

Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 10, 2024 • 10:30 AM



Covenant-First's mission is to praise the Father, proclaim the Son and submit to the perfecting power of the Holy Spirit.

Covenant-First Presbyterian Church • 717 Elm Street • Cincinnati, OH 45202
www.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.

Parking

Validated parking is available in the adjacent garage for all worship services. Please pick up a validation sticker and apply the sticker to your parking ticket to use for validation. Then simply scan your ticket with the sticker at the parking gate on your way out of the garage. If you are unsure how to obtain your parking sticker, any greeter or our security personnel will be happy to assist you.

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, please pick up any of the literature located on the back tables, see your morning greeter, contact the church office at 513-621-4144, or visit our website at www.covfirstchurch.org.

Service for the Lord's Day

Pre-Service Music O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 656
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

J.S. Bach

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship

Eli Maxwell

One: People of God, who is our hope and salvation?

All: Our hope is found in Jesus Christ, our Kinsman Redeemer, who loves us with an everlasting love.

One: How has he shown us this great love?

All: He laid down his life, paying the price for our redemption, that we might be brought back into the family of God.

One: What, then, shall be our response to such a gift?

All: With grateful hearts, we will serve him in spirit and in truth, proclaiming his goodness to all the earth.

One: Let us, therefore, come boldly before his throne of grace to worship our redeemer, in whom we find our rest and our joy.

All: Amen! Let us worship the Lord!

Prelude Ach Gott, vom Himmel sieh darein
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Johann Nicolaus Hanff

***Hymn #143** Glory Be to Jesus

*Invocation

Eli Maxwell

One: Let us pray. Father God, help us cling to our Kinsman Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by his grace, has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. In him, we find our redemption, our restoration, and our reconciliation to God. As our closest relative, he has paid our ransom in full, setting us free. Let us worship in spirit and truth, celebrating the boundless love of our redeemer, who calls us his own.

***Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dan Turis

All: Heavenly Father, we continue to pray, acknowledging our need for your grace. We your people, redeemed by the blood of our redeemer, Jesus Christ, confess our sins and shortcomings. We have wandered from your ways, neglected your Word, and ignored the leading of your Spirit. In thought, word, and deed, we have not lived as befits your redeemed. Forgive us, Lord, for not reflecting the love and mercy you have so generously poured upon us. Cleanse our hearts and renew a right spirit within us. Empower us by your Spirit to live lives that honor you, to love as you have loved us, and to extend your grace to others. In the name of Jesus, our redeemer, we pray. Amen.

***Moments of Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Dan Turis

One: Hear this: We have been adopted, we have been married to, we have been enfolded in as true heirs of Abraham. You have been engrafted into the family of God. Not because of anything we have done but because of what Jesus has done. He has taken all of the burden and cost of redemption out of our hands. He removes all the stain, guilt, and shame that is a part of the sin that we carry. You are in the family of God because Jesus removes your sin and gives you new life found in him.

All: Thanks be to God.

***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, Amen.

Anthem

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Arr. John Rutter

Covenant Choir

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul, he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreads a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.

Prayers of the People

The 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.

Offertory

Simple Gifts, a Shaker Melody

Arr. Cota

Handbell ensemble: Josie Balz, Becky Bell, Matt Bell, Linda Meier

*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 #144

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

Scripture Lesson

Ruth 3:9-13

Rev. Dan Turis

"Who are you?" he asked.

"I am your servant Ruth," she said. "Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family."

"The Lord bless you, my daughter," he replied. "This kindness is greater than that which you showed earlier: You have not run after the younger men, whether rich or poor. And now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a woman of noble character. Although it is true that I am a guardian-redeemer of our family, there is another who is more closely related than I. Stay here for the night, and in the morning if he wants to do his duty as your guardian-redeemer, good; let him redeem you. But if he is not willing, as surely as the Lord lives I will do it. Lie here until morning."

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

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Kinsman Redeemer Atonement

Rev. Dan Turis

*Hymn #28

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Installation of Elders and Deacons

See pg. 7

Today we install:

Elders: Jamie Jewell, Hugh Ralston Deacons: Charlotte Goering, Joan McAlonan

*Benediction

Postlude

Prelude in C major, BWV 547

J. S. Bach

Andrew Hackett, Organist

*Those who are able, please stand.

†††

The flowers on the communion table are given to the glory of God and in memory of a loving Father, Grandfather, and Great-Grandfather, Donald Ross, Sr., from Don, Carl, David, and Ruth Ross.

Elders

Alex Balz
Carol Carhartt
Rod Crousey
Rob Heidenreich, clerk
Rick Hopkins
Jamie Jewell
Mike Millhaem
Hugh Ralston
Cindy Standen

Deacons

Jenny Adams
Brian Calfano
Charlotte Goering
Jennifer Maxwell, moderator
Joan McAlonan
Nancy Smith

Note: Cindy is out of town and will be ordained next Sunday.

