5.) Christ, the shore of our sal - va - tion, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er true.



I will hold fast to the an - chor, it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 I will hold fast to the an - chor, it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 I will hold fast to the an - chor, it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 And the calm will be the bet - ter, for the storms that we en - dure.
 We will hold fast to the an - chor, it shall nev - er be re - moved.

Words and Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell
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Friendship Register

Kindly remember to give your neighbor the Friendship Register. Once it reaches the end of the pew, then please pass it back. Making acquaintances with guests and fostering friendships within the larger church family is the goal of this register. Starting from the middle aisle, the register is located at the head of each pew. Please, make sure to write your name legibly.

Worship Through Giving

The offering is a way for members and friends who call Lexington Presbyterian their “spiritual home” to present the substance of their whole lives to God. Please feel no pressure to give.

Ways to give:

- You may use the offering plates.
- Go to “Giving” on your Church Center mobile app or lexpres.churchcenter.com.
- Text2Give: text any dollar amount to 84321.

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You | Choir Anthem

Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know.
If you should leave me all alone where, then, shall I go? Oh, Lord.
Lord, I give my soul to you; I seek your care and love.
No other blessings do I need but those from you above.

Lord, I ask you: give me faith, and help me understand.
And, Lord, when I this life shall leave, just hold me in your hand.

Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know.
If you should leave me all alone where, then, shall I go?
Oh, Lord, I stretch my hands to you. Amen.

Words and Music by Jay Althouse (b. 1951)

* The Doxology

Musical score for 'The Doxology' in G major and common time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.'

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709
Music: Louis Bergeois, 1551

* Offertory Prayer

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Corporate Prayer

Children's Sermon | "A Mammoth Giant, Five Smooth Stones, and a Guided Shot"

* Scripture Reading | 1 Samuel 17:38-54 | Pew Bible pp. 240-241

³⁸ Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, ³⁹ and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." So David put them off. ⁴⁰ Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.

⁴¹ And the Philistine moved forward and came near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. ⁴² And when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. ⁴³ And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴ The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field." ⁴⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, ⁴⁷ and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand."

⁴⁸When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. ⁴⁹And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

⁵⁰So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David. ⁵¹Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. ⁵²And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron. ⁵³And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp. ⁵⁴And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

Sermon | A Call to Courage and to Action as You Move into a New Chapter

Rev. Dr. Curt McDaniel

Sermon Notes

LPC Family, you have reached the end of this transitional period. So many of you have shown patience, endurance, and fortitude as you took the time to express your passions and discuss your values and vision. Now, all of the thoughts appear in the Ministry Compass™ and plan for 2024-2028. During this “intentional interim” window, you allowed the Holy Spirit to harvest your spiritual fervor, beliefs, and ministry priorities, stating them in a missional plan that seeks to honor God by making disciples of Jesus while you worship, love, and serve Him and others in this community and world. In time, this Ministry Compass™ did its proper “screening work,” and eventually it brought you your new pastor, and it appears that his vision for ministry strategically aligns with your priorities for ministry. In just a matter of days, he will take this post that I have stewarded for nearly two years, and I could not be happier for you and for him, for you are now poised to enter a new chapter of life and service before the Lord. It is at this point that I want to give you, a congregation that Beth and I love dearly, a biblical exhortation to courage and to action, moving forward in faith by boldly advancing the truths of the gospel in humility, love, and compassion.

Individual believers are called, and the church as a whole is commanded, to live by faith and to walk with courage in this dark and oftentimes contentious culture. But how is this done practically and timely? With all the turbulence and conflict that we see in our world today towards Christianity, the Bible, the gospel, and the Church, how can we live courageously and fearlessly in our attempt to advance Christ’s kingdom?

It is here that we turn to David’s encounter with Goliath. It is likely one of the most popular narratives in the Bible; however, few people deeply understand David’s actions. This is one of the earliest Bible stories that I remember from my childhood; however, for a good portion of my life, I never understood why David did what he did. So often I ponder introspectively, “I want that same courage that David had. What am I missing? What do I need to do to get the kind of courage that he had?”

