

# 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** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

**STRIKING OF THE HOUR**

**THE LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Elder) Isaiah 40:1-2, 4-5

*Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.*

**\*SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *Once in Royal David's City*  
Trinity Hymnal, 225 vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ruling Elder

*Isaiah 9:6*  
*Hebrews 10:1-6*

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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*  
Trinity Hymnal, 200 vs. 1, 3, 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) *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

1. O — sing a song of Beth - le - hem, of — shep - herds watch - ing there, and  
2. O — sing a song of Naz - a - reth, of — sun - ny days of joy, O —  
3. O — sing a song of Gal - i - lee, of — lake and woods and hill, of —  
4. O — sing a song of Cal - va - ry, its — glo - ry and dis - may; of —

5  
of the news that came to them from an - gels in the air. The  
sing of fra - grant flow - ers' breath, and of the sin - less Boy; for —  
him who walked up - on the sea and bade its waves be still; for —  
9 him who hung up - on the tree and took our sins a - way. For

13  
light that shone on Beth - le - hem fills all the world to - day; of —  
now the flowers of Naz - a - reth in ev - ry heart may grow; now  
though like waves on Gal - i - lee, dark seas of trou - ble roll, when  
he who died on Cal - va - ry is ris - en from the grave, and

Je - sus' birth and peace on earth the — an - gels sing al - way.  
spreads the fame of — his dear name on — all the winds that blow.  
faith has heard the — Mas - ter's word, falls — peace up - on — the soul.  
Christ, our Lord, by — heav'n a - doredm is — might - y now to save.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *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.

**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** (Choir)

**\*DOXOLOGY** (Unison)

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Deacon

**SERMON** *Our Peace Offering* Dr. John Clayton  
Leviticus 7:11-21 (Pew Bible, 85-86)

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison) *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*  
Trinity Hymnal, 196 vs. 1, 3, 4

**\*PASTORAL BENEDICTION** (Minister) 2 Corinthians 13:14

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

**POSTLUDE** *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

\* = Please stand if able.

\*\*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).

# Sermon Notes

*Our Peace Offering*  
Leviticus 7:11-21 (Pew Bible, 85-86)

## I. Introduction

## II. Pleasing Sacrifice

## III. Provisional Fare

## IV. Propitiatory Gift

# 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.

**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.

**Paraments:** Liturgical colors have an instructional purpose and point us to the life of Christ and the great acts of redemptive history. Purple paraments are displayed during the Advent season. Purple represents hope, expectation, confidence, and anticipation. During Advent, we are reminded of the significance of the threefold advent of Christ in His incarnation, His dwelling in our hearts by His Spirit, and His glorious return at the last day.

**Advent:** In this fourth Sunday of Advent, our theme is peace. At the beginning of our worship service the fourth candle will be lit which is the candle of Peace and is purple in color. Our Prince of Peace said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid" (John 14:27). Also known as the Angels' Candle, we are reminded of the angelic announcement and calls us to focus on Christ's finished work on the cross and to anticipate His Second Coming.

**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.

**Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service:** Our Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service will be at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, December 24th. Please invite your friends and family to join us on this special evening.

**Jail Ministry:** Johnny Clayton, Chaplain of Crawford County jail, is needing volunteers to take the library cart from pod to pod for residents to check-out books. The immediate need is for Fridays. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Johnny directly or call the church office.

## Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – December 12th: \$11,338	General fund giving (YTD): \$471,758
Designated giving: \$50	Designated giving (YTD): \$6,948
Total giving: \$11,388	Total giving (YTD): \$478,705

