



# COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Easter Sunday

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*

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**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.

**Easter:** Easter, or Resurrection Sunday, is the Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. In the western tradition, the Easter Season begins on Easter Sunday and lasts seven weeks, ending on Pentecost Sunday.

**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.

**Baptism:** Today, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the covenant child baptisms of *Greta Edel Meacham*, daughter of *Aaron and Adair Meacham*. Please be in prayer in preparation for today's baptism.

*The Westminster Larger Catechism* reminds us: "The needful but much neglected duty of improving our baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others" (Question 167).

**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/cpcf>

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

### WEEKLY GIVING SUMMARY

**General fund giving – April 14th: \$9,543**

**Designated giving: \$250**

**Total giving: \$9,793**

**General fund giving (year-to-date): \$136,642**

**Designated giving (year-to-date): \$2,539**

**Total giving: \$139,181**

# Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith

## Easter, April 21st, 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.)*

### Striking of the Hour

**Prelude** (Handbell Ensemble)

*All Hail the Risen King!*

### Greeting

**\*Call to Worship**<sup>1</sup> (Responsive)

Isaiah 12<sup>2</sup>

Let us worship God.

**Minister:** I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

**Congregation:** Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

**Minister:** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

**Congregation:** Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

**Minister:** Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

**Congregation:** Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

\* = Please stand if able.

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

<sup>2</sup>The 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 Bible.

**\*Song of Ascent (Unison)**

*Worship Christ, the Risen King*  
Trinity Hymnal, 286 vs. 1-4

**Scripture Reading<sup>3</sup> (Elder)**

*Isaiah 57:15*  
*Luke 23:50-24:10*

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

**\*Hymn of Praise (Unison)**

*Psalm 16<sup>4</sup> vs. 8-11*

Tune: Crown Him with Many Crowns



1. I keep be - fore me still the Lord whom I have proved; at  
2. For you will not for - sake my soul un - to the grave, nor  
5 my right hand he guards from ill, and I shall not be moved. My  
will you leave your Ho - ly One to see the tomb's de - cay. Life's  
9 heart is there - fore glad; my tongue with joy will sing. My  
path - way you make known, full joy of bound - less store is  
13 bod - y, too, will rest se - cure in hope un - wav - er - ing.  
found with you; at your right hand are plea - sures ev - er - more.

\* = Please stand if able.

<sup>3</sup>The 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.

<sup>4</sup>Psalm 16 is an expression of trust in the Lord. The verses we sing today speak of deliverance from death, and, though words of David, they find their ultimate fulfillment in the resurrection of Jesus, the Son of David, as testified by both Peter and Paul in the book of Acts.

**Prayer of Adoration and Invocation (Elder)**

**Gloria Patri (Choir)**

**Confession of Sin (Unison)<sup>5</sup>**

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)<sup>6</sup>**

Romans 5:8

*God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

<sup>5</sup>The 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.

<sup>6</sup>God 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)**

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

**Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

*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.<sup>7</sup>  
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<sup>8</sup> church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**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*

\* = Please stand if able.

<sup>7</sup>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).

<sup>8</sup>The word "catholic" means universal.

**\*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.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon**

*The Necessity of Grace*  
 Luke 16:19-31 (Pew Bible, 876)

**\*Hymn of Preparation (Unison)**

*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 bo - dy 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  
 song; This Cor - ner - stone, this so - lid ground, Firm through the fier - est drought and  
 babe. This gift of love and right - eous - ness Scorned by the ones He came to  
 slain. Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious day, Up from the grave He rose a -  
 8 me. From life's first cry to fi - nal breath Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -  
 storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace When fears are stilled, when stri - vings  
 save; 'Til on that cross as Je - sus died The wrath of God was sat - is -  
 gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry Sin's curse has lost its grip on  
 12 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man Can ev - er pluck me from His  
 cease; My Com - for - ter, my All in All; Here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 fied; For ev - ery sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I libe.  
 me; For I am His and He is mine, Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ!  
 hand; 'Til he re - turns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

\* = Please stand if able.

<sup>9</sup>The Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend; arranged by Bruce Greer.

## Sacrament of Baptism

\*Hymn of Response (Unison)

*Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed*

1. Won - der of won - ders, here re - vealed;  
2. This child of God, though young or old,  
3. Now we our vow of faith re - new,  
God's cov - e - nant with us is sealed.  
we wel - come now in - to Christ's fold,  
9 stretch wide our sights to glo - bal view,  
And long be - fore we know or pray,  
to know with us God's lov - ing care;  
13 and claim with Chris - tians far - and near  
God's love en - folds us ev - ery day.  
here all our joys and sor - rows share.  
a larg - er fam - i - ly held dear.

**Pastoral Benediction**<sup>10</sup>

2 Corinthians 13:14

**Minister:** *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

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

**Postlude**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

\* = Please stand if able.

<sup>10</sup>Having 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**

*The Necessity of Grace*

Luke 16:19-31 (Pew Bible, 876)

### **I. Introduction**

### **II. The Reality of Eternity**

### **III. The Certainty of Scripture**

### **IV. The Necessity of Grace**

*“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”*

*- Luke 16:19-31*

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Women's Evening Bible Study:** *The Envy of Eve* book study will meet Thursday night, April 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall...come early to visit over coffee.

**Spring Fellowship Luncheon:** Mark your calendar for our Spring Fellowship Luncheon following the service on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please bring desserts.

**College Ministry:** It's that time again...Care package deadline for our college students is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your items to the Fellowship Hall or the church office.

**Community Groups:** Our next Community Group will be May 5th at 5:30 p.m. We will continue our study using David Gibson's *Living Life Backward: How Ecclesiastes Teaches Us to Live in Light of the End*. For information about Community Groups, please call the church office.

**Costa Rica Mission Trip Meeting:** If you would like more information about our possible mission trip to Costa Rica, please join us for an informational meeting on Thursday, May 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Covenant Fellowship Hall.

### Nursery Workers:

**April 28**

**Church Service** – Kris Bush & Lilly Smith

**May 5**

**Church Service** – Angel Hartman & Ashton Garrett

### 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

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

Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA) \* 120 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fort Smith, AR 72901 \* (479) 242-7737 \* [cpcfs.org](http://cpcfs.org)