Ordination and Installation Questions

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge Him as Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of the Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by the church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

(For Elder) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(For Deacon) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Christ?

143 Glory Be to Jesus

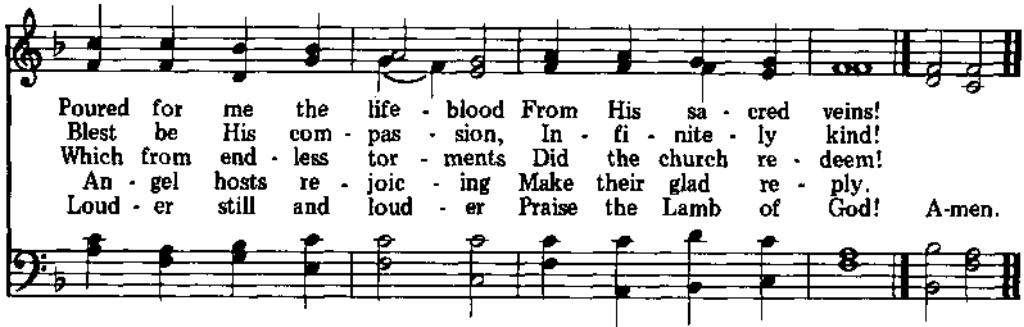
The blood of Jesus Christ . . . cleanseth us from all sin. I John 1:7

Italian hymn, 18th century
Trans. by Edward Caswall, 1857

WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN 6 5 6 5
Friedrich Filitz, 1847



1. Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2. Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3. Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4. Oft as earth ex - ult - ing Wafts its praise on high,
5. Lift we then our voic - es, Swell the might - y flood,



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ments Did the church re - deem!
An - gel hosts re - joic - ing Make their glad re - ply.
Loud - er still and loud - er Praise the Lamb of God! A-men.

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know 144

I determined not to know anything . . . save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. 1 Cor. 2:2

Johann C. Schwedler, 1741
Trans. by Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1863

HENDON 77777
Henri A. César Maian, 1827

1. Ask ye what great thing I know That de - lights and
2. Who de - feats my fierc - est foes? Who con - soles my
3. Who is life in life to me? Who the death of
4. This is that great thing I know; This de - lights and

stirs me so? What the high re - ward I win? Whose the name I
sad - dest woes? Who re - vives my faint - ing heart, Heal - ing all its
death will be? Who will place me on His right With the count - less
stirs me so: Faith in Him who died to save, Him who triumphed

glo - ry in? Je - sus Christ, the Cru - ci - fied.
hid - den smart? Je - sus Christ, the Cru - ci - fied.
hosts of light? Je - sus Christ, the Cru - ci - fied.
o'er the grave, Je - sus Christ, the Cru - ci - fied. A - men.

HIS SUFFERING AND DEATH

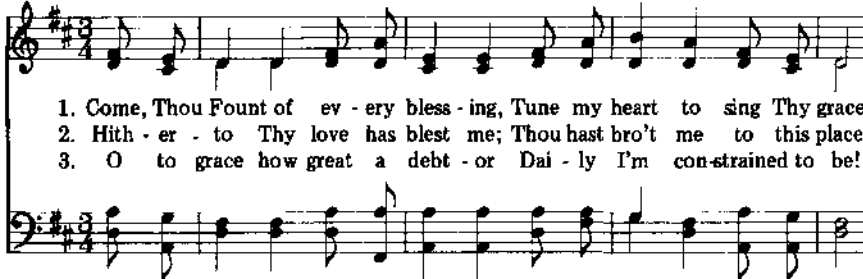
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 28

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits. Psa. 68:19

NETTLETON 8787 D.

Robert Robinson, 1758
Adapt. by E. Margaret Clarkson, 1973

Traditional American melody
John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813



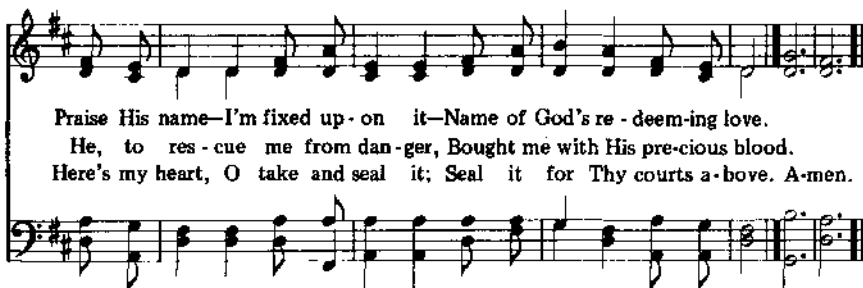
1. Come, Thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
2. Hith - er - to Thy love has blest me; Thou hast bro't me to this place;
3. O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
And I know Thy hand will bring me Safe - ly home by Thy good grace.
Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - dering heart to Thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan - dering from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;



Praise His name—I'm fixed up - on it—Name of God's re - deem - ing love.
He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, Bought me with His pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts a - bove. A - men.

HIS PRAISE