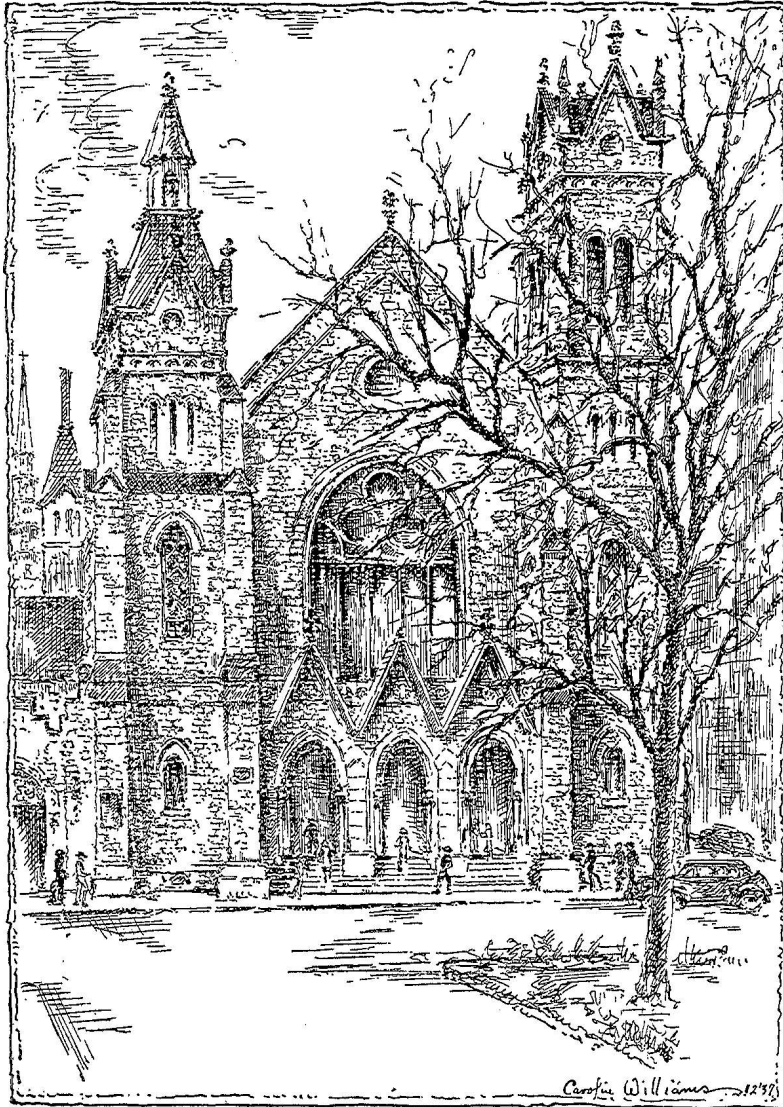


Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



August 9, 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 Prelude in E-flat major, BWV 552 (excerpt) J. S. Bach
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Concerns of the Congregation Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

Call to Worship Karen Stine

One: Come, witnesses in the dock of daily life; the gospel that stood before Felix and Agrippa
still stands unashamed in our world.

Prelude Vater unser in Himmelreich IGB 23 Georg Böhm
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

Ringling 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 #90 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*Invocation Karen Stine

All: Lord Jesus, true judge and gentle advocate, we see Paul defending the hope of the
resurrection before skeptical rulers. As we gather, prepare us for our own small
courts—classrooms, break rooms, family tables. Give us clarity, gentleness, and
courage. Let this service deepen our love for you so that, like Paul, we cannot help
but speak.

*Prayer of Confession Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

All: God of truth, we confess that when our faith feels “on trial,” we often plead the
Fifth. We dodge questions, change subjects, or offer vague spirituality instead of
naming you. We fear looking foolish more than we fear others missing life. We
forget that, as Martin Luther declared, “Here I stand, I can do no other,” not
because of stubbornness but because of gospel conviction. Our convictions often
melt under social heat. Forgive our people-pleasing, our overestimation of others’
opinions, and our underestimation of your power to use even clumsy words.

*Moments of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

One: Beloved, the most important trial was not Paul before Agrippa, but Jesus before Pilate—and on that day, he chose silence and surrender so you could be declared righteous. Your record of denial and timidity was laid on him; his record of perfect witness is given to you. In Christ, the Judge's gavel has already fallen: "No condemnation." You are forgiven, not because you've always spoken well, but because he spoke "Father, forgive them" over you. The Spirit now trains you, not to earn acquittal, but to enjoy it and explain it to others.

