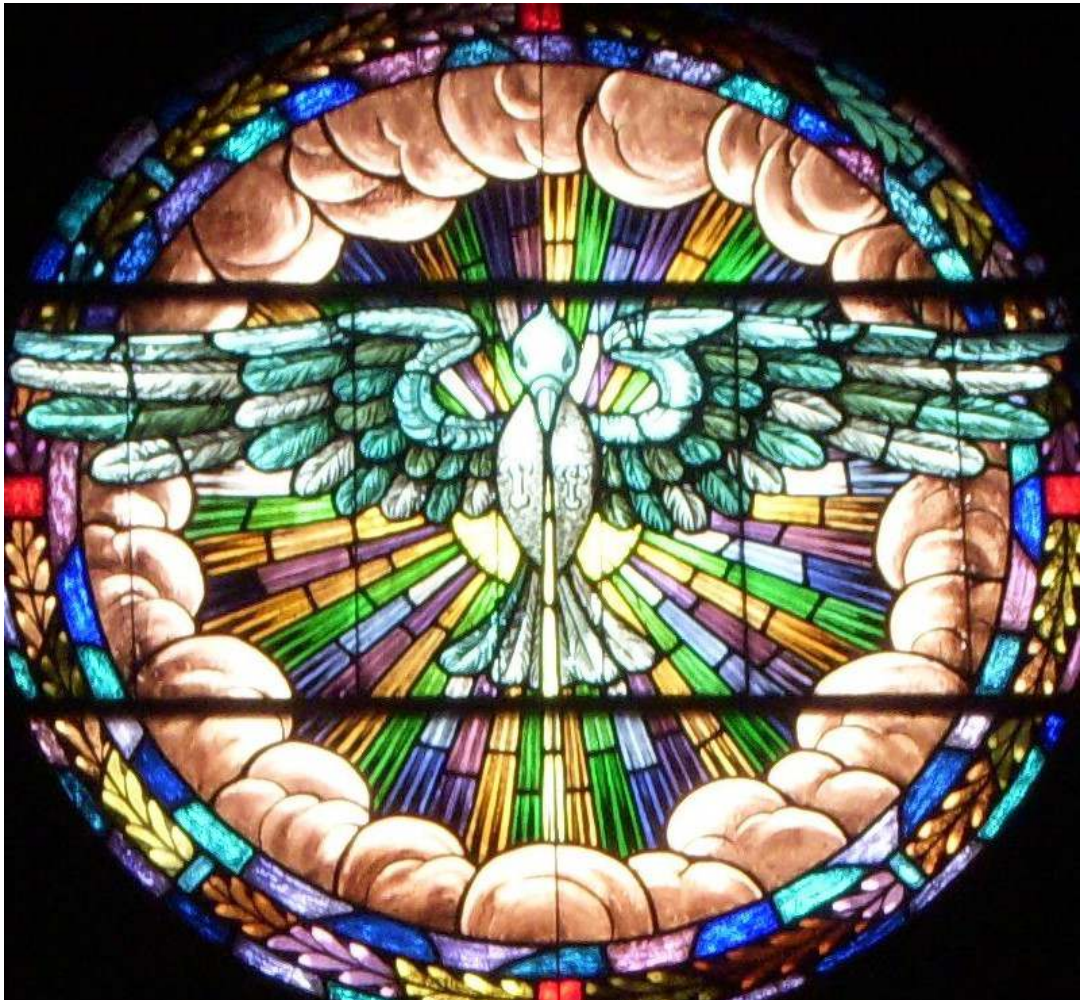


# Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



May 24, 2026 · 10:30 AM Worship

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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](http://covfirstchurch.org).



\*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

One: Hear this assurance: The God who gave his only Son for you is not stingy. He is the sending God, and Christ is the sent Savior. Your failure to live as a sent one was nailed to his cross. His perfectly obedient, outward-facing life is counted as yours. In him, you are forgiven and freed from self-ownership. The Spirit who turned Antioch into a sending base now lives in you, not as a drill sergeant but as a comforter and empowerer. You are pardoned, adopted, and invited into a mission that runs on grace, not guilt.

\*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

Go Ye into All the World

Eugene Butler

Covenant Choir

Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature! Jesus said, “This is the great commandment: That you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this; that he lay down his life for his friends.”

Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature! “Let not your heart be troubled, you believe in God. If you believe in God, you believe in me!”

Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature! Alleluia!

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.)*

## Covenant Choir

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing; comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it thy holy flame bestowing.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing: True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and over its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; And let thy glorious light shine ever in my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

So the yearning strong with which the soul will long shall far out pass the power of human telling; for none can guess it's grace till he becomes the place where the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Come down, O Love divine.

## \*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 #198

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

## Scripture Lesson

Acts 11:1-30

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him <sup>3</sup> and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them." <sup>4</sup> Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. <sup>6</sup> I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. <sup>7</sup> Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. <sup>11</sup> "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his

house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. <sup>14</sup> He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life." <sup>19</sup> Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. <sup>20</sup> Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. <sup>24</sup> He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup> and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. <sup>27</sup> During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. <sup>28</sup> One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) <sup>29</sup> The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. <sup>30</sup> This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Where Outsiders Became Missionaries

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

\*Hymn #43

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

\*Benediction

Postlude

Fughetta on Lobe den Herren

Andrew Hackett

Andrew Hackett, Organist

The flowers are given to the glory of God  
by Mike and Kelly Millhaem in honor of the  
birthdays of Kelly and Charlie Millhaem.

# 197 Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

*The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost . . . Rom. 5:5*

Isaac Watts, 1707

ST. AGNES C.M.  
John B. Dykes, 1866

1. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, heav'n - ly Dove, With all Thy quick - n'ing pow'rs;  
2. In vain we tune our for - mal songs, In vain we strive to rise;  
3. And shall we then for - ev - er live At this poor dy - ing rate?  
4. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, heav'n - ly Dove, With all Thy quick - n'ing pow'rs;

Kin - dle a flame of sa - cred love In these cold hearts of ours.  
Ho - san - nas lan - guish on our tongues, And our de - vo - tion dies.  
Our love so faint, so cold to Thee, And Thine to us so great!  
Come, shed a - broad a Sav - ior's love, And that shall kin - dle ours. A - men.

# Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 198

*If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Gal. 5:25*

MORECAMBE 10 10 10 10

Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

George Croly, 1867

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from  
2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies, No sud - den  
3. Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King? All, all Thine  
4. Teach me to feel that Thou art al - ways nigh; Teach me the  
5. Teach me to love Thee as Thine an - gels love, One ho - ly

earth, through all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y  
rend - ing of the veil of clay, No an - gel vis - it - ant, no  
own, soul, heart and strength and mind. I see Thy cross - there teach my  
strug - gles of the soul to bear, To check the ris - ing doubt, the  
pas - sion fill - ing all my frame; The bap - tism of the heav'n - de -

as Thou art, And make me love Thee as I ought to love.  
o - p'ning skies; But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
heart to cling: O let me seek Thee, and O let me find.  
reb - el sigh; Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
scend - ed Dove, My heart an al - tar, and Thy love the flame. A - men.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

# 43 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty. Job 22:26*

Joachim Neander, 1680  
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN 14 14 4 7 8  
*Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665*

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might - y, the King of cre - a -  
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign -  
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend  
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal-  
eth, Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gen - tly sus-  
thee; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at-  
Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be-

va - tion! All ye who hear, Now to His tem - ple draw  
tain - eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de - sires e'er have  
tend thee. Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can  
fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His peo - ple a -

near; Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
been Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?  
do, If with His love He be - friend thee.  
gain: Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him. A - men.