What made David act with such courage and resolution? Was he truly foolhardy and naïve, or did he know something that we need to know? The answers are seen from one word—appearing twice in 1 Samuel 17—that connects back to patriarchal history (something David knew and realized). It was when I saw this connection¹ between David’s knowledge

and subsequent action that I understood why this “man after God’s own heart” acted with such courage and bravery. This is the courage that I pray for in my ministry of the gospel, and I pray it for you also as you enter this next chapter of your life and work.

In order to step out with courage that is nourished by biblical faith (like David), there are five things we must know and do as we stand before a holy, powerful God and a hate-filled world. David was appalled at the lack of faith within the Israelite camp. Everyone was afraid. No one volunteered to stand up and to fight this giant. So, he showed his trust in God, and then stepped forth and said, “For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” (17:26). What enabled him to make this kind of statement? Five key principles:

1. He read God’s Word (Genesis 6:4-6 with Numbers 13:26-33). So should we! David read in Genesis 6:4 about the Nephilim, a sinister race created from the evil union between the “Sons of God” and the “Daughters of Men,” and whose bloodlines continued *after* the Flood. It seems logical to conclude that the “Daughters of Men” were human females physically born from natural procreation. But who were the “Sons of God”? This unusual term “Sons of God” is the Hebrew term “bene *Elohim*” and it appears three other times in the OT, all in Job (1:6, 2:1, 38:7). A brief look at these texts in Job clearly suggests the context of angelic activity: “There seems no reasonable doubt that, in so far as the language itself is concerned, the intent of the writer was to convey the thought of angels—fallen angels, no doubt—since they were acting in opposition to God’s will.”² While much debate has ensued over the centuries concerning this topic, it seems obvious that *the product formed* from this union was an evil, superhuman race that is depicted as “mighty men who were of old, the men of renown” (Genesis 6:4). The next two verses in the text carry this notion of an evil conglomerate further by stating that the wickedness over the whole earth was so great that God regretted creating humanity and that destruction from a worldwide flood was necessary. What the Nephilim did (between Genesis 6:4 and 5) is sometimes likened to a “Trojan Horse” maneuver. Because they were mighty and strong, possessing superman abilities, they cloaked good actions behind egoistic purposes over a period of time to gain influence and respect from people. Then, at an advantageous moment, they weaseled their way to power and then led the entire world to wickedness and sin, necessitating God’s judgment. In some way and for some reason, they survived, as Genesis 6:4 states.

David read this account and knew patriarchal history. Specifically, he linked the spies' report that connected the descendants from Anak with this Nephilim bloodline (Numbers 13:33). It was here that he saw how this evil generation had continued through time, although God had said they were wicked and must be destroyed. *Important principle:* know your history! Things recorded in the Bible are recorded for a purpose (Romans 15:4).

2. David obeyed God's command (Deuteronomy 7:1-16). So should we! We must read these opening verses in Deuteronomy 7 seriously, as they portray God's attitude towards the wickedness described within the nations that dwelled in the Promised Land in Moses' and Joshua's time (read). These were not nice people. *They were idolatrous and evil.* David understood God's commands: make no treaties, no intermarriages with these people because their "spiritual DNA" showed *systemic evil*. They would lead them to pursue other gods and their pagan practices. Moses's words to the nation of Israel were clear and decisive: these people were wicked to the core and only intended to destroy God's truth and followers from this world. Clearly these words from Moses left a deep impression on David, and likely at an early age he resolved in his heart to choose God's ways and truth over the evil that was denounced by God in the Torah. Because Israel was loved and chosen, set apart unto God, they were to act in covenant obedience and faithfulness to Him, forsaking the evil around them: "Why should Israel act in this way? These verses give the reason. She was a holy, or 'separated' people, chosen by God, and called into a covenant with Him. That fact set her apart from all peoples. A surrender of her privileged position by compromise was, therefore, unthinkable."³
3. David believed God's promise (Deuteronomy 9:1-6). So should we! In the same continuing sermon from Moses, David saw the promise that the Lord would go ahead of His people into battle and that the Lord would be the devouring fire. It was not because of their righteousness or integrity but because of the wickedness of these nations that God assured them of His victory over them. Believing God's promise meant trusting in the character of God—a character grounded in absolute truth and certainty. It is likely that here David made a commitment to trust God and let Him defeat the enemy. If they were idolatrous and ungodly, they were not only his enemies but more importantly, God's enemies. And God would deal with those who oppose

Him.

