

LORD'S DAY 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 *HYFRYDOL*
Fort Smith Firefighters Pipe and Drum Corps

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Minister) Based on Psalm 107:1-3

Minister: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! Let them extol him in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

***SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *All People That on Earth Do Dwell (Psalm 100)*
Trinity Hymnal, 1
Text: William Kethe (d. 1594)

SCRIPTURE READING Ruling Elder

Psalm 16:1-2, 5-6
Hebrews 11:4-12, 17-40

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) *Psalm 23*
Text: Sing Psalms (Free Church of Scotland, 2003)
Music: Alex J. MacDonald (b. 1949) & Isobel Gordon (b. 1969)

1. The Lord is my shep-herd; no want shall I know. He makes me lie down where the green pas-tures grow; He leads me to rest where the calm wa-ters flow.
2. My wan-der-ing steps he brings back to his way, in straight paths of right-eous-ness mak-ing me stay; And this he has done his great name to dis-play.
3. Tho' I walk in death's val-ley, where dark-ness is near, be-cause you are with me, no e-vil I'll fear; Your rod and your staff bring me com-fort and cheer.
4. In the sight of my en'-mies a ta-ble you spread. The oil of re-joic-ing you pour on my head; my cup o-ver-flows and I'm gra-cious-ly fed.
5. So sure-ly your cov-e-nant mer-cy and grace will fol-low me close-ly in all of my ways; I will dwell in the house of the Lord all my days.

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION Ruling Elder

GLORIA PATRI (Unison) Trinity Hymnal, 734

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) *Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ*
Trinity Hymnal, 524
Text: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Minister) *The Scots Confession, Chapter 9*

[We acknowledge and confess] that our Lord Jesus Christ offered Himself a voluntary sacrifice unto his Father for us; that He suffered contradiction of sinners; that He was wounded and plagued for our transgressions; that He being the clean and innocent Lamb of God, was damned in the presence of an earthly judge, that we might be absolved before the tribunal seat of our God; that He suffered not only the cruel death of the cross (which was accused by the sentence of God), but also that He suffered for a season the wrath of his Father, which sinners had deserved. But yet we avow, that He remained the only and well-beloved and blessed Son of his Father, even in the midst of his anguish and torment, which He suffered in body and soul, to make the full satisfaction for the sins of his people. After the which, we confess and avow, that there remains no other sacrifice for sins; which if any affirm, we nothing doubt to avow that they are blasphemers against Christ's death, and the everlasting purgation and satisfaction purchased to us by the same.

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 *Abide with Me*
Fort Smith Firefighters Pipe and Drum Corps

***DOXOLOGY** (Unison) Trinity Hymnal, 731

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Deacon

SERMON *A Heritage of Faith* Dr. John Clayton
Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16, 39-40; 12:1-2 (Pew Bible, 1007-1008)

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison) *Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground*
Trinity Hymnal, 518
Text: Ralph Wardlaw (1779-1853)

***BENEDICTION** 1 Kings 8:57-58

Congregational Response: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE *Amazing Grace*
Fort Smith Firefighters Pipe and Drum Corps

Sermon Notes

A Heritage of Faith

Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16, 39-40; 12:1-2 (Pew Bible, 1007-1008)

I. Introduction

II. A Picture of Faith

III. A Gift of Faith

IV. A Heritage of Faith

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. 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.

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.

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 or call the church office for more information.

Nursery Volunteers: As our nursery grows, we need nursery worker volunteers. If you are willing to serve on a volunteer rotation, please contact the church office to sign-up.

Sunday School Volunteer: We need a volunteer to teach our 1st and 2nd graders in Sunday School. If you would be interested in teaching or being on a rotation to teach, please call the church office or contact Renee Turner.

Fellowship Luncheon: Save the date of August 27th for our end of summer "Picnic" Fellowship Luncheon. Our menu is fried chicken, potato salad, pasta salad, coleslaw, baked beans, and biscuits. Please bring a dessert.

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.

Presbyterian Heritage Sunday: Today we are celebrating our first Presbyterian Heritage Sunday looking back with thanksgiving for the rich Christian heritage we enjoy. Presbyterianism is the direct descendent of the Church of Scotland, which began officially upon the Scottish parliament's adoption of the Scots Confession, or *Confessio Scotiana Prior*, on August 17, 1560. The confession was written by John Knox, John Winram, John Spottiswoode, John Willock, John Douglas, and John Row, who wrote in the introduction, "Long have we thirsted, dear brethren, to have notified unto the world the sum of that doctrine which we profess and for which we have sustained infamy and danger. But such has been the rage of Satan against us and against Christ Jesus His eternal verity, lately borne among us that to this day no time has been granted unto us to clear our consciences, as most gladly we would have done. ...But seeing that of the infinite goodness of our God (which never suffers His afflicted utterly to be confounded) above expectation, we have obtained some rest and liberty, [and] we could not but set forth this brief and plain confession of such doctrine as is propounded unto us, and as we believe and profess ... For God we take to record in our conscience, that from our hearts we abhor all sects of heresy and all teachers of erroneous doctrine, and that with all humility we embrace the purity of Christ's gospel, which is the only food of our souls—and, therefore, so precious unto us, that we are determined to suffer the extremity of worldly danger, rather than that we will suffer our selves to be defrauded of the same. For hereof we are most certainly persuaded, that whosoever denies Christ Jesus or is ashamed of Him in the presence of me, will be denied before the Father, and before His holy angels. And, therefore, by the assistance of the mighty Spirit of the same our Lord Jesus, we firmly purpose to abide to the end in the confession of this our faith..."

Ministry Staff

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

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

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

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

August 20, 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)