

# 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** (Handbells)

*The Strife Is O'er*

**STRIKING OF THE HOUR**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive)

Based on 1 Peter 1:3, 2:9; Luke 24:34

**Minister:** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

**Congregation:** He has called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.

**Minister:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Congregation:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**\*SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison)

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*  
Trinity Hymnal, 277 vs. 1-4

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Ruling Elder

*Psalm 22:1-21*  
*Luke 24:1-12*

**Elder:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison)

*Praise Him! Praise Him!*  
Trinity Hymnal, 173

**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)

Psalm 130:1-2

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

**SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (Unison)

Isaiah 53:5

[Christ] was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

**\*HYMN OF REJOICING** (Unison)

*Join All the Glorious Names*  
Trinity Hymnal, 301 vs. 1, 2, 3, 5

**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.

**PASTORAL PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

\* = 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**

**\*DOXOLOGY** (Unison)

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Deacon

**SERMON**

*Tell the Truth*  
Psalm 22:22-31 (Pew Bible, 458)

Dr. John Clayton

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison)

*Crown Him with Many Crowns vs. 1, 2, 3, 5*

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark!  
2. Crown him the Lord of life, tri - um - phant o'er the grave, who  
3. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side, rich  
4. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways from  
5. Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time; Cre -  
how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own: a -  
rose vic - to - rious from the - strife for those he came to save. His  
wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied: no  
pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise: his  
a - tor of the roll - ing - spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime: all  
wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
glo - ries now we sing, who died and reigns on high; he  
an - gel in the sky, can ful - ly bear that sight, but  
reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet fair  
hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me: thy  
hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
flow'rs of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

**\*PASTORAL BENECTION** (Responsive)

Revelation 1:4-5

**Minister:** *Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.*

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

# Sermon Notes

*Tell the Truth*

Psalm 22:22-31 (Pew Bible, 458)

## I. Introduction

## II. Tell the Truth

## III. Tell Your Brother

## IV. Tell the World

# 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 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.

**Paraments:** Liturgical colors have an instructional purpose and point us to the life of Christ and the great acts of redemptive history. White paraments adorn the pulpit and communion table during the celebration of Christmas, Easter, and other days to represent the purity of Christ and the joy and peace believers find in Him.

**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.

**Nursery:** We now have a nursery available starting at 9:00 a.m. for Sunday School and the worship service for children ages birth to 3 years old.

**Prayer Ministry:** If you have a prayer request that you would like the church to pray for, you can send your request to [pray@cpcfs.org](mailto:pray@cpcfs.org). Your prayer request will be sent out in our weekly prayer ministry email. If you would like to receive the weekly prayer email, please go to <https://tinyletter.com/cpcfs-prays>.

**Volunteers Needed:** Each Sunday morning as we gather in worship, volunteers serve us in worship by running our video slides and soundboard. We all benefit from this service. Out of gratitude to current volunteers and to the benefit of our fellow-members, we need more volunteers. As of today, we need four more volunteers. To be clear, no specific experience is necessary, even on the soundboard. So, please consider serving the church by volunteering today. Please contact Brandon Bolin at [bbolin@cpcfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpcfs.org) or call (479) 242-7737.

**VBS Dates and Age Change:** Our dates for VBS have changed to June 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> for ages 4 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We need lots of volunteers, and children over 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to help.

**Communicant's Class:** The Communicant process is for students in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades who are interested in learning more about church membership. The class is five weeks during the Sunday School hour and this year will be April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>. Each student is paired with an Elder-Sponsor who shepherds them throughout the Communicant process whether or not they choose to join the church. For more information, please call the church office.

**Sunday School Coordinator:** If you have the gifts of organization and administration and are looking for a place to serve, please contact the church office regarding our Sunday School Coordinator position.

**Spring Fellowship Luncheon:** Our next Covenant Family Meal will be next Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> after the service in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: Chicken and Beef tacos, Mexican rice, and refried beans. Please bring a dessert.