4. David realized God's victory (1 Samuel 17:4, 23 references to "Gath"; Joshua 11:21-23). So should we! When David realized early in the process that Goliath came from *Gath*, he remembered Joshua's successful battle campaigns that left only a few survivors of the Anakim (the descendants of the Nephilim). And one of those surviving sites was *Gath* (Joshua 11:22). This tall giant that stood in front of him was nothing more than a descendant from an old enemy that the Lord had already promised to defeat and to destroy. The moment "Gath" was mentioned, David knew that victory was assured because God's honor was at stake. In David's mind, he knew God would keep His Word. 1 Samuel 17:23 is insightful: "As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him." I submit to you that 1 Samuel 17:23 is the turning point in this account, for David's words in 17:26 resound with courage and faith-confidence. David connected "Gath" with Joshua 11:22.
5. David stepped out in dependence upon God's power (1 Samuel 17:45-47). So should we! Confident of God's promise and victory, David stepped out and obeyed God by confronting Goliath with the authority of God's Word: "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hand" (17:45-47).

Behind David's words was a deep dependence on the *character and authority* of Almighty God, and in that dependence, he slew the Philistine champion. We need to see that it was not simply David's words but, more importantly, *the divine authority* behind them that defeated this superhuman-sized giant. David's *courage was nourished by his faith in God's written word. Important: He took God at His Word and acted.*

Today, I am exhorting you to take God at His Word and act. Believe in His promises. Rest in His security. Trust in His provisions. Step out in obedient faith as you begin

this next chapter of your life and ministry with your bold vision and plan (Ministry Compass™), and know that “If (since) God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31). Do not be shy! Do not be hesitant! Move forward in obedient faith! Take God at His Word and act! Remember David’s example, knowing Paul’s words alongside them, “In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us” (Romans 8:37). When you take God at His Word and then move out in obedient action, *there is nothing that will stop you.*

Summary:

I leave you with three questions to ponder:

- What often keeps the world from seeing the fullness of Christ in the church? Christians who do not take God at His Word and act!
- If you knew that you could not fail because God was in it, what would you do in your life for Him? God wants to fight the biggest battles through you to defeat your and His enemies!
- What could this church do for God if she knew that she could not fail? How far will your (plural) courage—rooted in the character and promises of God—take you as a congregation?

Personal application:

“Faith, mighty faith the promise sees
And looks to that [God] alone;
Laughs at impossibilities, and cries: ‘It shall be done!’
And cries: ‘It shall, it shall be done,’
And cries: ‘It shall, it shall be done!’
Laughs at impossibilities, and cries: ‘It shall be done!’⁴

Reflection:

“David remembered that by confidence in God his energetic fighting gained the victory—the lion was killed, and the bear was killed too. And cannot you remember, brethren, what victories God gave you? When you were little in Israel and despised, yet His hand was upon you, and when few would bid you Godspeed, yet the Jehovah of hosts encouraged your

heart, and when you were feeble and but a youth, the Lord Jesus helped you to do exploits for Him in your own way. Remember this, and be of good courage this morning in the conflict which now lies before you. David talked of his former deeds somewhat reluctantly. I do not know that he had ever spoken of them before, and he did so on this occasion with the sole motive of glorifying God, and that he might be allowed to repeat them. He wished for permission from Saul to confront the Philistine champion, and bring yet greater glory to God. Brethren, whenever you talk of what God enabled you to do, mind you lay the stress upon God's enablings, and not upon your own doings; and when you rehearse the story of your early days, let it not be as a reason why you should now be exonerated from service, and be allowed to retire upon your laurels, but as an argument why you should now be allowed the most arduous and dangerous post in the battle. Let the past be a stepping-stone to something higher, an incentive to nobler enterprise. On, on ye soldiers of the cross, in God's name eclipse your former selves. As grace enabled you to pile the carcass of the bear upon the corpse of the lion, so now resolve that the Philistine shall increase the heap, and his head shall crown the whole, to the honor and glory of the God of Israel."⁵

