

# 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** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

## STRIKING OF THE HOUR

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive)  
Based on 2 Chronicles 30:19, 21; Psalm 59:16-17

**Minister:** People of God, set your hearts to seek the Lord, worship him with great gladness, praise him day by day, and sing to him with all your might.

**Congregation:** I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.

**\*SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90)*  
Trinity Hymnal, 30 vs. 1, 4, 6, 7

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ruling Elder

*Prov. 2:1-12a*  
*Ephesians 5:15-17*

**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, 2, 5, 6

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION** Ruling Elder

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

**CONFESSION OF SIN** (Unison) Psalm 25:6-7

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (Unison) Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**\*HYMN OF REJOICING** (Unison) *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*  
Trinity Hymnal, 535

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed*  
Trinity Hymnal, 845

**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)  
*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Deacon

**SERMON** *We Do Not Know Our Time*  
Ecclesiastes 9:11-18 (Pew Bible, 558) Dr. John Clayton

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison) *Take My Life, and Let It Be*  
Trinity Hymnal, 585 vs. 1, 4, 5, 6

**\*BENEDICTION** Numbers 6:24-26

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

**POSTLUDE** *At the Name of Jesus*

## Sermon Notes

*We Do Not Know Our Time*  
Ecclesiastes 9:11-18 (Pew Bible, 55)

### I. Introduction

### II. The Certainty of Uncertainty

### III. The Superiority of Wisdom

### IV. The Humility of Wisdom

## 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.

**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>.

**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.

**Nursery Volunteers:** We need more nursery worker volunteers. If you are willing to serve on a volunteer rotation, please contact the church office to sign-up.

**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.

**Fall Bible Studies:** This fall we will not be holding weekly bible studies on campus or in individual homes. We are however encouraging everyone interested to take part in Bible Study Fellowship (BSF), beginning in early September. This semester, men's and women's classes will be studying the Gospel of John. You may sign-up at <https://join.bsfindernational.org/>.

**Disaster Relief for Maui:** The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) has five congregations in Hawaii who are working together to provide relief to Maui. Although outside volunteers are discouraged at this time, financial gifts are needed. Please write "Maui" on the outside of your giving envelope.

**Music Ministry:** Choir practice will resume on September 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and the handbell choir will begin practicing on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

**Covenant Game Night:** Our next Game Night is Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To reserve your spot, please contact Marian Henry at (918) 728-5844 so she can coordinate the food.

### Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – September 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$7,873  
Designated giving: \$170  
Total giving: \$8,043

General fund giving (YTD): \$347,119  
Designated giving (YTD): \$1,720  
Total giving (YTD): \$348,839

### Ministry Staff

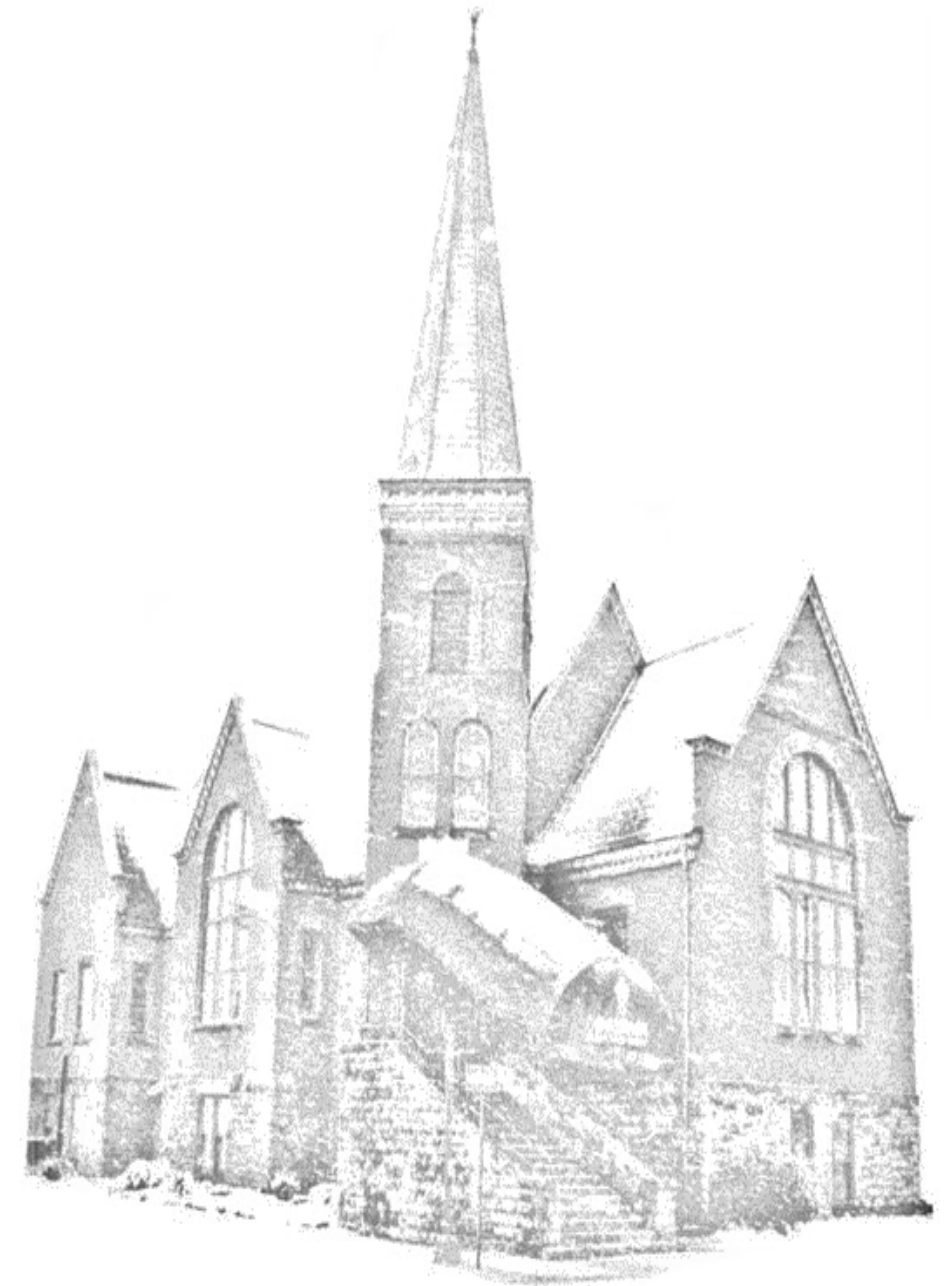
Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – [jclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:jclayton@cpdfs.org)  
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org)  
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## Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



## Lord's Day, September 10, 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