



Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

Our mission is to praise the Father, proclaim the Son,
and submit to the perfecting power of the Holy Spirit



July 12, 2026 · 10:30 AM Worship

Covenant-First Presbyterian Church · 717 Elm Street · Cincinnati, OH 45202
covfirstchurch.org · office@covfirstchurch.org · 513-621-4144

Welcome to Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

Whether you attend Covenant-First Presbyterian Church on a regular basis or are here for the first time, we are glad you are here. Covenant-First Presbyterian Church was founded in 1790, and has been a part of downtown Cincinnati ever since. Our almost 2,000 pound tower bell is from the Paul Revere Foundry in Boston, and first rang from the steeple of one of our earliest buildings. This building was completed in 1875, and the Austin Pipe Organ dates to 1915, with its approximately 3,500 pipes. We have traditional worship with Bible-based preaching each week. Our music program is enhanced by our Music Scholar program and we are excited to have them lead in worship most Sundays.

If you need help with directions to restrooms, the fellowship hall, or to the lower level nursery, the person who greeted you this morning will be glad to help you.

Children and worship

We delight in children, and your children are always welcome to stay with you in worship. However, if you would prefer nursery care for your infants and toddlers, we do have a professionally staffed nursery in the lower level. We invite children ages 2 years to 5 years to participate in Junior Church. If your child wants to participate in Junior Church, you may escort them to the lower level during the singing of the Doxology. You may then pick your child up following the service from the downstairs classrooms.

Validated Parking

Validated parking is available in the 222 W. 7th St. Garage. Validation is done using your car's license plate number. Please locate a greeter to complete the validation process which requires your license plate number.

Fellowship Time

After worship, we invite you to gather with us in Metzger Hall for a reception featuring coffee, treats, and encouraging conversation. Many of us travel from a distance to join together in worship on Sunday mornings, and we find this weekly fellowship time to be a valuable and enriching time for us to catch up and meet new people. Please join us!

About us

If you are interested in learning more about Covenant-First Presbyterian Church, see your morning greeter, help yourself to any of the literature located on the back tables, contact the church office at 513-621-4144, or visit our website at covfirstchurch.org.

Service for the Lord's Day

** indicates please stand if you are able*

Pre-Service Music
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Pastorale, Op.19 (excerpt)

César Franck

Concerns of the Congregation

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

Call to Worship

Kelly Millhaem

One: World-weary saints, come; the gospel that once rattled Thessalonica still turns hearts,
homes, and whole cultures right-side up in Jesus.

Prelude
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Vater unser im Himmelreich, BWV 636

J.S. Bach

Ringing of the Revere Tower Bell

*Let the ringing of the bell call our attention away from ourselves and
onto the living Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Hymn #35

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Invocation

Kelly Millhaem

All: Lord of cities and small towns, you walked Paul through Philippi's prison,
Thessalonica's uproar, Berea's Bible study, Athens' debates, and Corinth's mess.
Walk among us now. Show us where our world is upside down and where we're
upside down with it. Give us the courage, creativity, and compassion to live as your
right-side-up people.

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

All: King Jesus, we confess we often prefer a gospel that tweaks the world rather than
overturns it. We like a Christianized version of our culture's idols, not a kingdom
that confronts them. We blend in where we should stand out, then blame busyness
or "being relevant." We forget that, as Jonathan Edwards said, true grace "radically
alters the temper of the soul." Our tempers often remain largely unaltered. Forgive
our compromise, our half-hearted difference, and our reluctance to endure
pushback when your ways clash with the world's.

*Moments of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

One: Good news: The one who turns the world right-side up first turned your world upside down at the cross. There, your record of conformity, cowardice, and compromise was nailed and canceled. In rising, Christ brought you into a new creation, where old things pass away and all things become new. You are forgiven, not because you've been a perfect counter cultural hero, but because he perfectly obeyed for you. The Spirit is at work even now, reshaping you into someone who can joyfully bear the cost of living under a different King.

*Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

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.

Anthem

Shall We Gather at the River

Robert Lowry

Kayleigh Decker, Mezzo Soprano

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.

Refrain: Yes we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river. Gather with the saints at the river, that flows by the throne of God.

On the bosom of the river, where the Savior King we own, we shall meet and sorrow never 'neath the glory of the throne. (Refrain)

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease. Soon our happy hearts will quiver at the melody of peace. (Refrain)

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down. Grace our spirits will deliver and provide a robe and crown. (Refrain)

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Call for the Offering

(If you would like to give online see the back of the bulletin.)

Offertory
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Concerto in D minor, mvt. ii

Alessandro Marcello/
arr. J. S. Bach

*Doxology # 572 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
At this time all children are invited to go to Children's Church
Praise God from whom all blessing flow, praise him, all creatures here below,
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn See Insert Steal Away

Scripture Lesson Acts 15:36–18:22
Pew Bible Pg. 784

One: This is God's Word for God's people.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Turning the World Right-Side Up Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

*Hymn #470 Onward Christian Soldiers

*Benediction

Postlude Improvisation on St. Denio
Andrew Hackett, Organist

The flowers on the communion table are
given to the glory of God
by Chris and Susannah Balish.