## Ministry Staff

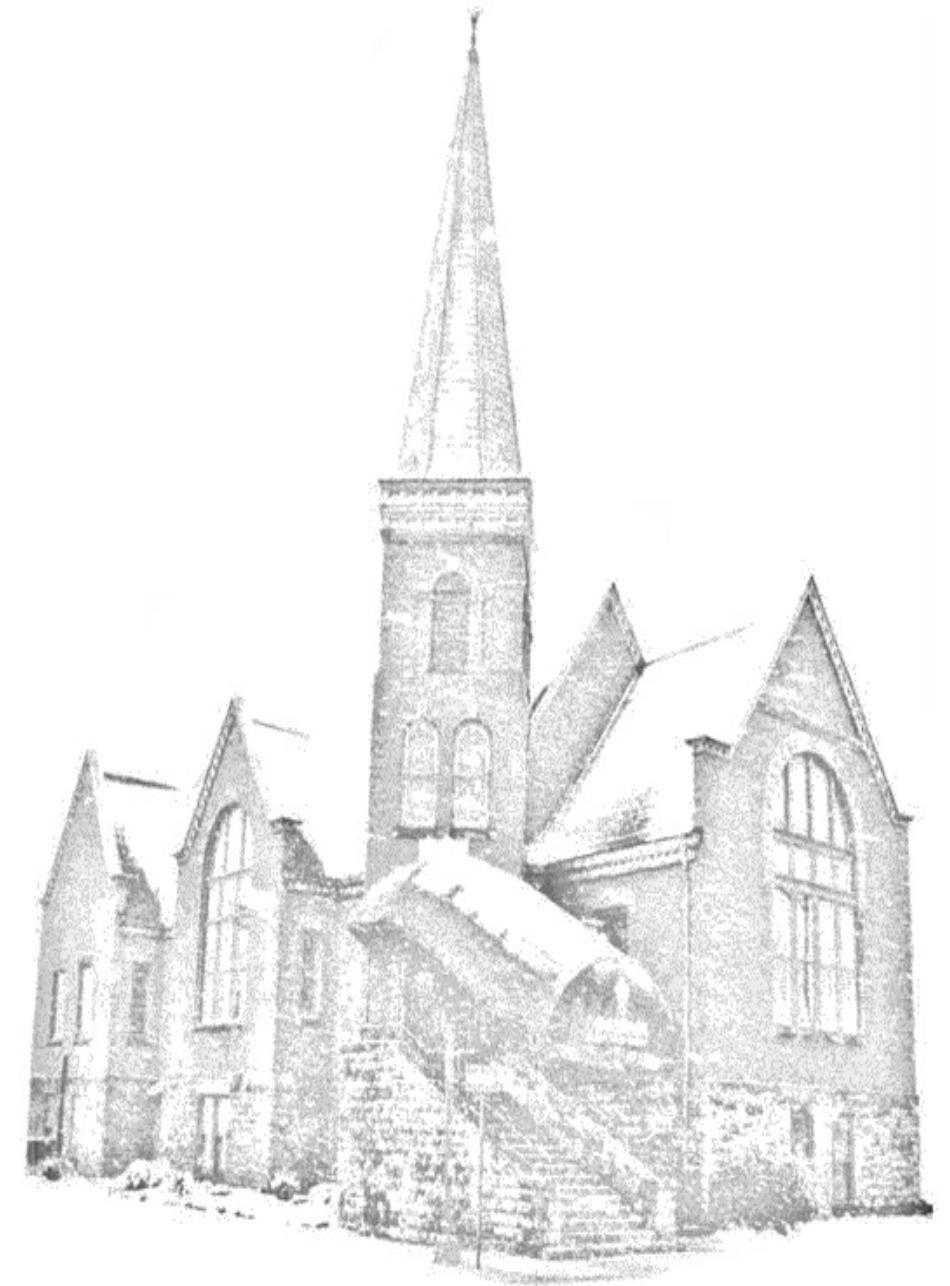
Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – [yclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:yclayton@cpdfs.org)  
Rev. Jason Glover, Asst. Minister of Chaplain Ministry  
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org)  
Nancy Krehbiel, Director of Women's Ministry, ESL,  
& Counseling – [nkrehbiel@cpdfs.org](mailto:nkrehbiel@cpdfs.org)  
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 19, 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 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 72901