



# COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*August 11<sup>th</sup>, 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*

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**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 – September 1st: \$9,293**

**Designated giving: \$270**

**Total giving: \$9,563**

**General fund giving (year-to-date): \$271,187**

**Designated giving (year-to-date): \$5,376**

**Total giving: \$276,563**

# **Covenant Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith**

## **Lord's Day, August 11th, 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**

*Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

**Striking of the Hour**

**Greeting**

**\*Call to Worship (Minister)**

Psalm 32:10-11

Let us worship God.

**Minister:** Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

\* = Please stand if able.

**\*Song of Ascent (Unison)**

*God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory*  
(Trinity Hymnal, 122)

**Scripture Reading**

Elder Greg Magness

*Isaiah 55:6-11*  
*1 Thessalonians 2:10-13*

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

**\*Hymn of Praise (Unison)**

*Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

1. Je - sus, thou joy changed of lov - ing hearts, thou  
2. Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; thou  
3. We taste thee, O thou liv - ing bread, and  
4. Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, where -  
5. O Je - sus ev - er with us stay, make

5  
fount of life, thou light of men,  
sav - est those that on thee call;  
long to our feast that up - on thee call;  
e'er to our change - ful - ments on thee still;  
all our mo - ments lot calm is cast;  
and bright,

9  
from the best that bliss seek that earth im - parts good, we  
to them that of thy seek thee, thou art in - parts good, we  
we drink when thy that thee, thou art in - parts good, we  
glad when the dark gra - night the foun - tain - head, and  
chase the the dark night of sin we a - way, blest  
shed

13  
turn un - filled to thee thee \_\_\_\_\_ a - gain.  
them that find to thee all \_\_\_\_\_ in - all.  
thirst our souls from thee \_\_\_\_\_ to fill.  
when our faith can hold \_\_\_\_\_ thee fast.  
o'er the world thy ho - ly light.

**Prayer of Adoration and Invocation**

Elder Greg Magness

**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 53:6

*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own  
way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

**\*Hymn of Rejoicing (Unison)**

Psalm 103 vs. 1, 3, 4

1. Bless the Lord, my soul, my whole heart ev - er bless His ho - ly name. Bless the  
2. Who with love and mer - cy crowns thee, Sat - is - fies thy mouth with good, So that  
3. He made known His ways to Mos - es, and His acts to Is - r'el's race; ten - der  
4. For as high as is the heav - en, far a - bove the earth be - low, ev - er

5 Lord, my soul; for - get not all His mer - cies to pro - claim. Who for -  
e - ven like the ea - gle Thou art blessed with youth re - newed. In His  
9 lov - ing is Je - ho - vah Slow to an - ger, rich in grace. He will  
great to them that fear Him is the mer - cy He will show. Far as -  
gives all thy trans - gress - ions, thy dis - eas - es all Who heals; Who re -  
right - eous - ness Je - ho - vah Will de - liv - er those dis - tressed; He will  
not for - ev - er chide us Nor will keep His an - ger still, Has not  
13 east from west is dis - tant He has put a - way our sin; like the  
deems thee from des - truc - tion, Who with thee so kind - ly deals.  
ex - e - cute just judg - ment In the cause of all op - pressed.  
dealt as we of - fen - ded Nor re - quit - ed us our ill.  
pit - y of a fa - ther has Je - ho - vah's pit - y been.

**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.

\*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).

## **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**

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*  
Esther Atkinson, mezzo-soprano  
Stephen Atkinson, piano

### **\*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 Brian Maurer

**Sermon**

*Faith Comes from Hearing*  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (Pew Bible, 818)

Dr. John Clayton

**\*Hymn of Response (Unison)**

*Benediction*  
Trinity Hymnal, 730

**Benediction**

Numbers 6:24-26

**Leader:** *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**

*Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast*

## **NOTES**

*Faith Comes from Hearing*  
Matthew 13:1-9,18-23 (Pew Bible, 818)

### **I. Introduction**

### **II. Seed as the Word**

### **III. Sower of the Word**

### **IV. Soil for the Word**

*That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

*He who has ears, let him hear."*

*"Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.*

*As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

*-(Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23)*

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Covenant Game Night:** Our next Game Night is Saturday, **August 31st** from 5:00-8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To reserve your spot, please contact Marian Henry at (918)-728-5844 so she can coordinate the food.

**ESL:** Our English Second Language School begins Monday, **September 9<sup>th</sup>**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you know someone that might be interested, please have them call the church office.

**Women's Bible Study:** Women, please join us and invite your friends for our book study on *God's Mysterious Ways* by Jane Roach. We will start Wednesday, **September 11<sup>th</sup>**, at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Women's Evening Bible Study:** *Made for More* book study will meet Thursday night, **September 5<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall...come early to visit over coffee.

### Nursery Workers:

**August 11**

**Church Service** – Caroline King & Sydney Clayton

**August 18**

**Church Service** – Josie Taylor & Renee Turner

**August 25**

**Church Service** – Rebekah Krehbiel & Gaye Brannon

### 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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