



COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 27th, 2019

We are a gospel-centered church of theological depth,
intimate relationships, joyous worship, relentless evangelism,
and sacrificial service.

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without
wavering, for he who promised is
faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one
another to love and good works, not neglecting
to meet together, as is the habit of some,
but encouraging one another, and all the more
as you see the Day drawing near.*

- Hebrews 10:23-25

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith

Welcome & Information

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith! We are glad that you have come to worship the true and living God with us. Our worship service, in essence, is a covenant renewal ceremony in which the covenant community gathers to hear the covenant promises, which have been secured for us by Christ, and respond in faith. The congregation is not a passive but active participant in the worship service. If you are visiting with us this morning, please complete a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate during the offertory so that we may have a record of your visit.

Parameters: Liturgical colors have an instructional purpose and point us to the life of Christ and the great acts of redemptive history. Green is displayed during "ordinary time" which includes the period between Epiphany and Lent and the period between Pentecost and Advent. Green represents spiritual growth and world missions.

Giving: We give as an act of worship. We give because God first gave to us (1 John 4:10-11). We are to give freely, sacrificially, and abundantly. We encourage you to give during our offertory today as an act of worship of our Almighty God.

Seating: Please be courteous by moving toward the front of the sanctuary providing room in the back for those arriving late.

Restrooms: Restrooms are available at the East-end on the sanctuary level or downstairs at the East-end of the hallway. Please use the restrooms downstairs during the worship service.

Covenant Email List: Please subscribe to our Covenant email list for church information and announcements. <https://tinyletter.com/cpcfcs>

Covenant Church App: Available on Apple and Android devices, download the MyChurchApp, and search for **Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith**.

WEEKLY GIVING SUMMARY

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General fund giving – January 20th: \$5,551

Designated giving: \$225

Total giving: \$5,776

General fund giving (year-to-date): \$29,029

Designated giving (year-to-date): \$890

Total giving: \$29,919

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith

Lord's Day, January 27th, 2019

The prelude is a sacred curtain dropped between the world and the sanctuary. During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

Prelude

Come, Thou Almighty King

Striking of the Hour

Greeting

***Call to Worship¹** (Minister)

Psalm 96:7-9²

Let us worship God.

Minister: *Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!*

* = Please stand if able.

¹We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His invitation and command to us to gather in His name.

²The Bible is the means by which God by the power of the Holy Spirit reveals Himself to His people. We respond to His grace by praising Him through praying, singing, reading, and preaching the Word.

***Song of Ascent (Unison)**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Trinity Hymnal, 53 vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

Scripture Reading³ (Elder)

Isaiah 8:12-13
1 Peter 3:13-17

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Praise (Unison)**

Psalm 34⁴ (vs. 1-4, 14-20)

1. I will at all times bless the Lord and praise him with my voice. I
2. Turn and de-part from e-vil paths and prac-tice what is right. Do
3. God hears the right-eous cry for help and frees them from all woes. You,
5 make my boast in God, the Lord; let hum-ble souls re-joice. O
good and seek the way of peace; O seek with all your might. God's
9 Lord, are near to bro-ken hearts and save the con-trite souls. Man -
let us mag-ni-fy the Lord; ex-alt his name with me. I
eyes are fixed up-on the just; his ears at-tend their plea. He
13 y af-flic-tions plague the just; from all, God sets him free. All
sought the Lord; he an-swered me; from fear he set me free.
sets his face a- gainst the vile, blots out their mem-o-ry.
of his bones the Lord will keep, and none will bro-ken be.

* = Please stand if able.

³The Word of God is sharper than a double-edged sword. When the Word goes out it will not return empty. The Word of God remains forever. Therefore, we read God's Word that God may be glorified and that we may be strengthened as His people.

