

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 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Minister)** Isaiah 12:4-6

“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. “Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

***SONG OF ASCENT (Unison)** *We Come, O Christ to You*
Trinity Hymnal, 181

SCRIPTURE READING Ruling Elder

Isaiah 49:1-6
John 14:6

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE (Unison)** *To God Be the Glory*
Trinity Hymnal, 55

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)** *The Apostles' Creed*

PASTORAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND 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*

SERMON *The Way* Dr. John Clayton
John 3:16-21 (Pew Bible, 888)

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

***HYMN OF RESPONSE (Unison)** *Benediction*
Trinity Hymnal, 730

***PASTORAL BENEDICTION (Minister)** Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE *O Love of God, How Strong and True*

Sermon Notes

The Way

John 3:16-21 (Pew Bible, 888)

I. Introduction

II. The Way of Love

III. The Way through Faith

IV. The Way to Life

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.

Lord's Supper: We will be observing the Lord's Supper this morning. We ask that you begin now examining yourself and preparing your heart to celebrate the sacrament. If you are not a member of Covenant, you are welcome to celebrate the sacrament with us if you have made a credible profession of faith in Christ, have been baptized, and are in good standing with a like-kind Protestant church.

Benevolence Giving: We take up a separate offering for benevolence on the Lord's Supper Sunday (first Sunday of each month). Please designate benevolence gifts on your giving envelope and place it in the benevolence box at the back of the sanctuary.

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.

Worship Service: For the Sunday morning services in May, we will temporarily move to two services. The first service at 9:00 will be a **masks-required** service. The second service at 10:30 will be a **masks-optional** service. There will be no Sunday School during May.

Prayer Ministry: If you have a prayer request that you would like the church to pray for, you can send your request to pray@cpfcs.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/cpcfcs-prays>.

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 6 - Events at the Sebastian County Courthouse and elsewhere in the area can be found here: <https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/>

Women in the Church 'Time Under the Tree': Our next gatherings will be Wednesdays May 5th and May 19th at 11:30 am. Bring a lawn chair and lunch and enjoy spending time together under the tree at Tilles Park off of Grand Ave. We will meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month through the summer

Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – April 25th: \$4,762
Designated giving: \$40
Total giving: \$4,042

General fund giving (YTD): \$169,542
Designated giving (YTD): \$1,353
Total giving (YTD): \$170,895

Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – jclayton@cpfcs.org
Rev. Jason Glover, Asst. Minister of Chaplain Ministry
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – bbolin@cpfcs.org
Nancy Krehbiel, Director of Women's Ministry, ESL,
& Counseling – nkrehbiel@cpfcs.org
Greg and Angel Hartman, Directors of Children's Ministry
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – sclayton@cpfcs.org

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Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, May 2, 2021

9:00 A.M. & 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