

# Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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Sunday, May 5, 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.”

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

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

# Service for the Lord's Day

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**Pre-Service Music**  
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Sarabande, HWV 437

G.F. Handel

## Concerns of the Congregation

### Call to Worship

Eli Maxwell

*One: Beloved in Christ, as we gather in joyful worship, let us remember the call Paul gave us: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." As servants of Christ, our every act and every word is an offering to the one who is just, who rewards each according to their deeds. Let us, therefore, worship with sincere hearts and eager spirits, knowing our labor in the Lord is never in vain. Come, let us worship and bow down.*

### Prelude

Improvisation on *Darwall*

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 #177

Rejoice, the Lord is King

### \*Invocation

Eli Maxwell

**All: Gracious and loving Father, we approach your throne with hearts lifted in praise. As we gather in your presence, fill us with the wisdom and grace found in your Word. Guide our thoughts and actions, that we may reflect Christ in all we do. Pour out your Spirit upon us, fostering unity and deepening our commitment to discipleship. May our worship honor you, and our lives bear witness to your endless love and mercy. In Jesus' name, amen.**

### \*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dan Turis

**All: Almighty God, in humility we confess our failures in discipleship. We have not always worked heartily as for you, Lord, but have toiled for human approval. Our actions have fallen short of the selfless example set by Christ, and too often, we have served with grudging hearts rather than with joy. Forgive us for the times we have prioritized earthly gain over heavenly treasures. Wash us anew with your grace, and strengthen our resolve to pursue righteousness. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us. Help us to live not for ourselves, but for you alone. Through Christ our Lord, amen.**

## \*Moments of Silent Confession

### \*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dan Turis

*One: The Lord has called us to do works ordained for us to accomplish. The good news is that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. So, those works we get to accomplish are no longer a law but an invitation to a better way of living in Jesus. You work for a boss of one and that one has forgiven you and given you grace upon grace. He makes service to him a delight to do because we serve him out of his love not out of our guilt.*

**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

Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone

Arr. Joel Raney

Covenant Choir

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears released. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me, and like a flood, his mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace. The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures, he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me, and like a flood, his mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.

## 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**

O Lord Most Holy

Cesar Franck

Joshua Klein, Baritone

O Lord most holy, holy and mighty, O loving Father, hear us as to thee we call. Grant us our daily bread with which our souls are fed, Father, Father, hear as to thee we call. Father, Father, thou art the Lord of all.

Thou who almighty art, dwell thou in every heart. In all our sorrows grant us peace and rest in thee. And in temptation's hour, save with thy mighty power, Father, Father, hear as to thee we call. Father, Father, Thou art the Lord, the Lord of all.

**\*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****Colossians 3:22-25**

Rev. Dan Turis

<sup>22</sup> Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism.

*One: This is God's Word for God's People.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Discipleship as Servanthood

Rev. 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.**

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

**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 #48**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Fugue in E-flat major, *St. Anne*, BWV 552

J.S. Bach

Andrew Hackett, Organist

\*Those who are able, please stand.



## **Prayers for Healing and Wholeness**

Following worship this morning, and after the postlude, you are welcome to join in a prayer circle with elders and Pastor Dan. Anyone who wishes prayer for healing is welcome to join the group. The group will gather by the baptismal font at the end of worship.

# Rejoice, the Lord Is King 177

*But we see Jesus . . . crowned with glory and honor. Heb. 2:9*

DARWALL 66688

John Darwall. 1770

Charles Wesley, 1746

1. Re-joice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King a-dore! Re-  
2. Je-sus the Sav-ior reigns, The God of truth and love; When  
3. His king-dom can-not fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n; The  
4. Re-joice in glo-rious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, And

joice, give thanks, and sing, And tri-umph ev-er-more: Lift up your  
He had purged our stains He took His seat a-bove: Lift up your  
keys of death and hell Are to our Je-sus giv'n: Lift up your  
take his serv-ants up To their e-ter-nal home. Lift up your

heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re-joice!  
heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re-joice!  
heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re-joice!  
heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re-joice! A-men.

*This tune in a lower key. No. 79*

*HIS ASCENSION AND REIGN*

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past 48

*Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Psa. 90:1*

Psalm 90  
Isaac Watts, 1719

ST. ANNE C.M.  
William Croft, 1708



1. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Still may we dwell se - cure;
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
5. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home!  
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night, Be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
Be Thou our guide while life shall last, And our e - ter - nal home! A-men.



*HIS PROVIDENCE AND CARE*