

# Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



May 3, 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.

## **The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

We offer Communion during the worship service on the first Sunday of each month. We welcome anyone who proclaims Christ as Savior to partake. The Communion table is not restricted to Presbyterians. During the service, the church elders will distribute the elements, while the congregation remains seated in the pews.

## **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.

## **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](http://covfirstchurch.org).

# Service for the Lord's Day

---

## Pre-Service Music

Improvisation on Ash Grove

Andrew Hackett, Organist

## Concerns of the Congregation

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

## Call to Worship

Sonja Vernon

One: Come limping, come weary; the Jesus who raised Tabitha and lifted Aeneas still drops resurrection hints into ordinary broken days.

## Prelude

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 715

J. S. Bach

Andrew Hackett, Organist

## 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 #499

The Master Has Come, and He Calls Us

## \*Invocation

Sonja Vernon

**All:** Risen Lord, firstfruits of the new creation, we gather with hospital bracelets on our souls. Some of us ache in body, others in mind or memory. Breathe your quiet “Get up” over our paralysis and despair. Turn this hour into a preview of the day when you wipe every tear and death forgets our names.

## \*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

**All:** Lord of life, we admit we often live as practical atheists in the face of brokenness. We talk about resurrection on Easter but function like death and decay have the final word. We grow cynical about healing, both physical and relational. Our prayers shrink; our hopes calcify. We forget that, as John Calvin wrote, “all the parts of our salvation are comprehended in Christ,” including the promise of restored bodies and a renewed world. Forgive our unbelief, our resignation, and our reluctance to bring our sick, our griefs, and our neighborhoods to you.

## \*Moments of Silent Confession

## \*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

One: Beloved, the greatest healing has already happened: “You were dead, but God made you alive with Christ.” Your deepest sickness—sin’s guilt and power—has been decisively addressed at the cross. In Jesus, your pardon is signed in blood and sealed by an empty tomb. The smaller healings we crave are appetizers, not the main course; yet even when they delay, your forgiveness does not. Today God speaks over you: “In Christ, you are clean, accepted, and bound for resurrection.” Nothing—not disease, not death—can cancel the verdict: Forgiven and forever alive in him.

## \*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

Guide My Feet Lord

Arr. John Carter

Covenant Choir

Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race, ‘cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.  
Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race, ‘cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.  
Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race, ‘cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

## Prayers of the People

### 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

Climbin’ Up the Mountain

Arr. Patsy Ford Simms

Andrew Hallam, Baritone

I’m climbin’ up the mountain, children, gotta reach my heavenly home. I’m climbin’ up and workin’ harder; Lord don’t ever leave me alone. Don’t you see I’m tryin’ to make it each day, even though trials pass my way. I’m gonna keep on climbin’ up the mountain ‘til I make it on home.

Oh, brother, won’t you help me ‘cause the road is rough. The mountain is steep and the goin’ gets tough. But when I see him face to face, I’m gonna shout all over the place!

Oh, sister, won’t you help me to carry the load over the hard and rocky road? When I arrive, he’ll wipe my tears away. It’s gonna be a happy day.

**\*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 blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Scripture Lesson**

Acts 9:32–43

As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda. <sup>33</sup> There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. <sup>34</sup> "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. <sup>35</sup> All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. <sup>36</sup> In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup> About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" <sup>39</sup> Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

One: This is God's Word for God's people.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Signs of the Kingdom, Whispers of Resurrection

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

**\*Apostles Creed**

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

*We offer Communion during the worship service on the first Sunday of each month. We welcome anyone who proclaims Christ as Savior to partake. The Communion table is not restricted to Presbyterians. During the service, church elders will distribute the elements, while the congregation remains seated.*

### **The Invitation**

### **The Thanksgiving**

### **The Words of Institution**

### **The Communion**

*We will share in the body together. You may drink of the cup when desired.*

### **The Prayer of Blessing**

**\*Hymn #34**

God, My King, Thy Might Confessing

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Organ Sonata no. 2, Op. 65, IV. Fugue

Félix Mendelssohn

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

\*Those who are able, please stand.

# 499 The Master Has Come, and He Calls Us

*The Master is come, and calleth for thee. John 11:28*

ASH GROVE 12 11 12 11 D.

