

DIVINE WORSHIP

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 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive) Based on Psalm 84:4, 145:1

Minister: Blessed are those who dwell in the Lord's house. Come before him in worship, ever singing his praise!

Congregation: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

***SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) All People That on Earth Do Dwell (Psalm 100) Trinity Hymnal, 1

SCRIPTURE READING Ruling Elder

2 Chronicles 6:12-14, 40-42
Hebrews 10:23-25

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) Safely through Another Week

1. Safe - ly through an - oth - er week God has brought us on our way;
 2. While we pray for par - d'ning grace through the dear Re - deem - er's name;
 3. Here we come thy name to praise; let us feel thy pres - ence near;
 4. May thy gos - pel's joy - ful sound con - quer sin - ners, com - fort saints;

5 let us now a bless - ing seek, wait - ing in his courts to - day;
 show thy rec - on - cil - ed face; take a - way our sin and shame;
 may thy glo - ry meet our eyes while we in thy house ap - pear;
 may the fruits of grace a - bound, bring re - lief for all com - plaints;

9 day of all the week the best, em - blem of e - ter - nal rest.
 from our earth - ly cares set free, may we rest this day in thee.
 here af - ford us, Lord, a taste of our ev - er - last - ing feast.
 thus may all our Sab - baths prove, 'til we join the church a - bove.

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Ruling Elder

GLORIA PATRI (Unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Daniel 9:18b-19a

For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)

Romans 5:8-9

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

*HYMN OF REJOICING (Unison)

Blessed Assurance
Trinity Hymnal, 693

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

* = Please stand if able.

**According to the Westminster Larger Catechism, "Christ's humiliation after his death consisted in his being buried, and continuing in the state of the dead, and under the power of death till the third day; which hath been otherwise expressed in these words, *He descended into hell*" (WLC 50).

*** "catholic" refers to the universal church at all times and all places.

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 AND OFFERINGS (Choir)

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deacon

SERMON

Blessed to Worship
Psalm 84 (Pew Bible, 493)

Dr. John Clayton

*HYMN OF RESPONSE (Unison)

Behold Our God

1. Who has held the o - ceans in His hands? Who has num - bered ev' - ry grain of sand?
 2. Who has giv - en coun - sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion an - y of His words?
 3. Who has felt the nails up - on His hand, bear - ing all the guilt of sin - ful man?

5 Kings and na - tions trem - ble at His voice. All cre - a - tion ri - ses to re -
 Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fa - thom all His won - drous
 God e - ter - nal, hum - bled to the grave, Je - sus, Sav - ior, ri - sen now to

9 Chorus
 joyce. Be - hold our God, seat - ed on His throne. Come let us a - dore Him. Be -
 deeds? reign!
 hold our King, noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore Him!

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*PASTORAL BENEDICTION (Minister)

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

Behold Our God

Sermon Notes

Blessing to Worship
Psalm 84 (Pew Bible, 493)

I. Introduction

II. Blessed to Worship

III. Faithful to Worship

IV. Grateful to Worship

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith Welcome & Announcements

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith! We are thankful 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 an 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.

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

Paraments: 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.

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. Parents, please accompany your children to the restroom during the worship service.

Self-service Nursery: Parents who wish to attend to their children outside of the worship service will find a nursery room available downstairs, equipped with a changing table, rocking chairs, toys, and an adjustable-volume speaker to listen to the worship service.

New Sunday School Series: At the conclusion of Peter's second epistle, he commands the church "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 3:18). The command is clear, but the question is: How? Join us for Sunday School, February 12th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall as we consider this question and what we call the ordinary means of grace.

February Fellowship Luncheon: Our next Covenant Family Meal will be Sunday, February 19th after the service in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: pasta buffet, salad, green beans, and bread. Please sign up to bring a dessert. The sign-up sheet is at the back of the sanctuary.

Parish Groups: Our Parish Groups will not meet in February.

Covenant Game Night: Our next Game Night is Saturday, February 25th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To reserve your spot, please contact Marian Henry at 918-728-5844 so she can coordinate the food.

Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – February 5th: \$17,938
Designated giving: \$150
Total giving: \$18,088

General fund giving (YTD): \$70,076
Designated giving (YTD): \$270
Total giving (YTD): \$70,346

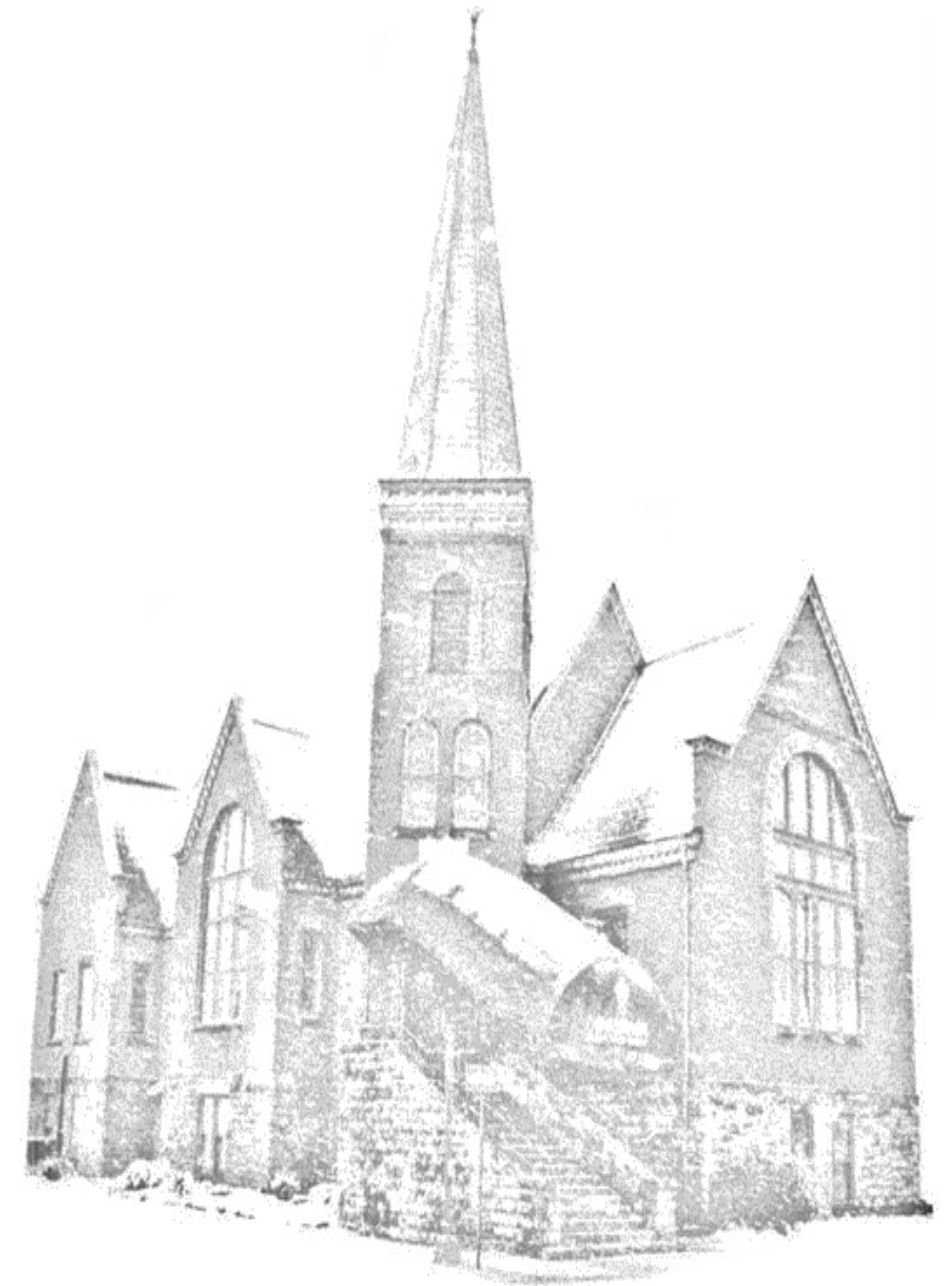
Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – yclayton@cpdfs.org
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – bbolin@cpdfs.org
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – sclayton@cpdfs.org

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Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, February 12, 2023

10:30 A.M.

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name,
O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night" (Psalm 92:1,2)

120 North 9th Street, 72901