



Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



February 22, 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

Pre-Service Music

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Organ Symphonie No. 9, *Gothique*
I. Moderato

Charles-Marie Widor

Concerns of the Congregation

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

Call to Worship

Kelly Millhaem

One: Come to the beautiful gate of grace; the Jesus who lifts the lame to leap still strengthens fearful hearts to speak.

Prelude

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Christe, aller Welt Trost, BWV 673

J. S. Bach

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 #550

When Morning Gilds the Skies

*Invocation

Kelly Millhaem

All: Jesus, healer and herald, you restore broken bodies and open silent mouths. As we gather, show us your compassion and your courage. Take us by the hand where we are stuck, and then send us out with your name on our lips. Fill us afresh with the Spirit who makes mercy and message walk together.

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Turis

All: Merciful Lord, we confess we often like one half of your mission without the other. We may serve quietly but never speak your name, or we may speak loudly without love. You healed through Peter in your name, yet we are tempted to hide that name to avoid awkwardness. We enjoy being seen as “nice” but resist being known as yours. Our fear of people has too often muted our testimony. Forgive us for divorcing deeds from words and shrinking back from costly boldness.

*Moments of Silent Confession

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Hear this comfort: The one whose name made the lame man walk is the same one whose name saves sinners. Your record of silence and compromise has been nailed to his cross. In Christ, you are forgiven not because you have been brave but because he was faithful. The Spirit who filled Peter and John is given to you as well—not as a reward, but as a gift. In his strength, you are pardoned, emboldened, and sent back into the world you once feared.

***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

One in Him

Craig Courtney

Covenant Choir

One in him, our great deliverer, let our hopes and aims be one; let us live in sweet communion with the Father and the Son.

Keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace; strong in him, whose hand will guide us in the path of perfect peace.

Like the dew from Hermon falling, like the oil on Aaron's head, will the grace of him who loves us on his faithful ones descend.

Keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace; strong in him, whose hand will guide us in the path of perfect peace.

One in him, our dear Redeemer, let our prayers as one ascend, while we add to each petition "Father, let thy will be done."

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

O Rest in the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

Kayla Sconiers, Mezzo Soprano

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him, and he shall give thee thy heart's desires.
Commit thy way unto him, and trust in him; and fret not thyself because of evil-doers.
O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him, wait patiently for him.

***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** see pg. 7

God is So Good

Scripture Lessons

Acts 3:1–4:31
Pg. 772 of the pew Bible

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Beautiful Gate and the Bold Word

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

***Hymn #500**

Go, Labor On

***Benediction**

Postlude

Improvisation on Truro

Andrew Hackett, Organist

*Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers on the communion table today are given to the glory of God by Nancy Hobstetter, in memory of Lil Richert (Genita Heidenreich's mother) who died in late January.

550 When Morning Gilds the Skies

My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord. Psa. 5:3

Katholisches Gesangbuch, Würzburg, 1828
Trans. by Edward Caswall, 1854

LAUDES DOMINI 6 6 6 6 6 6

Joseph Barnby, 1868

1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak - ing cries:
2. The night be - comes as day When from the heart we say:
3. Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face,
4. Be this while life is mine My can - ti - cle di - vine:

May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work or prayer
May Je - sus Christ be praised! The pow'rs of dark - ness fear
Sing, Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
May Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this th'e - ter - nal song,

To Je - sus I re - pair: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
When this sweet chant they hear: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
Ring joy - ous with the sound: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
Through all the a - ges long: May Je - sus Christ be praised! A-men.

God Is So Good

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Anonymous

Anonymous

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the song, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm.

1. God is so good, God is so good.
2. Je - sus is real, Je - sus is real.
3. * He saved my soul, He saved my soul.
4. I praise his name, I praise his name.

God is so good, * He's so good to me!
Je - sus is real, He's so real to me!
He saved my soul, And he made me whole!
I praise his name, He's so good to me!

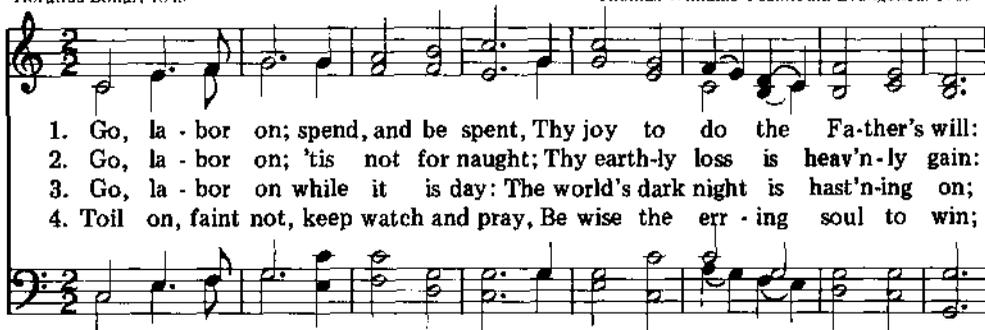
Go, Labor On; Spend, and Be Spent 500

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

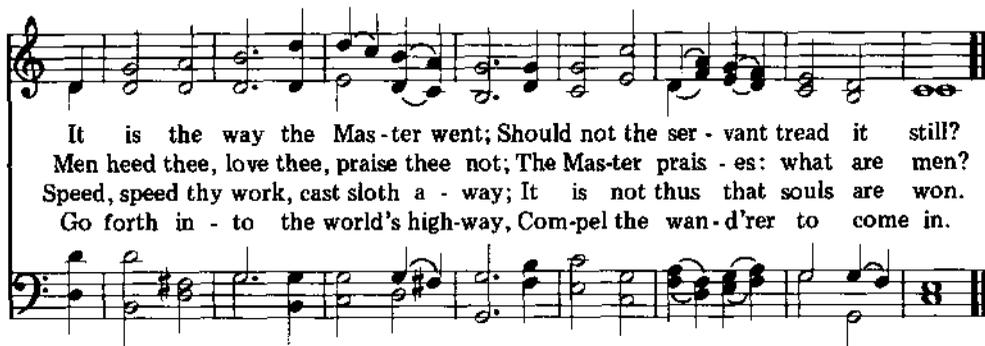
TRURO L.M.

Horatius Bonar, 1843

Thomas Williams' *Psalmodia 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.

STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE