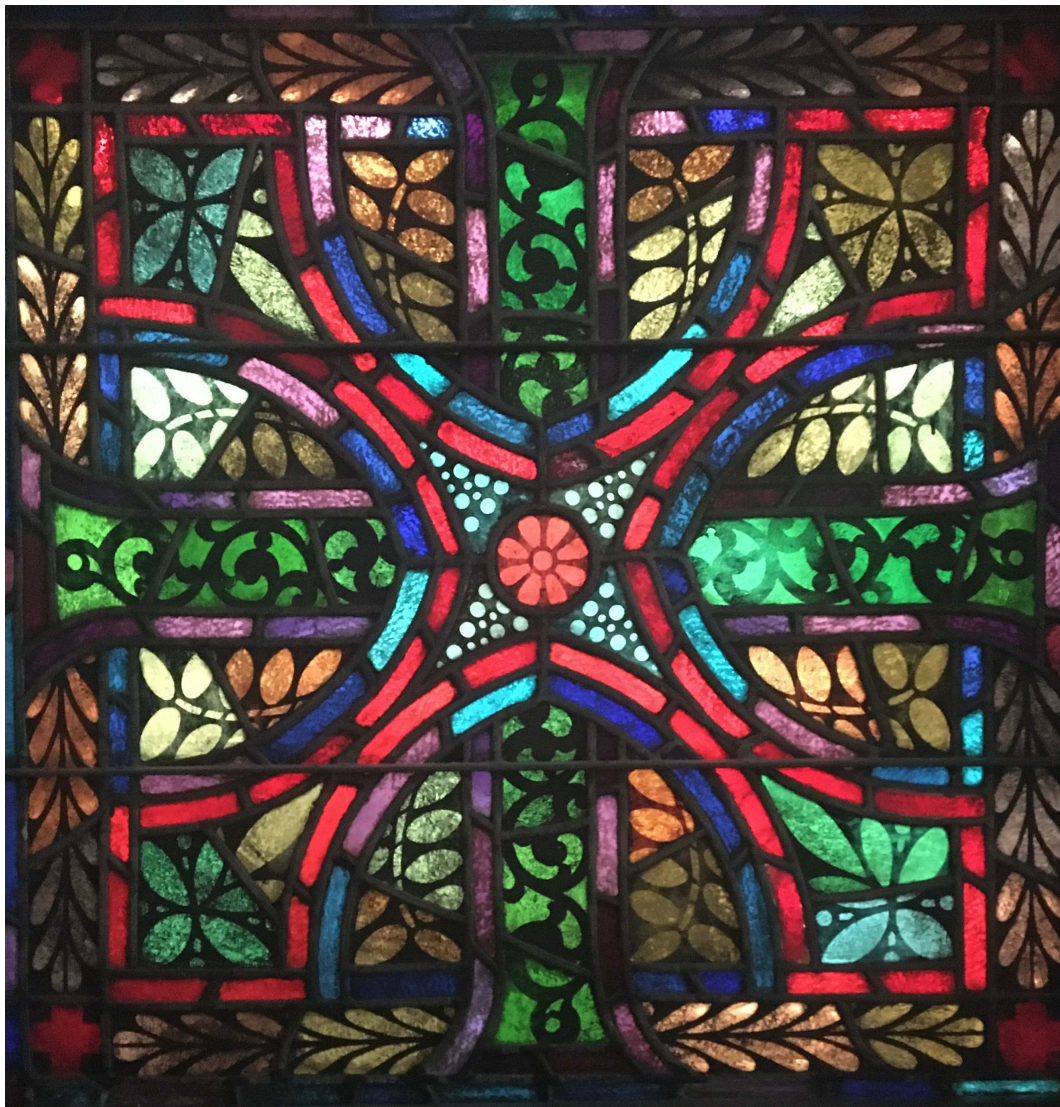


Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



September 13, 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 Symphonie Gothique, Op.70, III. Allegro Charles-Marie Widor
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Concerns of the Congregation Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

Call to Worship Randy Page

One: Come, beloved of God: Receive mercy, walk humbly with your Lord, seek justice, cherish kindness, and offer hearts made ready for faithful service together today.

