

# 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** *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee*

## STRIKING OF THE HOUR

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Minister) Based Psalm 147:12-14, 19-20

**Minister:** Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel. Praise the Lord!

**\*SONG OF ASCENT** (Unison) *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (Ps. 90)*  
Trinity Hymnal, 30 vs. 1, 3, 4, 7

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ruling Elder

*Jeremiah 17:7-8;  
Galatians 5:22-23*

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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** (Unison) *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*  
Trinity Hymnal, 508 vs. 1, 2, 4

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION** Ruling Elder

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

**CONFESSION OF SIN** (Unison) Psalm 51:1-2

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (Unison) 2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake [God] made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**\*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, and in  
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.

**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

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Deacon

**SERMON** *Fruit from the Heart* Dr. John Clayton  
Luke 6:43-49 (Pew Bible, 863)

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*  
Trinity Hymnal, 521 vs. 1, 3, 4

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**Minister:** The Lord be with you.  
**Congregation:** And with your spirit.  
**Minister:** Lift up your hearts.  
**Congregation:** We lift them up to the Lord.  
**Minister:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**Congregation:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Minister:** ...Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, evermore praising you saying:

**Congregation:** *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** (Unison) *Benediction*  
Trinity Hymnal, 730

**\*BENEDICTION** (Responsive) Hebrews 13:20-21

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

**POSTLUDE** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

\* = Please stand if able.

## Sermon Notes

*Fruit from the Heart*  
Luke 6:43-49 (Pew Bible, 863)

### I. Introduction

### II. Faithful Fruit

### III. Foul Fruit

### IV. Foundational Fruit

## 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 the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as well as Christmas, Easter, and other days to represent the purity of Christ and the joy and peace believers find in Him.

**Lord's Supper:** What is required for the worthy receiving of the Lord's Supper? It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves (WSC, 97).

**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.

**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 5<sup>th</sup> Nursery Volunteers**  
**Worship Service** — Lauren, Gillian, and Georgia Good

**Covenant Youth:** Starting again on January 15<sup>th</sup>, our youth will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> upstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

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

**Choir:** Starting again on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 January. Please call the church office if you would like to schedule an interview.

**Men's Bible Study:** Our men's study resumes January 15<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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:** The CALL walks with interested families through the process to become a foster home and partners with local business, churches and individuals to provide safe and stable homes, training and support to those families. Please be in prayer for The CALL this week.

#### Weekly Giving Summary

General fund giving – December 29 <sup>th</sup> : \$44,855	General fund giving (YTD): \$786,967
Designated giving: \$0	Designated giving (YTD): \$278,436
Total giving: \$44,855	Total giving (YTD): \$1,065,403

#### Ministry Staff

Dr. John Clayton, Senior Minister – [jclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:jclayton@cpdfs.org)  
Greg Bailey, Executive Director – [gbailey@cpdfs.org](mailto:gbailey@cpdfs.org)  
Brandon Bolin, Director of Music & Media – [bbolin@cpdfs.org](mailto:bbolin@cpdfs.org)  
Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – [sclayton@cpdfs.org](mailto:sclayton@cpdfs.org)

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## Covenant Presbyterian Church Fort Smith, Arkansas



## Lord's Day, January 5, 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 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 72901