



# Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



September 14, 2025 • 10:30 AM Worship

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Covenant-First Presbyterian Church • 717 Elm Street • Cincinnati, OH 45202  
[covfirstchurch.org](http://covfirstchurch.org) • [office@covfirstchurch.org](mailto: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.

## **Parking**

Validated parking is available in the adjacent garage for all worship services. Please pick up a validation card when you enter the building and present to the parking attendant when exiting the garage. You must exit on Elm street to see the attendant. If you have already registered your car with Metropolis parking, you can simply scan the QR code on the back of the validation card and exit at Elm Street or Eighth Street. The gate will open automatically when you leave.

## **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

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## **Pre-Service Music**

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Sonata No. 1 in C minor Op. 27

iii. Fugue

Josef Rheinberger

## **Concerns of the Congregation**

### **Call to Worship**

Sonja Vernon

One: Come, behold the majesty of the Lord! By his Word the heavens were made, and by his command all things came forth. Let us worship him.

### **Prelude**

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

An Wasserflüssen Babylon, BWV 653a

J.S. Bach

### **Ringling 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 #4**

Come, Thou Almighty King

### **\*Invocation**

Sonja Vernon

**All: Almighty Father, maker of heaven and earth, we bow before you, the source of all that is seen and unseen. By your Spirit, grant us reverence, faith, and joy in Christ's redeeming presence.**

### **\*Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

**All: O Sovereign Lord, we confess that though you spoke creation into existence, we have doubted your power and disobeyed your Word. We have exalted ourselves, delighting in what is seen while neglecting the unseen realities of your kingdom. Forgive us, Father, through Christ's atoning blood, and renew us by your Spirit.**

### **\*Moments of Silent Confession**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

One: Hear the good news! The Almighty Father, who made all things by his Word, has acted in mercy through his Son. Though creation trembles at his command, he delights to save those who trust in Christ. By his cross and resurrection, our guilt is removed, and our shame is covered. Believe and rejoice: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, reconciled, and restored to the glory of God. Amen.

**\*Gloria Patri #575**

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**

Fairest Lord Jesus

Arr. Mark Hayes

Covenant Choir

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, oh, thou of God and man the son.  
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of Spring.  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunlight, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all nations! Son of God and Son of man. Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine. Amen.

**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**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Covenant Men's Chorus

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree, and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely giv'n, graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. Amen.

**\*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**

**\*Hymn** Bulletin pg. 8      God Whose Glory Fills the Skies

### **\*Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Scripture Lesson**      Psalm 33:6-9

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.  
<sup>7</sup> He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. <sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

## Postlude

J.S. Bach

Andrew Hackett, Organist

\*Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers are given by Monique Garnett as she celebrates her birthday today, with gratefulness to God for bringing her to Covenant-First after her recent move to Cincinnati.

## Planning Ahead

## Sunday, September 21

8:45 AM — Choir Rehearsal

9:15 AM — Adult Sunday School

10:30 AM — Worship

11:45 PM — Fellowship Time

5 PM — Church Picnic at Washington Park

Wednesday, September 24

12 Noon — Brown Bag Bible Study

7 PM — Wednesday Evening Bible Study

## Friday, September 26

### Courier Deadline

## Saturday, September 27

7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study

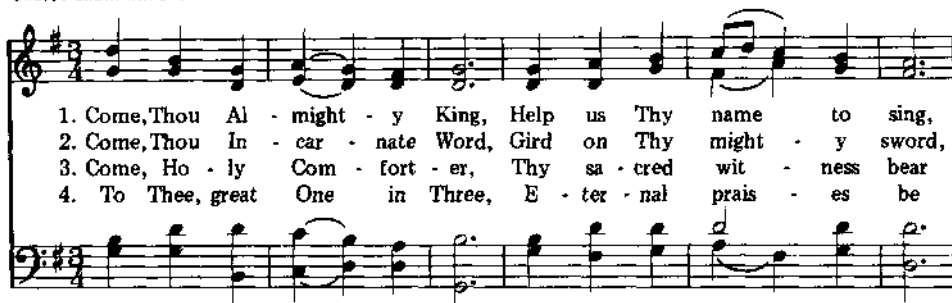
## 4 Come, Thou Almighty King

*Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name . . . Psa. 29:2*

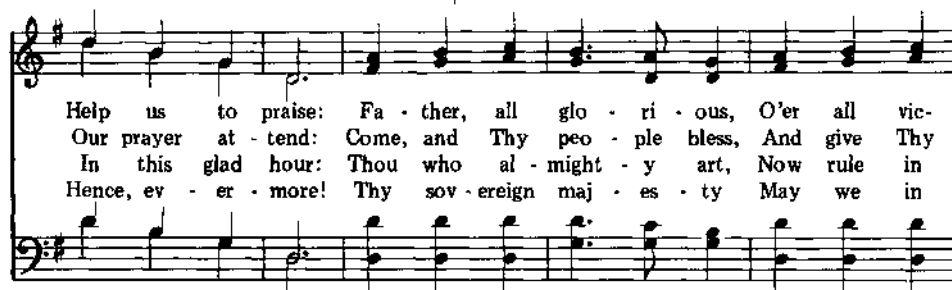
ITALIAN HYMN 6 6 4 6 6 6 4

Felice de Giardini, 1769

Source unknown, c. 1757



1. Come, Thou Al - might - y King, Help us Thy name to sing,  
 2. Come, Thou In - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy might - y sword,  
 3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred wit - ness bear  
 4. To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal prais - es be



Help us to praise: Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic -  
 Our prayer at - tend: Come, and Thy peo - ple bless, And give Thy  
 In this glad hour: Thou who al - might - y art, Now rule in  
 Hence, ev - er - more! Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty May we in



to - ri - ous, Come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 word suc - cess: Spir - it of ho - li - ness, On us de - scend.  
 ev - ery heart, And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 glo - ry see, And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore! A - men.

*This tune in a lower key, No. 74*


# Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

462


RATISBON 7.7.7.7.7

Charles Wesley, 1740

Freylinghausen's *Gesangbuch*, 1704  
Rev. in Werner's *Choralbuch*, 1815  
As in *Old Church Psalmody*, 1847



1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly light,  
2. Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa - nied by Thee;  
3. Vis - it then this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous - ness, a - rise, Tri - umph o'er the shades of night;  
Joy - less is the day's re - turn Till Thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; Scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.  
Till they in - ward light im - part, Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.  
More and more Thy - self dis - play, Shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Alternate tune: CHRIST WHOSE GLORY, 463



# Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty 1

*They rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty. Rev. 4:8*

NICAEA 11 12 12 10

John B. Dykes, 1861

Reginald Heber, 1826



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,  
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide Thee,  
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;  
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,  
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
Which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A-men.