Passing of the Peace

*This is a time in the worship service where we extend Christ's peace to one another.
Please greet those around you as a community bound together with the hope of Christ.*

Prelude Improvisation on Nicaea
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Ring 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 #1 Holy, Holy, Holy!

*Invocation Randy Page
All: Triune God, shape our hearts before our hands; unite us to Christ, fill us with your Spirit, and make our worship visible in humble justice and neighbor-love this day.
Amen.

*Prayer of Confession Rev. Dr. Dan Turis
All: Merciful God, we confess that our hands often outrun our hearts. We perform goodness for praise, neglect justice when it costs us, and withhold kindness from inconvenient neighbors. We have walked proudly before you. For Christ's sake, forgive us and create obedience within us. Amen.

*Moments of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

One: Hear the good news: God's steadfast love does not abandon proud and wandering sinners. Jesus Christ fulfilled all righteousness, bore our lovelessness upon the cross, and rose to make us new. In him, we are forgiven and reconciled. By his Spirit, our hearts are renewed for justice, mercy, humility, and joyful service of every neighbor.

*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

Holy, Holy, Holy/We Worship You

Benjamin Harlan

Covenant Choir with congregation

Choir: Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! Early in the morning, our song shall rise to thee; holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Choir: We worship you, almighty God. In you alone is our delight. We worship you, O holy God, and lift our voice to sing your praise. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Congregation and Choir:

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky, and see; holy, holy, holy merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Choir: We worship you, O holy God.

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

Lift High the Cross

Kitchin, Newbolt & Nicholson/

Covenant Choir

Arr. Jantz A. Black

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim 'till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign, the hosts of God in unity combine. [Refrain]

Each newborn servant of the crucified bears on the brow the seal of him who died. [Refrain]

O Lord, now lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee. [Refrain]

So shall our song of triumph ever be; praise to the crucified for victory.[Refrain] Alleluia!

*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 #324 Be Still, My Soul

Scripture Lesson Micah 6:8
 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act
 justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

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

Sermon The Heart God Desires Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

*Hymn #500 Go, Labor On

New Members Reception See next page

*Benediction

Postlude Fugue in C minor, BWV 582 J. S. Bach
Andrew Hackett, Organist

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Key Sermon Notes:
Historical Voice: John Calvin (1509–1564)
Quote: “We cannot love God without loving our neighbor.”
Source: Institutes of the Christian Religion, III.vii.6

Confessional Witness: Second Helvetic Confession 5.153 — “The true worship of God consists not only in outward ceremonies but chiefly in faith and obedience proceeding from a sincere heart.”

Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Order: F-1.0301 — “The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone... a community of hope... a community of love.”

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



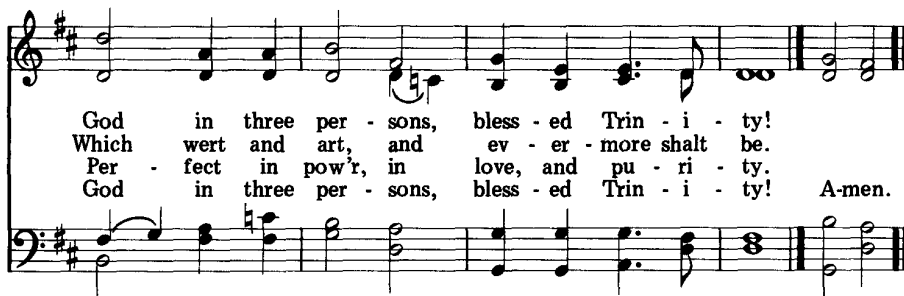
1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



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! Amen.

