

# 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** *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High!*

**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)** *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be - gan to  
2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of  
3. This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of old with one ac -  
4. O ye heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his praise-es

4  
be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the Source, the End - ing  
grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our  
cord, whom the Scrip - tures of the proph - ets prom - ised in their faith - ful  
sing; all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him and ex - tol our God and

8  
he, of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture years shall  
race, and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred  
word; now he shines, the long - ex - pec - ted; let cre - a - tion praise its  
King; let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in con - cert

12  
see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ruling Elder

*Leviticus 19:9-18  
Ephesians 5:25-30*

**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)** Psalm 51:3-4

*For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.*

**SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)** 1 John 1:9

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**\*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

5  
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 -

9  
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

13  
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*

**SERMON** *Love Shines Through* Dr. John Clayton  
John 13:34-35 (Pew Bible, 900)

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*  
Trinity Hymnal, 229

**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** *Within a Crib My Savior Lay*

# Sermon Notes

## Love Shines Through

John 13:34-35 (Pew Bible, 900)

### I. Introduction

### II. A Commandment to Love

### III. A Community in Love

### IV. A Confession of Love

# 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.

**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.

**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.

**Worship Service COVID-19 Protocol:** Face masks will be required for the entirety of the service, including while sitting, standing, and singing. Face masks and hand sanitizer will continue to be provided in the foyer as you enter the church sanctuary, and seating will continue to be available on every other row, for proper distancing. At the conclusion of the service, we will dismiss by row.

As the coronavirus is spread primarily by airborne transmission and can be spread unknowingly by asymptomatic carriers, we encourage you to enjoy fellowship with one another outside after the worship service rather than inside the church 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.

## Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – November 29th: \$5,073	General fund giving (YTD): \$384,473
Designated giving: \$20	Designated giving (YTD): \$4,490
Total giving: \$5,093	Total giving (YTD): \$388,963

## Ministry Staff

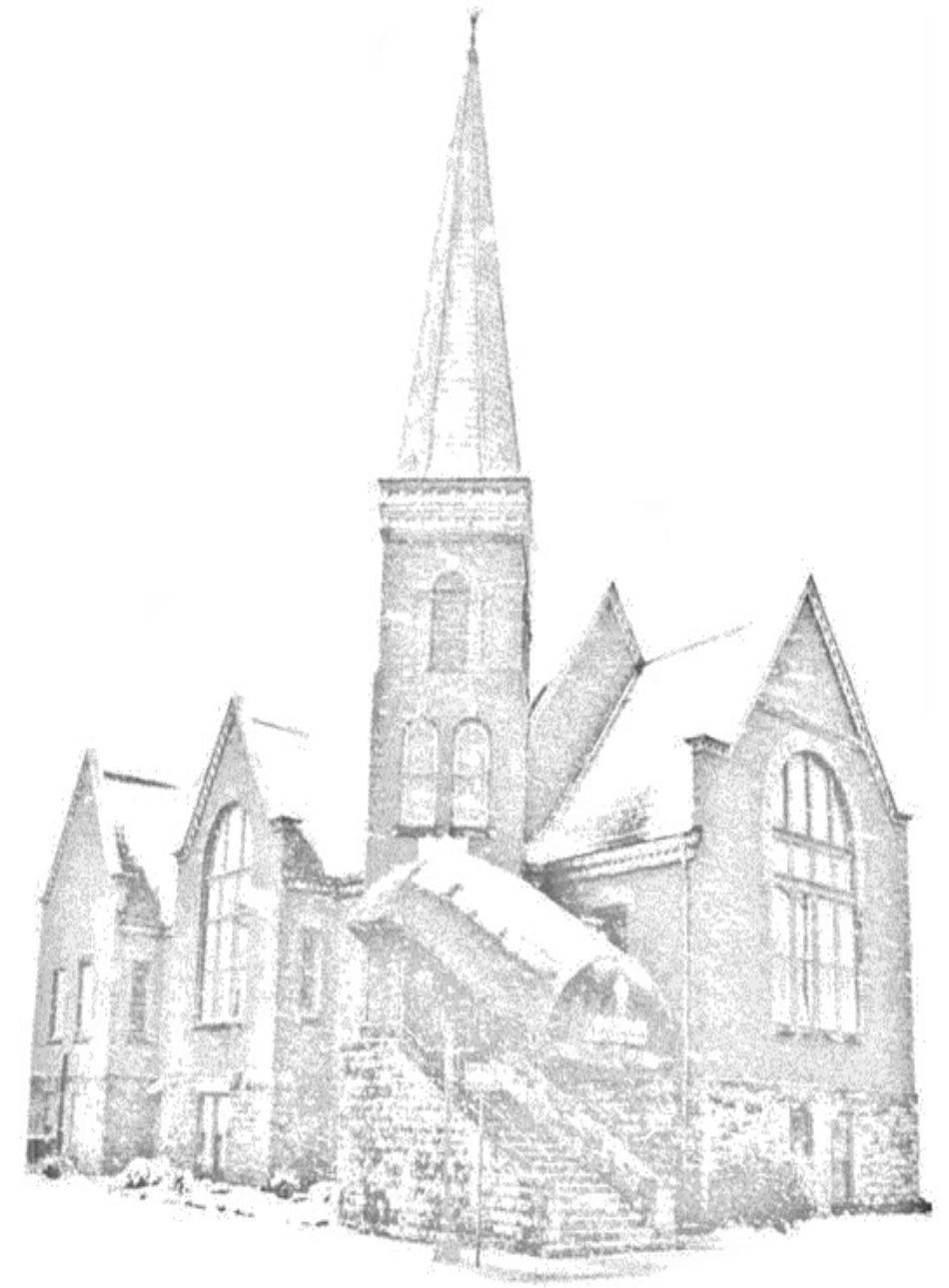
Dr. John Clayton, Minister – [jlclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:jlclayton@cpdfs.org)  
Rev. Jason Glover, Asst. Minister of Chaplain Ministry  
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org)  
Nancy Krehbiel, Director of Women's Ministry, ESL,  
& Caregiving – [nkrehbiel@cpdfs.org](mailto:nkrehbiel@cpdfs.org)  
Greg and Angel Hartman, Directors of Children's Ministry  
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – [sclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:sclayton@cpdfs.org)

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# Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



## Lord's Day, December 6, 2020

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