

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.)

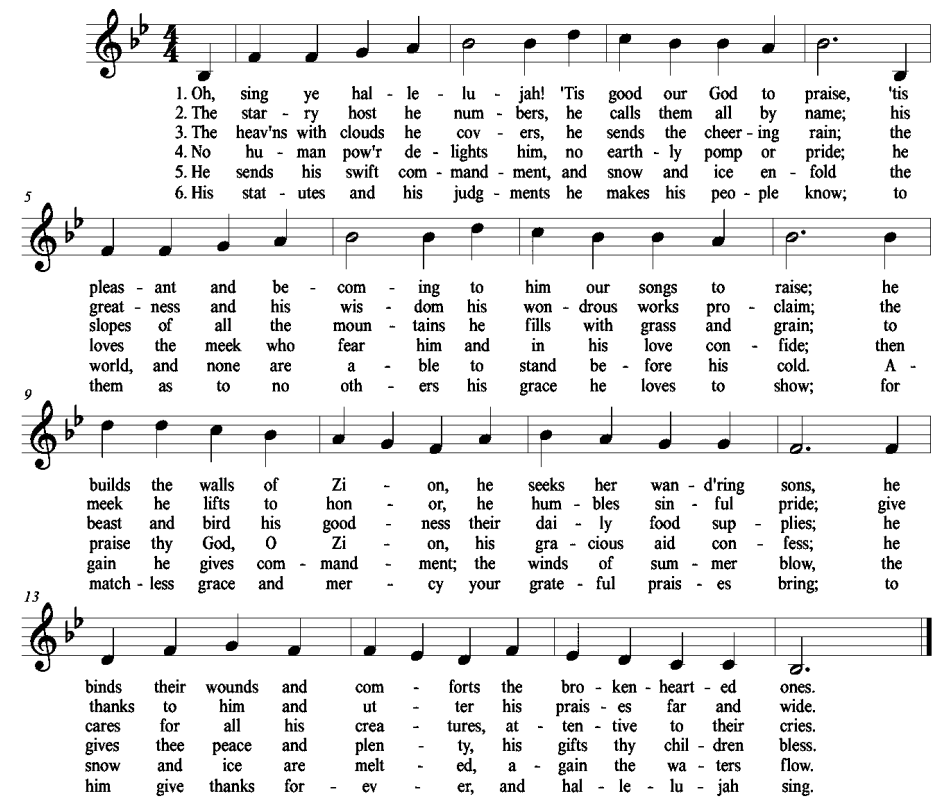
PRELUDE *How Firm a Foundation*

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Minister) Malachi 1:11

Minister: For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts.

***SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *Psalms 147 vs. 1, 2, 4*



1. Oh, sing ye hal - le - lu - jah! 'Tis good our God to praise, 'tis
2. The star - ry host he num - bers, he calls them all by name; his
3. The heav'n's with clouds he cov - ers, he sends the cheer - ing rain; the
4. No hu - man pow'r de - lights him, no earth - ly pomp or pride; he
5. He sends his swift com - mand - ment, and snow and ice en - fold the
6. His stat - utes and his judg - ments he makes his peo - ple know; to

pleas - ant and be - com - ing to him our songs to raise; he
great - ness and his wis - dom his won - drous works pro - claim; the
slopes of all the moun - tains he fills with grass and grain; to
loves the meek who fear him and in his love con - fide; then
world, and none are a - ble to stand be - fore his cold. A -
them as to no oth - ers his grace he loves to show; for

builds the walls of Zi - on, he seeks her wan - d'ring sons, he
meek he lifts to hon - or, he hum - bles sin - ful pride; give
beast and bird his good - ness their dai - ly food sup - plies; he
praise thy God, O Zi - on, his gra - cious aid con - fess; he
gain he gives com - mand - ment; the winds of sum - mer blow, the
match - less grace and mer - cy your grate - ful prais - es bring; to

binds their wounds and com - forts the bro - ken - heart - ed ones.
thanks to him and ut - ter his prais - es far and wide.
cares for all his crea - tures, at - ten - tive to their cries.
gives thee peace and plen - ty, his gifts thy chil - dren bless.
snow and ice are melt - ed, a - gain the wa - ters flow.
him give thanks for - ev - er, and hal - le - lu - jah sing.

SCRIPTURE READING Ruling Elder

Genesis 15:1-6
Hebrews 11:1-3, 6

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

***HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) *The God of Abraham Praise*
Trinity Hymnal, 34 vs. 1-3

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Ruling Elder

GLORIA PATRI (Unison) Trinity Hymnal, 734

CONFESSION OF SIN (Minister) 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 (Minister) 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) *Amazing Grace!*
Trinity Hymnal, 460 vs. 1-4

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 (Chancel Choir)
Thy Loving-kindness, Lord, Is Good and Free

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Deacon

SERMON *The Conviction of Things Not Seen* Dr. John Clayton
Luke 7:1-10 (Pew Bible, 863)

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison) *Be Thou My Vision*
Trinity Hymnal, 642 vs. 1, 2, 3, 5

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

Congregational Response: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE *Be Thou My Vision*

Sermon Notes

The Conviction of Things Not Seen
Luke 7:1-10 (Pew Bible, 863)

I. Introduction

II. A Worthy Request

III. A Humble Faith

IV. A Faithful Testimony

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.

Seating: Please be courteous by moving toward the front of the sanctuary providing room in the back for those arriving late.

January 12th Nursery Volunteers

Worship Service — Susan and Ava Rodriguez

Covenant Youth: Starting again on January 15th, our youth will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for grades 7th-12th downstairs in the youth girls' Sunday School classroom.

