



Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



October 12, 2025 • 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

Pre-Service Music

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Panis Angelicus

Cesar Franck
Arr. Henry Coates

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 117

Darlene Nored

One: Lift songs of praise to the Lord!

All: For great is God's love toward us.

One: The faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

All: Praise the Lord!

Prelude

Lobt Gott, Ihr Christen Allzugleich, Buxwv 202

Dietrich Buxtehude

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Ringling of the Revere Tower Bell

Let the ringling of the bell call our attention away from ourselves and
onto the living Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Hymn #90

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*Invocation

Darlene Nored

One: Loving Lord, we come into your presence with grateful songs of praise. May we worship you truly and fully in the way that we are meant to worship. May we see others as you see them and be merciful as you are merciful. May we see you in others. May our lives be worthy of the calling we have received. Empower us to use the gifts which you have given us to build up your kingdom and your people. May others see your grace through our work and our lives. May we recognize the grace that has brought us to this moment and to this place.

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Margaret Heidenreich

All: Father God, forgive the ways that I quickly forget all that you have done for me. I am easily distracted by the things that discourage me, and I do not offer you the praise that you deserve. I am often blinded by my own desires. I do not recognize all that you have already done for me. I often feel separated from you, even though you are always near me. Draw me ever closer to you. Help me to give you all the honor and glory worthy of your name. It is your great love that sent Christ to become human for me. It is your great love that formed me. It is your great love that empowers me. Empower me to be an example of your great love.

***Moments of Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Stand firm in the assurance of this promise: God loves you with an unfailing love!
Nothing can separate you from his love!

***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

No Turning Back

Don Besig & Nancy Price

Covenant Choir

All my life seems filled with trouble, and I'm more confused each day.
All the world seems cold and empty, and it's hard to find my way.
When there's no one there to help me, I feel lost and all alone;
but there is someone I can turn to who will love me as his own.
I have decided to follow Jesus. I'll never turn back, no turning back.

When your heart is growing weary, and your path seems dark and long,
when your hope begins to falter and temptation seems so strong,
there's a light to end the darkness and to chase your fears away.
Yes, there is someone you can turn to who will guide you through each day.
Will you decide now to follow Jesus? You cannot turn back, no turning back.

We have decided to follow Jesus, there's no turning back, no turning back.

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

His Perfect Love

Oley Speaks

Madeline Jentsch, Mezzo Soprano

There's a love whose solace bides ever with us, night and day, 'tis a love that on its tides beareth every grief away; love so great 'tis scarce begun when life's earthly course is run.

'Tis the gift the Saviour blest offers every soul oppressed, 'tis the gift the heart requires, 'tis the gift the soul desires. Know this gift that Christ bestows still shall be our joy and stay, when beyond earth's sunset rose gleams the gold of heaven's day; in that hour his perfect love leads us to his world above.

*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 #351

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

Scripture Lesson

Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

More than Conquerors

Rev. Margaret Heidenreich

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

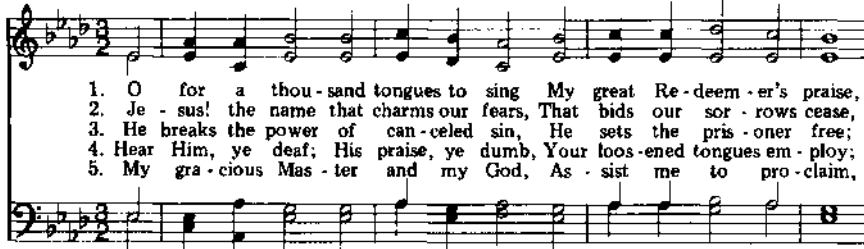
9 AM — Matthew 25 Ministries Volunteering

90 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

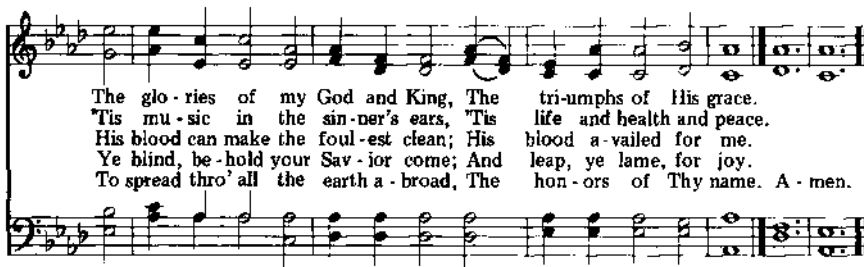
My tongue shall speak of Thy . . . praise all the day long. Psa. 35:28

Charles Wesley, 1739

AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gilser, 1784-1829
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839



1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing My great Re-deem-er's praise,
2. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, That bids our sor - rows cease,
3. He breaks the power of can-celed sin, He sets the pris - oner free;
4. Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb, Your loos-ened tongues em - ploy;
5. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As - sist me to pro-claim,



The glo - ries of my God and King, The tri-umphs of His grace.
'Tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul-est clean; His blood a-vailed for me.
Ye blind, be-hold your Sav - ior come; And leap, ye lame, for joy.
To spread thro' all the earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name. A - men.

