

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 *Now Thank We All Our God*

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Minister)** Based on Matthew 3:17; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 21

Of Christ, the Father said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Beloved, because you are in Christ, and Christ is God's, and God's Spirit dwells in you, he will be pleased with your worship. Worship the triune Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

***SONG OF ASCENT (Unison)** *We Gather Together*
Trinity Hymnal, 363

SCRIPTURE READING Ruling Elder

1 Kings 9:1-9
Colossians 3:12-17

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE (Unison)** *Psalm 101*

1. Of mer - cy and of jus - tice, O Lord, I'll sing to thee. In
 2. I will per - mit no base thing be - fore my eyes to be. I
 3. I'll cut off him who slan - ders his neigh - bor se - cret - ly; I'll
 4. No man of works de - ceit - ful with - in my house shall dwell; nor
 up - right - ness and wis - dom shall my be - hav - ior be. O
 hate un - faith - ful do - ing; it shall not cleave to me. The
 not en - dure the proud heart nor eyes that haught - y be. My
 in my sight shall tar - ry a man who lies will tell. Each
 when in lov - ing - kind - ness wilt thou to me come near? I'll
 man whose heart is fro - ward shall from my pres - ence go; and
 eyes are with the faith - ful that he may dwell with me; the
 morn - ing with des - truc - tion the wick - ed I'll re - ward, to
 walk with - in my dwell - ing with heart and life sin - cere.
 noth - ing that is e - vil will I con - sent to know.
 man whose walk is up - right my min - is - ter shall be.
 free from e - vil - do - ers the ci - ty of the Lord.

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)** *Ye Servants of God,
Your Master Proclaim*
Trinity Hymnal, 165 vs. 1-3

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

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 *A Godly Example* Dr. John Clayton
Psalm 101 (Pew Bible, 501)

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** *Be Thou My Vision*
Trinity Hymnal, 642 vs. 1-4

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,
 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;
 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 (Minister)** Numbers 6:24-26

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 *Baptized into Your Name Most Holy*

* = 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.

Sermon Notes

A Godly Example
Psalm 101 (Pew Bible, 501)

I. Introduction

II. Celebrate Singingly

III. Pursue Piety

IV. Uproot Unrighteousness

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. 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.

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@cpafs.org or call (479) 242-7737.

VBS June 19th-21st: Parents, VBS child registration begins soon. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help. In addition to these volunteers, we will also need volunteers for set up on Sunday, June 18th. If you have any questions regarding VBS, please contact Liddia Bourlon.

Communicant's Class: The Communicant process is for students in 6th-12th 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 30th, May 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. 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.

Sacrament of Baptism: Today, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the covenant child baptism of *Harry David Feero*, son of *Ryan and Katie Feero*. 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; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body" (Question 167).

Ministry Staff

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

Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA) * 120 N 9th Fort Smith, AR 72901

Office (479) 242-PRES
www.cpafs.org

Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, April 23, 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