⁴Psalm 34 has the characteristics of a thanksgiving or wisdom psalm. In the verses that we sing today, we affirm that God is always there for his righteous children, to deliver them from fear and persecution.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation (Elder)

Gloria Patri (Choir)

Confession of Sin (Unison)⁵

Ezra 9:6

O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon (Unison)⁶

Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

* = Please stand if able.

⁵The Bible teaches us to confess our sin to one another. Here, having heard the warning and way of salvation, with the help of the Spirit we corporately confess our sins and our need for the mercy of the Father, which comes only through Jesus Christ.

⁶God has not left us, His people, to wallow in our sin, so we announce and hear the wonderful promises of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

***Hymn of Rejoicing** (Unison)

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Trinity Hymnal, 521 vs. 1-3

Affirmation of Faith (Responsive)

The Nicene Creed

Minister: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

Congregation: of all things visible and invisible.

Minister: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds,

Congregation: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,

Minister: begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;

Congregation: by whom all things were made;

Minister: 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;

Congregation: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried;

Minister: and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

Congregation: and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

Minister: And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

Congregation: who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

Minister: who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

Congregation: and we believe in one holy catholic⁷ and apostolic Church;

Minister: we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

Congregation: and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* = Please stand if able.

⁷The word "catholic" means universal.

Pastoral Prayer of Intercession & Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen*

Worship with Tithes & Offerings⁸

Brother James' Air (Psalm 23)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake;
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be;
and in God's house forever my dwelling place shall be.

*The Doxology (Unison)

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.

* = Please stand if able.

⁸ Brandon Bolin, soloist. Music: James Leith Macbeth Bain. Text: from the Scottish Psalter Arranged by Malcolm Archer. The words are provided for prayerful worship.

Prayer of Dedication

Sermon

Persecution without Fear
Matthew 10:16-33 (Pew Bible, 815)

***Hymn of Response (Unison)**

Benediction
Trinity Hymnal, 730

Pastoral Benediction⁹

Numbers 6:24-26

Minister: *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Postlude

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

* = Please stand if able.

⁹Having proclaimed the glory of God, having confessed our dependence on Him, having sat under the authority of God's Word, we receive God's blessing that we may walk in faith in holiness. Just as God has the first word in worship, He also has the last word. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing. We look up and extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.

NOTES

Persecution without Fear
Matthew 10:16-33 (Pew Bible, 815)

I. Introduction

II. Persecuted Discipleship

III. Identified Discipleship

IV. Fearless Discipleship

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

- Matthew 10:16-33

Announcements & Upcoming Events

February Fellowship Luncheon: Our next Covenant Family Meal will be Sunday, February 3rd after the service in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: lasagna (vegetarian and gluten free option available), salad, and bread. Please bring a dessert.

Ladies Bible Study: Please join us on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for our Ladies Bible Study as we read and discuss *Grace to Stand, Grace to Grow* by Carol J. Ruvolo. The books are \$10. Call the church office for details.

Covenant Theology Class: Our Covenant Theology class taught by Don Weilersbacher will resume in February on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The next class will be Saturday, February 9th.

Nursery Workers:

January 27

Church Service – Josie Taylor & Renee Turner

February 3

Church Service – Gaye Brannon & Ashton Garrett

February 10

Church Service – Lilly Smith & Hilda Porter

February 17

Church Service – Nan Hudson & Maddie Burgin

Staff

Reverend Dr. John Clayton, Minister

Reverend Jason Glover, Asst. Minister of Chaplain Ministry

Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media

Nancy Krehbiel, Director of Women's Ministry, ESL, and Caregiving

Session

Steve Clark, Ruling Elder
John Clayton, Teaching Elder
Jon Hendrickson, Ruling Elder
Mike Hudson, Ruling Elder
Greg Magness, Ruling Elder

Diaconate

Justin Home, Deacon
Brian Maurer, Deacon
Steve Rowland, Deacon
Drake Smith, Deacon
Roger Ayers, Deacon
Greg Bailey, Deacon
Blain Blaylock, Deacon
Greg Hartman, Deacon

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