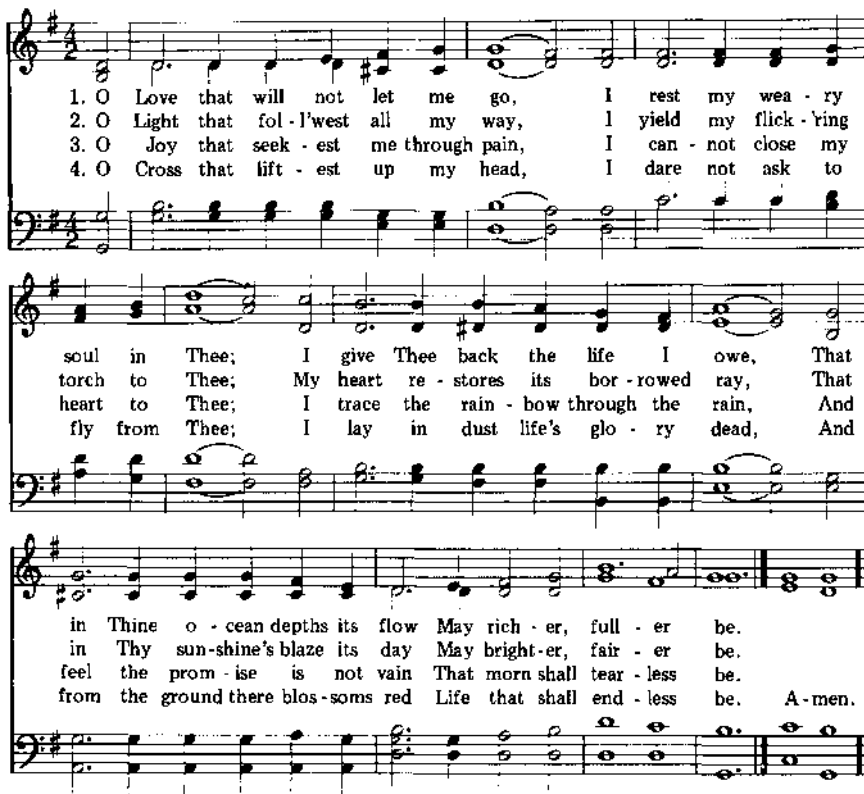
351 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

The Lord hath appeared . . . saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love. Jer. 31:3

ST. MARGARET 8 8 8 8 6

George Matheson, 1882

Albert L. Peace, 1884



1. O Love that will not let me go, I rest my wea - ry
 2. O Light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my flick - ring
 3. O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not close my
 4. O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not ask to

soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, That
 torch to Thee; My heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, That
 heart to Thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain, And
 fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, And

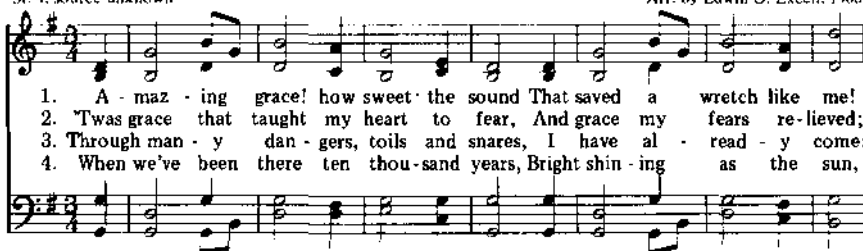
in Thine o - cean depths its flow May rich - er, full - er be.
 in Thy sun - shine's blaze its day May bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain That morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red Life that shall end - less be. A - men.

288 Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

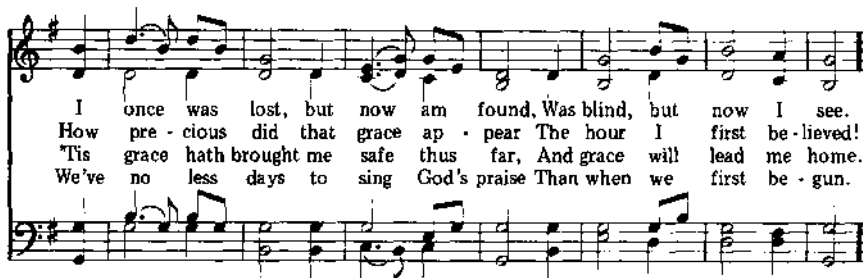
God is able to make all grace abound toward you . . . II Cor. 9:8

John Newton, 1779
St. 4, source unknown

AMAZING GRACE C.M.
Traditional American melody
Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900



1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved;
3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares, I have al - read - y come;
4. When we've been there ten thou-sand years, Bright shin - ing as the sun,



I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be - gun.