Sarah Doudney, 1871

Traditional Welsh melody

1. The Mas-ter has come, and He calls us to fol - low The track of the  
2. The Mas-ter has called us; the road may be drear - y, And dan - gers and  
3. The Mas-ter has called us in life's ear - ly morn-ing, With spir - its as

foot-prints He leaves on our way; Far o - ver the moun-tain and  
sor - rows are strewn on the track; But God's Ho - ly Spir - it shall  
fresh as the dew on the sod; We turn from the world with its

through the deep hol - low, The path leads us on to the man-sions of day: The  
com - fort the wea - ry; We fol - low the Sav - ior and can - not turn back; The  
smiles and its scorn-ing, To cast in our lot with the peo - ple of God: The

Mas - ter has called us, the chil - dren who fear Him, Who march 'neath Christ's  
Mas - ter has called us: tho' doubt and temp-ta - tion May com - pass our  
Mas - ter has called us, His sons and His daugh-ters, We plead for His

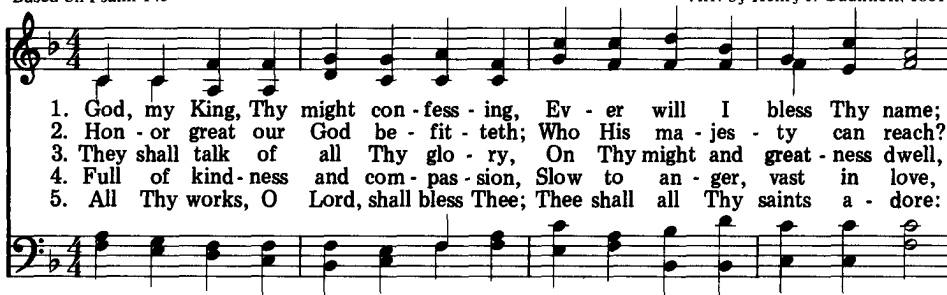
# God, My King, Thy Might Confessing 34

*I will extol Thee, my God, O King, and I will bless Thy name . . .* Psa. 145:1

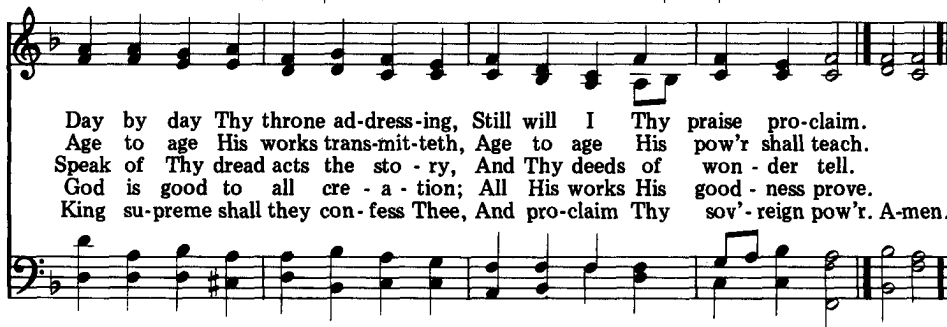
STUTTGART 8787

Richard Mant, 1824  
Based on Psalm 145

C. Friedrich Witt, 1715  
Arr. by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1861



1. God, my King, Thy might con - fess - ing, Ev - er will I bless Thy name;  
2. Hon - or great our God be - fit - teth; Who His ma - jes - ty can reach?  
3. They shall talk of all Thy glo - ry, On Thy might and great - ness dwell,  
4. Full of kind - ness and com - pas - sion, Slow to an - ger, vast in love,  
5. All Thy works, O Lord, shall bless Thee; Thee shall all Thy saints a - dore:



Day by day Thy throne ad - dress - ing, Still will I Thy praise pro - claim.  
Age to age His works trans - mit - teth, Age to age His pow'r shall teach.  
Speak of Thy dread acts the sto - ry, And Thy deeds of won - der tell.  
God is good to all cre - a - tion; All His works His good - ness prove.  
King su - preme shall they con - fess Thee, And pro - claim Thy sov' - reign pow'r. A - men.

HIS ATTRIBUTES