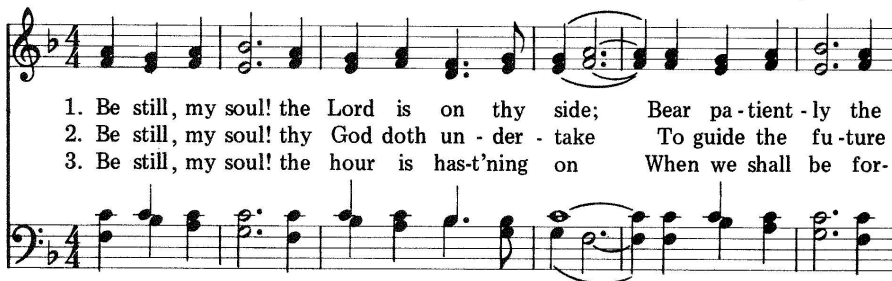
324 Be Still, My Soul

Be still, and know that I am God. Ps. 46:10

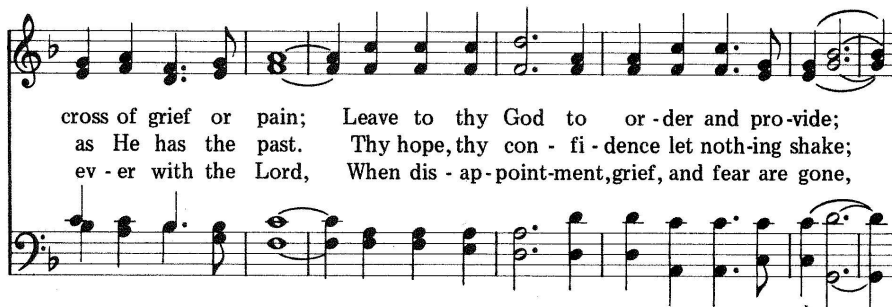
Katharina A. von Schlegel, 1752
Trans. by Jane L. Borthwick, 1855

FINLANDIA 10 10 10 10 10 10

Jean Sibelius, 1899
Arr. for *The Hymnal*, 1933



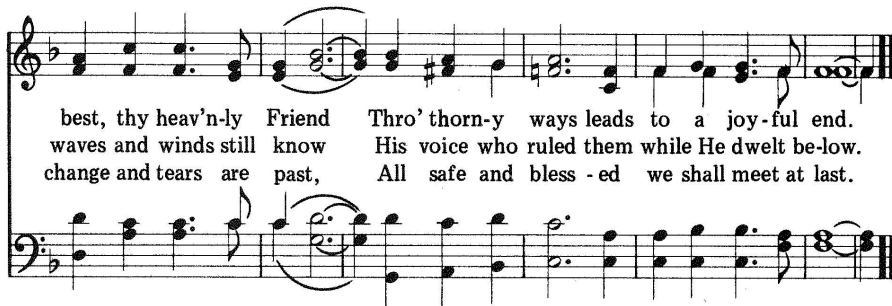
1. Be still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side; Bear pa-tient-ly the
2. Be still, my soul! thy God doth un-der-take To guide the fu-ture
3. Be still, my soul! the hour is has-t'ning on When we shall be for-



cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide;
as He has the past. Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake;
ev-er with the Lord, When dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev-ery change He faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul! thy
All now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul! the
Sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul! when



best, thy heav'n-ly Friend Thro' thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be-low.
change and tears are past, All safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

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LIFE IN CHRIST

Go, Labor On; Spend, and Be Spent 500

Go out into the highways . . . and compel them to come in. Luke 14:23

Horatius Bonar, 1843

TRURO L.M.
Thomas Williams' *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789



1. Go, la - bor on; spend, and be spent, Thy joy to do the Fa-ther's will:
2. Go, la - bor on; 'tis not for naught; Thy earth-ly loss is heav'n-ly gain:
3. Go, la - bor on while it is day: The world's dark night is hast'n-ing on;
4. Toil on, faint not, keep watch and pray, Be wise the err - ing soul to win;



It is the way the Mas-ter went; Should not the ser - vant tread it still?
Men heed thee, love thee, praise thee not; The Mas-ter prais - es: what are men?
Speed, speed thy work, cast sloth a - way; It is not thus that souls are won.
Go forth in - to the world's high-way, Com-pel the wan-d'rer to come in.



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