



COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 28th, 2019

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

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.

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.

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/cpcfs>

WEEKLY GIVING SUMMARY

General fund giving – July 21st: \$6,794

Designated giving: \$0

Total giving: \$6,794

General fund giving (year-to-date): \$235,559

Designated giving (year-to-date): \$4,580

Total giving: \$240,139

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith

Lord's Day, July 28th, 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.)*

Prelude

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word

Striking of the Hour

Greeting

***Call to Worship (Minister)**

Psalm 100

Let us worship God.

Minister: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

* = Please stand if able.

***Song of Ascent (Unison)**

Psalm 100

1. Shout to the Lord, all earth, and make a joy - ful noise! With
2. En - ter his gates with thanks, and fill his courts with praise. Give
5 glad - ness serve the Lord your God; be - fore him lift your voice! Now
thanks to him, and bless his name; to God your voic - es raise. Be -
9 know the Lord is God. He made us, we are his, his
cause the Lord is good, his stead - fast love en - dures; from
13 peo - ple and his sheep, who safe - ly in his pas - ture graze.
age to age, for - ev - er - more, his faith - ful - ness is sure.

Scripture Reading

Elder Mike Hudson

Isaiah 6:9-10

John 8:38-47

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Praise (Unison)**

Every Promise of Your Word vs. 1,3,4

1. From the break - ing of the dawn to the set - ting of the sun, I will
2. When I stum - ble and I sin, con-dem - na - tion press - ing in, I will
3. When I'm faced with an - guished choice, I will lis - ten for Your voice, and I'll
4. Hope that lifts me from de - spair, love that casts out ev - 'ry fear, as I

stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ Words of pow - er, strong to save, that will
stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ You are faith - ful to for - give, that in
stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ Thru' this dark and trou - bled land, You will
stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ Not for - sa - ken, not a - lone, for the

nev - er pass a - way. I will stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ For Your
free - dom I might live. So I stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ Guilt to
guide me with Your hand. As I stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ And You've
Com - for - ter has come, and I stand on ev-'ry prom-ise of Your Word. _____ Grace suf -

cov - e - nant is sure, and on this I am se - cure I can stand on ev-'ry
in - no - cence re - stored. You re - mem - ber sins no more, so I'll stand on ev-'ry
prom - ised to com - plete ev - 'ry work be - gun in me. So I'll stand on ev-'ry
fi - cient, grace for me, grace for all who will be - lieve. We will stand on ev-'ry

prom - ise of Your Word. _____
prom - ise of Your Word. _____
prom - ise of Your Word. _____
prom - ise of Your Word. _____

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Elder Mike Hudson

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)

Ezra 9:6

*O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our
iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the
heavens.*

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon (Unison)

Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

***Hymn of Rejoicing (Unison)**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Trinity Hymnal, 521

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.
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 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*

Worship with Tithes & Offerings

Speak, O Lord

Words & Music by Keith Getty
& Stuart Townend

*Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.
Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—let their truth prevail over unbelief.
Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.*

***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

Deacon Roger Ayers

Sermon

The Purpose of Parables
Matthew 13:10-17 (Pew Bible, 818)

Dr. John Clayton

***Hymn of Response (Unison)**

Benediction
Trinity Hymnal, 730

Pastoral Benediction

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

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

NOTES

The Purpose of Parables
Matthew 13:10-17 (Pew Bible, 818)

I. Gift

II. Grace

III. Grandeur

Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that

says:

*““You will indeed hear but never understand,
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”*

For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’

But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

- Matthew 13:10-17

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Covenant Fine Arts Series: Our next concert, *Die Heilige Musik*, a recital of opera and musical theater by Esther Atkinson, a Masters student of the Maryland Opera Studio at the University of Maryland, is Saturday, August 10th at 6:00 p.m. Please invite your friends and plan to join us.

Choir: Choir will meet August 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the choir loft. New members are welcome. For more information email Brandon at bbolin@cpcfs.org.

Nursery Workers:

July 28

Church Service – Patti Hudson & Teresa Parker

August 4

Church Service – Hannah Bush & Abby Krehbiel

August 11

Church Service – Caroline King & Sydney Clayton

Staff

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

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