The Midweek: Starting again on January 15th, join us for Bible study and prayer on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir: Starting again on January 15th, the choir will resume meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Membership: Are you interested in becoming a member? The Session will be conducting membership interviews in the months of February. Please call the church office if you would like to schedule an interview.

January Parish Groups: If you have never attended a Parish Group now is the time! It's a great way to connect on a deeper level with people in the church. Please let us know if you aren't sure which parish you are in. In January, Parish Groups will meet on the following Sundays:

January 12th: Bailey Parish in the Fellowship Hall after the service

January 19th: Hendrickson Parish at 5:00 p.m. at the Hendricksons' home

January 26th: Clayton/Coan Parish in the Fellowship Hall after the service

February 2nd: Hudson Parish in the Fellowship Hall after the service

Men's Bible Study: Our men's study resumes January 15th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rusty Peoples will continue teaching through 1 Peter.

Women's Bible Study: Our women's winter study begins January 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be using *Flourish: How the Love of Christ Frees Us from Self-Focus* by Lidia Brownback.

2025 Devotional Guide: Our 2025 devotional guide is available at the back of the Sanctuary. This plan will lead you in reading through the Old and New Testament once and the Psalms twice. It also includes daily prayers, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and the Westminster Shorter Catechism questions 98 to 107.

Missions Focus of the Week: HOPE Campus provides a safe environment and comprehensive services to homeless adults on their journey to self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – January 5th: \$30,505

Designated giving: \$0

Total giving: \$30,505

General fund giving (YTD): \$30,505

Designated giving (YTD): \$0

Total giving (YTD): \$30,505

Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – jclayton@cpdfs.org

Greg Bailey, Executive Director – gbailey@cpdfs.org

Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – bbolin@cpdfs.org

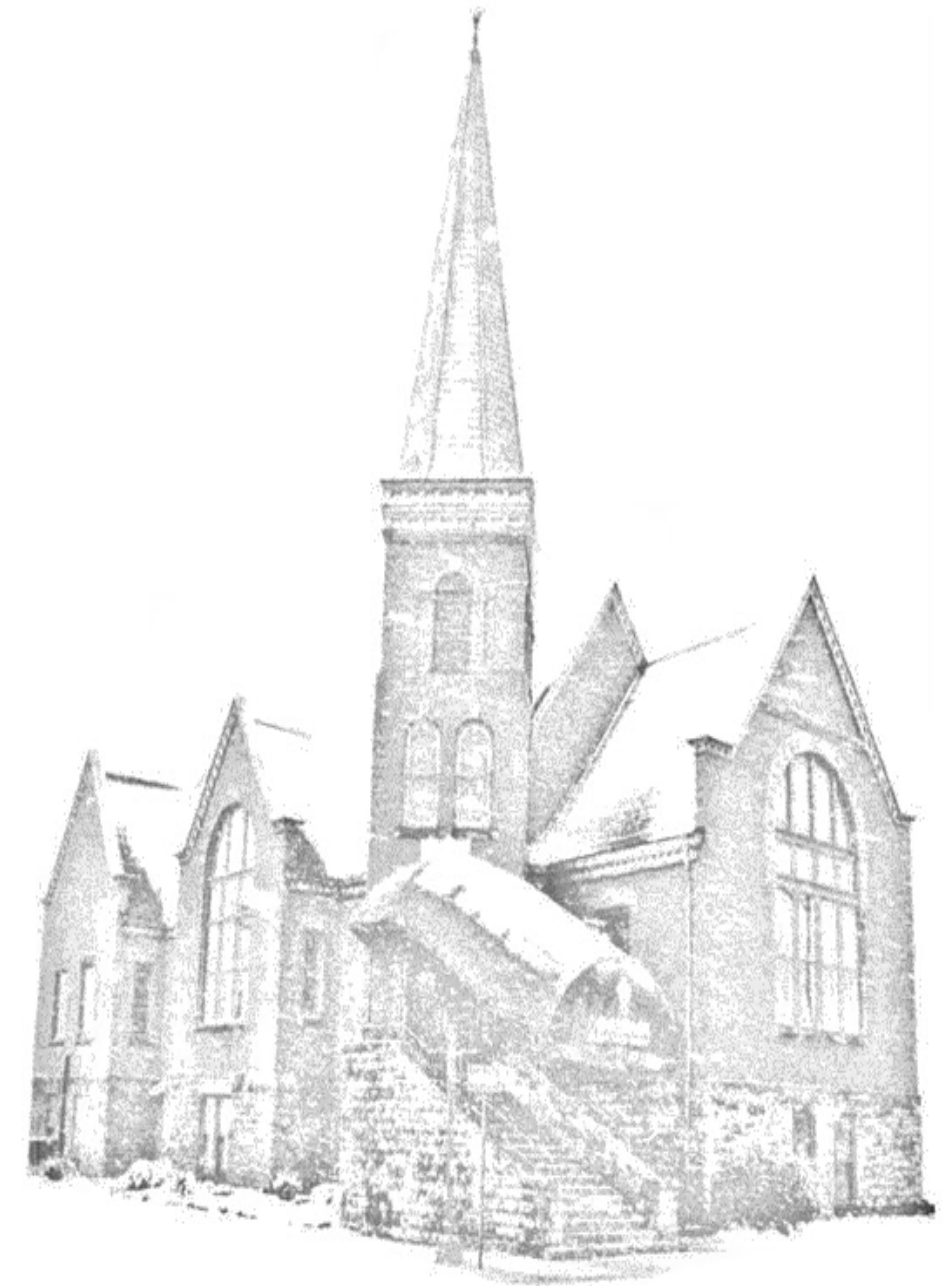
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – sclayton@cpdfs.org

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Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, January 12, 2025

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