

# 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** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

## STRIKING OF THE HOUR

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Minister) Based on Psalm 28:7

**Minister:** *The Lord is your strength and your shield; in him let your heart trust, in him let your heart exult, to him give thanks with your song.*

**\*SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory*  
Trinity Hymnal, 122 vs. 1-3

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ruling Elder

*Psalm 53:1-3*  
*Romans 5:6-8*

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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) *O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry (Psalm 51)*  
Trinity Hymnal, 485 vs. 1-4

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION** Ruling Elder

**GLORIA PATRI** (Unison) Trinity Hymnal, 734

**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)

*The Apostles' Creed*

1. I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther, Ma-ker of the heav'n and earth, and in  
2. Suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, cru-ci-fied, en-dur-ing hell, laid with-  
3. At God's right hand he is seat-ed, 'til his com-ing, as he said; fin-al  
4. I be-lieve the church of Je-sus ho-ly, cath-o-lic re-mains; we are  
Je-sus Christ, our Sav-ior, God's own Son, of match-less worth; by the  
in the grave so si-lent, as the proph-ets did fore-tell. But the  
judg-ment will be met-ed to the liv-ing and the dead. I con-  
one thro' all the ag-es, the com-mun-ion of the saints. I be-  
Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiv-ed, vir-gin Mar-y bore God's Son, he in  
stone-sealed tomb was emp-tied on the third day; he a-rose: in-to  
fess the Ho-ly Spir-it has been sent thro' Christ the Son to ap-  
lieve sins are for-giv-en, that our bod-ies will be raised, life with  
whom I have be-liev-ed: God Al-might-y, Three in One.  
heav-en made his en-try, Might-y Con-queror of his foes.  
ply sal-va-tion's mer-it; God the Spir-it, Three in One.  
God is nev-er end-ed. A-men, let his name be praised.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION** Minister

**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** (Choir)  
*Speak, O Lord*

**\*DOXOLOGY** (Unison)

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Deacon

**SERMON** *When Everything Sad Comes Untrue* Dr. John Clayton  
Ecclesiastes 7:15-29 (Pew Bible, 556-557)

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** *I Need Thee Every Hour*  
Trinity Hymnal, 674 vs. 1-4

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**Invitation and Instruction**

**Words of Institution**

\* = Please stand if able.

\*\*=*Sursum Corda* means "Lift up your hearts." Its liturgical use dates back at least to the third century.

**Sursum Corda\*\*** (Responsive)

**Minister:** *The Lord be with you.*  
**Congregation:** *And with your spirit.*  
**Minister:** *Lift up your hearts.*  
**Congregation:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*  
**Minister:** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*  
**Congregation:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

**The Sanctus** (Unison)

*Holy, Holy, Holy,  
Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!*

**Prayer of Consecration**

**Prayer of Humble Access** (Unison)

*We do not presume to come to this your table,  
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your abundant and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up  
the crumbs under your table;  
but you are the same Lord  
whose character is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

**Distribution of the Elements**

**Ministration of Communion**

**Post Communion Prayer** (Unison)

*Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out to do the work  
you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

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

**\*BENEDICTION** Hebrews 13:20-21

**Congregational Response:** Thanks be to God! Amen

**POSTLUDE** *In Christ Alone*

## Sermon Notes

*When Everything Sad Comes Untrue*  
Ecclesiastes 7:15-29 (Pew Bible, 556-557)

### I. Introduction

### II. The Inequity of Sin

### III. The Problem of Sin

### IV. The Folly of Sin

## 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.

**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.

**Prayer Ministry:** If you have a prayer request, please send your request to [pray@cpdfs.org](mailto:pray@cpdfs.org). If you would like to receive the prayer email, please go to <https://tinyletter.com/cpdfs-prays>.

**Nursery Volunteers:** As our nursery grows, we need nursery worker volunteers. If you are willing to serve on a volunteer rotation, please contact Sydney at the church office (479-242-7737) to sign-up.

**Media Volunteers:** Volunteers are needed to run sound, slides, or the livestream on Sunday mornings. No experience is necessary. Please email Brandon at [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org) or call the church office (479-242-7737) for more information.

**Membership:** The Session will be conducting membership interviews on Sunday mornings in August and September. If you are interested in becoming a member, please first watch our Membership Matters videos (<https://cpdfs.org/intimate-relationships/membership/membership-matters>) and then call the church office to schedule your interview.

**Fellowship Luncheon:** Save the date of August 27<sup>th</sup> for our end of summer fellowship luncheon. More details to come.

### Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – July 23rd: \$4,226  
Designated giving: \$0  
Total giving: \$4,226

General fund giving (YTD): \$295,688  
Designated giving (YTD): \$1,250  
Total giving (YTD): \$296,938

### Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – [jclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:jclayton@cpdfs.org)  
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org)  
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – [sclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:sclayton@cpdfs.org)

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

## Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith, Arkansas



## Lord's Day, July 30, 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