

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

Of the Father's Love Begotten

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

THE LIGHTING OF THE LOVE CANDLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Minister)

Isaiah 7:14; John 3:16-17

The Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

*SONG OF ASCENT (Unison)

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
Trinity Hymnal, 229

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruling Elder

Ruth 2:8-12
Galatians 5:13-14

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

*HYMN OF PRAISE (Unison)

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You
Trinity Hymnal, 156 vs. 1, 2, 4

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Ruling Elder

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)

Psalms 25:16-18

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)

Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*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.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND 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 AND OFFERINGS

Children's Choir

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deacon

SERMON

Loved to Love
Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (Pew Bible, 97-98)

Dr. John Clayton

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Immanuel

1. From the squal - or of a bor - rowed sta - ble, by the Spir - it and a
2. King of heav - en now the friend of sin - ners, hum - ble ser - vant in the
3. Through the kiss - es of a friend's be - tray - al, He was lift - ed on a
4. Now He's stand - ing in the place of hon - or, crowned with glo - ry on the

vir - gin's faith, to the an - guish and the shame of scan - dal,
Fa - ther's hands, filled with pow - er and the Ho - ly Spir - it,
cru - el cross, He was pun - ished for a world's trans - gres - sions;
high - est throne, in - ter - ced - ing for His own be - lov - ed

came the Sav - ior of the hu - man race. But the skies were filled with the
filled with mer - cy for the bro - ken man. Yes, he walked my road and He
He was suf - fer - ing to save the lost. He fights for breath, He
'til His Fa - ther calls to bring them home. Then the skies will part as the

praise of heav'n. Shep - herds lis - ten as the an - gels tell of the gift of God come
felt my pain, joys and sor - rows that I know so well; yet His right - eous steps give me
fights for me, loos - ing sin - ners from the claims of hell; and with a shout, our
trum - pet sounds hope of heav - en or the fear of hell. But the bride will run to her

down to man, at the dawn - ing of Im - man - u - el.
hope a - gain. I will fol - low my Im - man - u - el.
souls are free; death de - feat - ed by Im - man - u - el.
Lov - er's arms, giv - ing glo - ry to Im - man - u - el.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN OF RESPONSE (Unison)

Benediction
Trinity Hymnal, 730

*PASTORAL BENEDICTION (Minister)

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Love Came Down at Christmas

* = Please stand if able.

Sermon Notes

Loved to Love

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (Pew Bible, 97-98)

I. Introduction

II. Love Generously

III. Love Honestly

IV. Love Equitably

V. Love Justly

IV. Love Reasonably

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. 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.

Advent: In this second Sunday of Advent, our theme is love. At the beginning of our worship service the second purple candle will be lit, also known as the Bethlehem Candle, pointing to the Messiah being born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophet Micah.

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.

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.

Prayer Ministry: If you have a prayer request that you would like the church to pray for, you can send your request to pray@cpcfs.org. Your prayer request will be sent out in our weekly prayer ministry email. If you would like to receive the weekly prayer email, please go to <https://tinyletter.com/cpcfs-prays>.

Adult Sunday School Series: Please join us in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. for our series, *Proverbs: Words of Wisdom*, a topical study of select proverbs.

Parish Group Gatherings: Our Nov/Dec Parish Groups will meet tonight, December 5th. Check with your parish leader for more information.

Women In the Church Christmas Fellowship: Please mark your calendars for a Women's Christmas Gathering this Thursday, December 9th. We will meet at Susan Haines' house at 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Please bring a savory or sweet to share. Contact Rebecca Garrett with any questions, (479) 719-2203.

Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – November 28th: \$1,865	General fund giving (YTD): \$441,228
Designated giving: \$0	Designated giving (YTD): \$5,798
Total giving: \$1,865	Total giving (YTD): \$447,026

Ministry Staff

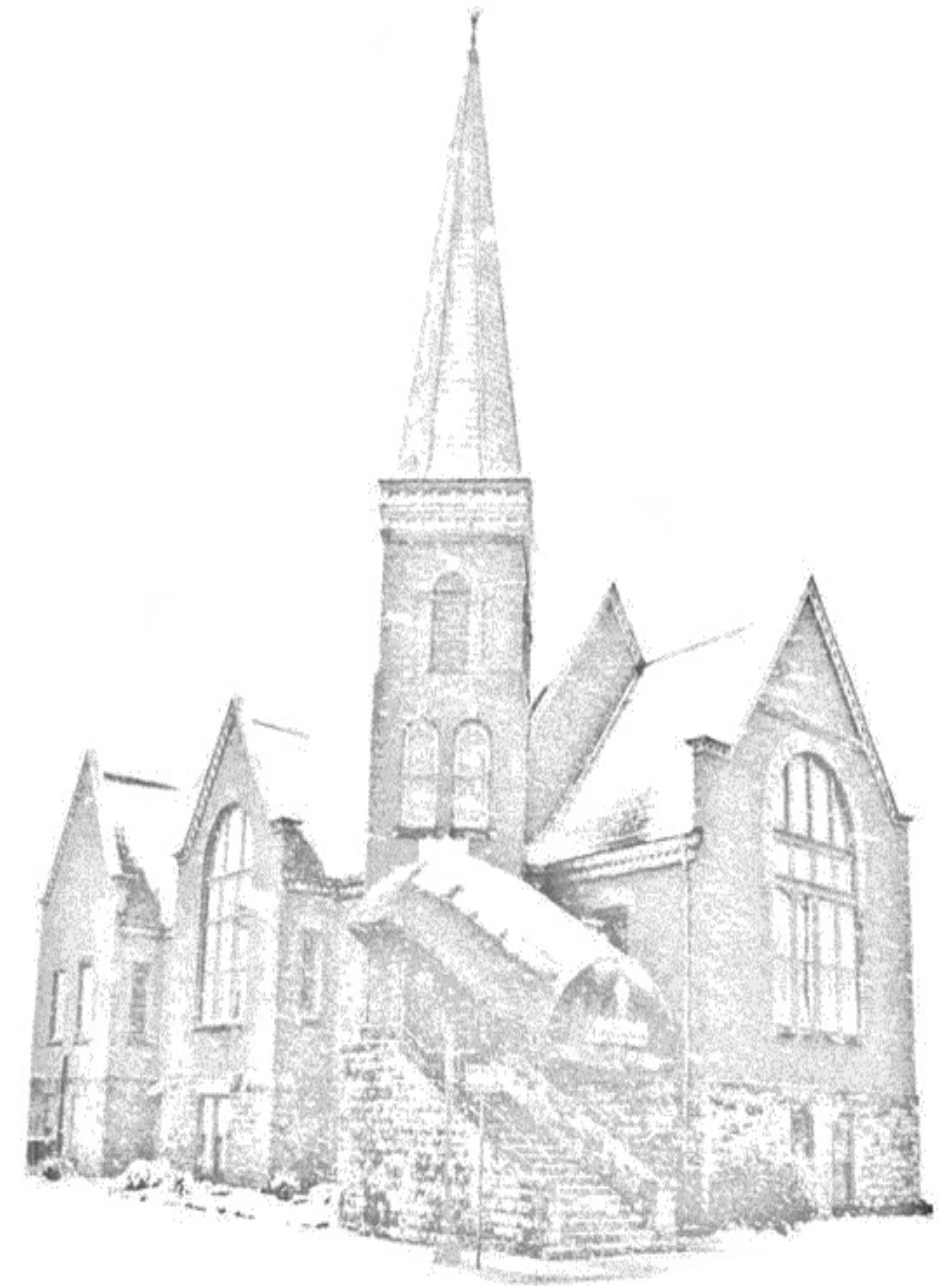
Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – jclayton@cpcfs.org
Rev. Jason Glover, Asst. Minister of Chaplain Ministry
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – bbolin@cpcfs.org
Nancy Krehbiel, Director of Women's Ministry, ESL,
& Counseling – nkrehbiel@cpcfs.org
Greg and Angel Hartman, Directors of Children's Ministry
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – sclayton@cpcfs.org

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Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, December 5, 2021

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 9th Street, 72901