**Covenant Game Night:** Our next Game Night is Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:30 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 – April 2nd: \$12,536

Designated giving: \$120

Total giving: \$12,656

General fund giving (YTD): \$144,138

Designated giving (YTD): \$600

Total giving (YTD): \$144,738

## Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – [jjclayton@cpcfs.org](mailto:jjclayton@cpcfs.org)

Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpcfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpcfs.org)

Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – [sclayton@cpcfs.org](mailto:sclayton@cpcfs.org)

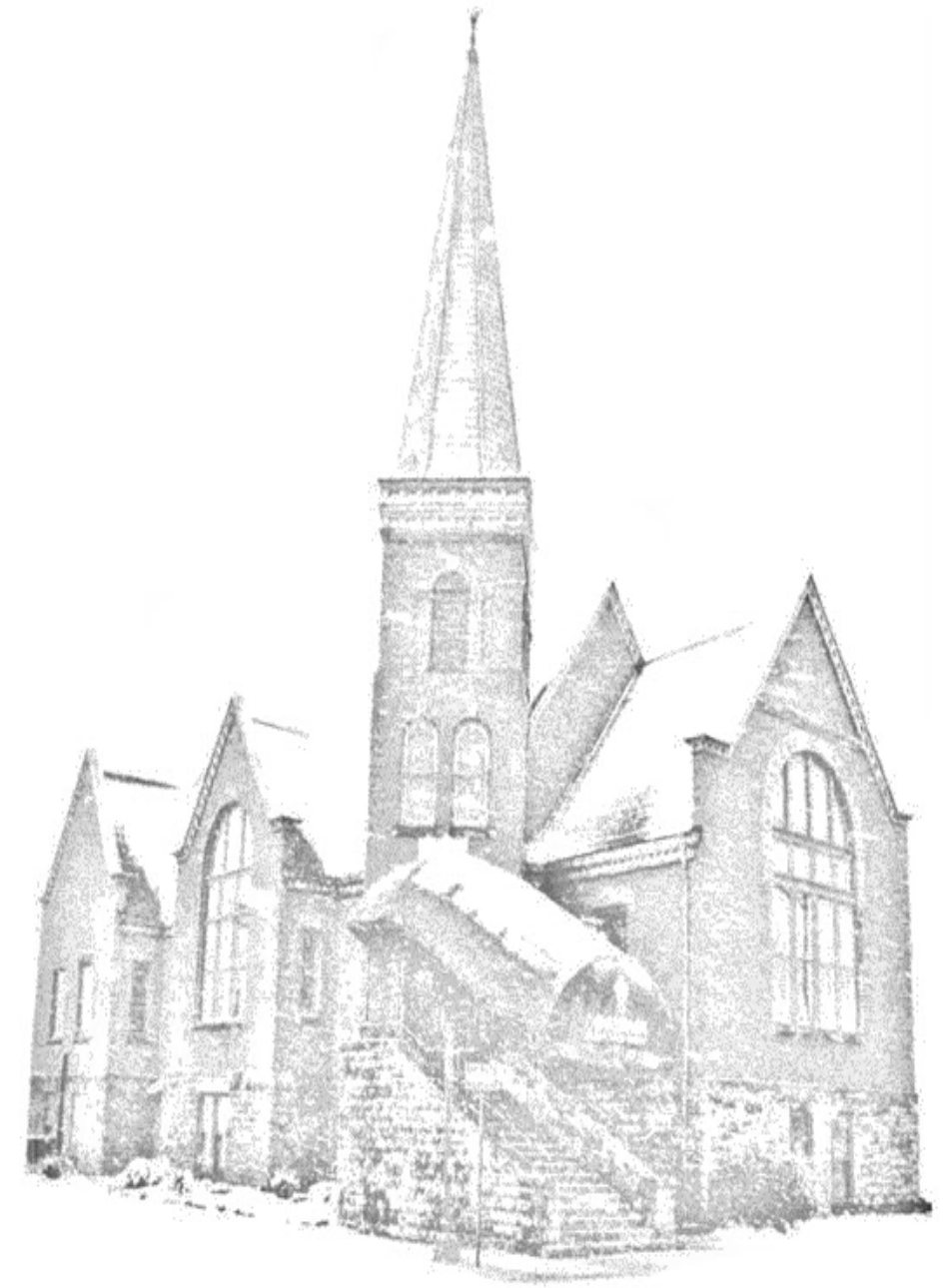
Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA) \* 120 N 9<sup>th</sup> Fort Smith, AR 72901

Office (479) 242-PRES

[www.cpcfs.org](http://www.cpcfs.org)

# Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



## Easter Sunday, April 9, 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 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 72901