

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.)

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him! (McDonald)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Elder)

Based on Psalm 59:16-17

Elder: Sing of God's strength; sing aloud of his steadfast love in the morning. Sing praises to God your fortress, the God who shows you steadfast love.

*SONG OF ASCENT (Unison)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Psalm 46)
Trinity Hymnal, 92

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruling Elder

Isaiah 43:1-11
Hebrews 12:25-29

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

*HYMN OF PRAISE (Unison)

How Firm a Foundation
Trinity Hymnal, 94 vs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6

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 (Responsive)

Psalm 6:1-7

Elder: O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath.

Congregation: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

Elder: My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long?

Congregation: Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love.

Elder: For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise?

Congregation: I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears;

Elder: I drench my couch with my weeping. My eye wastes away because of grief;

Congregation: it grows weak because of all my foes.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)

Psalm 6:8-10

Elder: Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping.

Congregation: The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer.

Elder: All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled;

Congregation: they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.

HYMN OF REJOICING

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Trinity Hymnal, 521

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Responsive)

Westminster Confession of Faith 8.1

Minister: What do we believe concerning Christ the Mediator?

Congregation: It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom he did from all eternity give a people, to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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)

Like a River Glorious

* = Please stand if able.

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deacon

SERMON

A Mighty Fortress
Psalm 46 (Pew Bible, 471-472)

Rev. Aaron Raines

*HYMN OF RESPONSE (Unison)

Rock of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)

1. Rock of Ag - es when the day seems long, from this
2. Rock of Ag - es you have brought me near, you have
3. Rock of Ag - es when in want or rest, my des - p'rate
4. Rock of Ag - es, bro - ken, scorned for me. Who am
5. Rock of Ag - es, "It is done!" you cried. The cur - tain's
6. Rock of Ag - es, my great hope se - cure, your prom - ise

la - bor and this heart - ache I have come; the skies will wear out, but you re -
poured out your life - blood, your love, your tears to make this stone heart. come a -
need for such a Sav - ior I con - fess. Pull these i - dols out from my
I that you would die to make me free? To give me glo - ry, you took the
torn and I see jus - tice sat - is - fied. Now write your mer - cy here on my
holds just like an an - chor to my soul. Bind your child - ren with cords of

main the same. Rock of Ag - es, I praise your name. Rock of
live a - gain. Rock of Ag - es, for - give my sin. sin.
heart cm - brace. Rock of Ag - es I need your grace. grace.
death and pain. Rock of Ag - es, my Of - fer - ing. ing.
heart and hands. Rock of Ag - es, in faith I stand. stand.
love and grace; Rock of Ag - es, we give you praise. praise.

Ag - es, Rock of Ag - es, bind your child - ren un - til the
king - dom comes; Rock of Ag - es, your will be done.

*PASTORAL BLESSING (Responsive)

Philippians 4:7

Congregation: Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Burkhardt)

Sermon Notes

A Mighty Fortress
Psalm 46 (Pew Bible, 471-472)

I. Introduction

II. God Our Refuge in Trouble

III. God Our Relief in His Temple

IV. God Our Redeemer out of Turmoil

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 an 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.

Parameters: 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.

June 29th Nursery Volunteers

Worship Service — Miranda Collier and Abigail Robbins

The Midweek: We will meet on July 2nd, and Aug. 6th.

Choir: We will meet on July 2nd, and Aug. 6th.

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

Study the Nicene Creed: This year marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, which took place in 325 AD and produced the Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed has served as a fundamental statement of faith, defining the core beliefs about God, the Trinity, and Jesus Christ. To commemorate this anniversary, we will begin a new study of the Nicene Creed in our Adult Sunday School class, starting July 6th.

Missions Focus of the Week: If every PCA church pledged 1% of their members to global missions? *How would the world change?* With this offering of our people, we could raise up almost 2,900 new missionaries! How many unreached people groups would hear the gospel? How many new churches would be planted? Our church is making this pledge! We are asking God to guide, lead, and multiply His kingdom through us.

Cry Room and Nursery Available: Parents, if your baby begins to fuss or cry, we have resources available for you and your child: a nursery (for children up to 36 mos.) and "cry rooms" are available, outfitted with service audio, downstairs in rooms 1, 2, & 7.

Ministry Staff

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

Greg Bailey, Executive Director – gbailey@cpfs.org

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

Sydney Clayton, Administrative Assistant – sclayton@cpfs.org

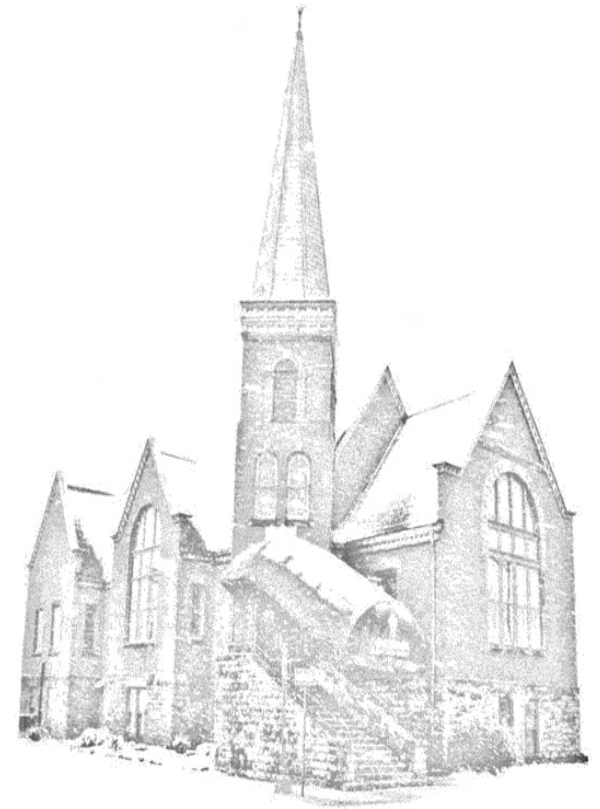
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Covenant Presbyterian Church

Fort Smith, Arkansas



Lord's Day, June 29, 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