Study and Discussion Questions:

- Go through 1 Samuel 17 and highlight the key events and notable dialogues seen in this text. What do you learn?
- Review and discuss the significance of 1 Samuel 17:34-37. How does this play into David's confrontation with Goliath?
- Review and discuss the significance of 1 Samuel 17:38-39. What is learned here?
- Review and discuss the OT passages in Genesis 6:4-6 (Nephilim), Numbers 13:33-36 (Anak), Deuteronomy 7:1-16 and 9:1-6 (Moses' words), and Joshua 11:21-23. How did David "connect the dots" in this OT timeline?
- Read and discuss 1 Samuel 17:44-47, then examine 17:48 and 50. Notice carefully how the narrative describes David's action. What is learned here? Compare this with Romans 8:31, 37.
- How can this text and study help you personally today? How can it help LPC as she moves into the next chapter of her life and ministry? Please be specific.

H. Curtis McDaniel, *Founder and President, the Center for Reaching a Post-Christian Culture*
(CRPCC, www.postchristiancondition.org)
Current Books and Forthcoming Releases

Current (in circulation, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or eBay):

When I Need God the Most (2001, 25th anniversary edition set for 2026, print and e-book).

Life Brighteners: Kids, Teens, Couples (2004, 3 volume set).

God is All My Hope and Stay (2011, e-book).

Forthcoming Studies and Releases:

- Preaching (Homiletics):

“Fullness, Freedom, and FIRE! Expository Preaching to a Post-Christian Culture (90% complete)

“The 16 Biblical Laws of Preaching: Follow Them and People will Listen to You” (research stage)

- Life Recovery/Pastoral Care:

“Recovering from a Life-Altering Loss: Finding Genuine Hope and Healing after a Personal Tragedy” (development stage, ready to write)

- American Revolutionary History:

“Founding Ethos: How the U.S. Constitution Reveals America’s Beginning Faith and Civics” (5 chapters written)

- Leadership:

“Leading and Shepherding a Church Through Transition: Establishing the Grounds for a Ministry Compass™” (development stage, ready to write)

- Marriage:

“Tri-Dy (‘Triangle Dynamics’) Marriage: Follow Them and Your Marriage will Improve (development stage, ready to write)

- Christian Life:

“Countdown to Eternity: Preparing for Eternal Life by Implementing 10 Essential Truths (development stage, ready to write).

◇ *My Cup Runneth Over: 13 Biblical Reasons to Live with Optimism Instead of*

Pessimism (2 chapters written).

- Church Health, Life and Mission:
 - ◇ Being the Church in a Post-Everything World: 12 Metaphors that Shape Congregational Life, Health, and Mission (90% complete).
- Prayer:
 - ◇ Transforming Prayer: Praying the Ephesians' Petitions for a Deeper Walk with God (complete, in editing stage).
- Jesus Christ:
 - ◇ The Habits of Jesus: Discovering the Qualities that Made Him So Compelling, Attractive, and Influential (3 chapters written).

Footnotes:

1. I am deeply indebted to my friend, Dr. Duane Litfin, President Emeritus of Wheaton College (served there from 1993 to 2010) for his insights which sparked my initial study of David's courage.
2. Henry M. Morris, *The Genesis Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings*. Second Printing. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1977, 165.
3. J.A. Thompson, *Deuteronomy: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Ed. D.J. Wiseman. Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 1974, 130.
4. https://hymnary.org/text/faith_mighty_faith_the_promise_sees
5. Charles Haddon Spurgeon, "The Lion Slayer—The Giant Killer." *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*. 63 Volumes. Pasadena, TX: Pilgrim Publications, 1971, XXI: 510-511. Sermon #1,253, preached on Sunday AM, September 5, 1875, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London.

* In Christ Alone

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, — my
 2. In Christ a - lone, Who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ — in

4
 song; My Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the
 babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the
 slain; Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the
 me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -

7
 fier - est drought — and storm. What heights of love, what depths of
 ones He came — to save. 'Til on the cross as Je - sus
 grave He rose — a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to -
 mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of

10
 peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort - er, my all in
 died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - ry sin on Him was
 ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am His and He is
 man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'Til he re - turns or calls me

14
 all, here in the love of Christ — I stand.
 laid; here in the death of Christ — I live.
 mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 home, here in the pow'r of Christ — I'll stand.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2001

* Sending

Elders will be available to pray with you in the front of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the worship service.

Noah Despinasse will preach next Sunday, September 28th.

Josh Johnson will begin preaching October 5th.

Ben Church will preach October 12th as a part of the Missions Focused weekend.

* Benediction | Romans 15:13 (NIV)

Leader: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

* Postlude

Serving This Morning:

Updates: Andrea Fuller

Liturgist and Pastoral Prayer: Owen McCullough

Reader: Emily Waters

Musicians: Butch Bost, Heather Coleridge, Theron Drayton, Josiah Rogers, Ben Spurgeon, and David Stephenson

Audio/visual and livestream: Don Parker, Joel Rimer

Faith Promise Giving:

LPC fiscal budget year is July 1st to June 30th.

Through the end of July 2025:

General Fund transfer to missions	\$10,000
Carryover for Outreach Committee	\$20,500
Faith Promise Giving:	\$9,316
Missions Disbursements	\$27,844

Stewardship

Through the end of July 2025:

Budget FYTD	\$95,522
Received FYTD	\$108,181
Expenditures FYTD	\$98,001

NOTES:

NOTES:

NOTES:

Connect Card

Thanks for joining us today. We would love to come alongside you in your walk with Jesus, whether you're new to our community or you've been here a while.

Visit lexpreschurch.com/connect or scan the QR code to fill out our Connect Card!

If you're not familiar with QR codes, we're here to help!



1. Open your smartphone's camera and point it at the QR code so that it shows clearly on your screen.
2. Wait for the camera to recognize and scan the QR code.
3. Click the link banner or notification when it pops up on your screen. Our Connect Card will automatically load in your browser.

Women's Ministry website and Facebook group:

<https://lexpreschurch.com/womens-ministry/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LPCWomen>

Youth Ministry Newsletter Subscription

Please, scan this QR Code with your phone camera.





*You're Invited
Installation Service
for Pastor Josh Johnson
October 26, 2024 | 4:00pm
reception following*



*Missions Focused Weekend
with the Church family
October 10-12*



Friday
Family Dinner | 6:00 - 7:30 pm | Tomlin Hall
Saturday
Men's Breakfast | 7:30 - 9:00 am | Tomlin Hall
Ladies' Lunch | 12:00 - 2:00 pm | Tomlin Hall
Sunday
Ben Church preaching | 10:00 worship
Registration required for all meals



CPR/AED CLASS

American Heart Association®

**Saturday, September 27, 2025
9:00am - 12:30pm
Tomlin Hall
Cost - \$25
Max class size - 12**



register here



Flu season is upon us. Flu vaccines provided by Kroger Pharmacy will be available Wednesday, Oct 8th from 5:00-7:30pm in the Welcome Center. Kroger will bill Medicare and most insurance.





midweek reset
wednesdays at 5:30pm
please register



Wednesday Nights
6:15-7:30 pm



Register Now!

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

Children's Desk | 9:45 - 11:15 am
1st Sunday of every odd month
One Adult or a Couple

Email Rebecca Becker
at rbecker@lexpreschurch.com



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