*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

In the Garden/What a Friend We have in Jesus

Arr. Brant Adams

Carl Colvin, Oboe

Minute for Mission

David and Carleen Heath

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

We Gather Together/Count Your Blessings

Arr. Brant Adams

Carl Colvin, Oboe

*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 #224

How Firm a Foundation

Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.” So Paul motioned with his hand and began his defense: ² “King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews, ³ and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs and controversies. Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently. ⁴ “The Jewish people all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. ⁵ They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that I conformed to the strictest sect of our religion, living as a Pharisee. ⁶ And now it is because of my hope in what God has promised our ancestors that I am on trial today. ⁷ This is the promise our twelve tribes are hoping to see fulfilled as they earnestly serve God day and night. King Agrippa, it is because of this hope that these Jews are accusing me. ⁸ Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead? ⁹ “I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰ And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord’s people in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. ¹¹ Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities. ¹² “On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. ¹³ About noon, King Agrippa, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. ¹⁴ We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ ¹⁵ “Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ “ ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied. ¹⁶ ‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. ¹⁷ I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them ¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ ¹⁹ “So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. ²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds. ²¹ That is why some Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. ²² But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.”

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

All: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #500

Go, Labor On; Spend and be Spent

*Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in C major, BWV 547

J. S. Bach

Andrew Hackett, Organist

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Rev. Dr. Turis in celebration of
Dan & Leslie's 25th wedding anniversary on August 11. Congratulations to Leslie & Dan!

90 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

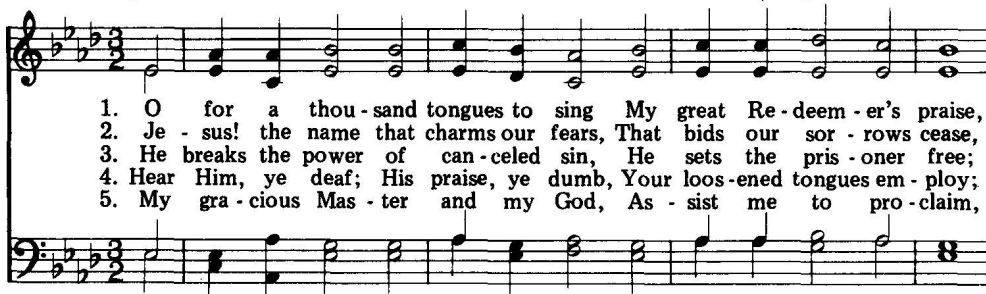
My tongue shall speak of Thy . . . praise all the day long. Psa. 35:28

Charles Wesley, 1739

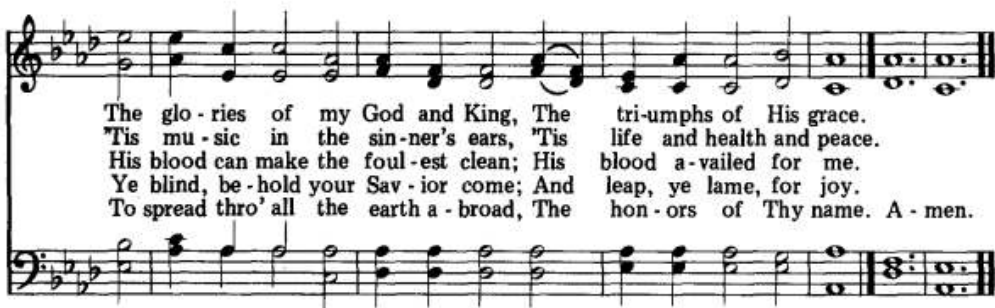
AZMON C.M.

Carl G. Gläser, 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.

How Firm a Foundation 224

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but My words shall not . . . Luke 21:33

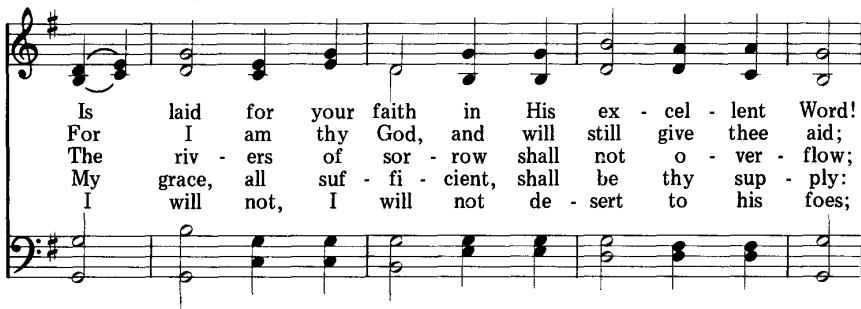
FOUNDATION 11 11 11 11

Traditional American melody
Caldwell's *Union Harmony*. 1837

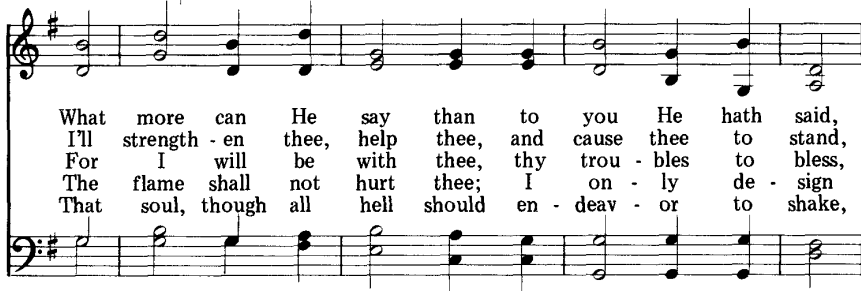
Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*. 1787



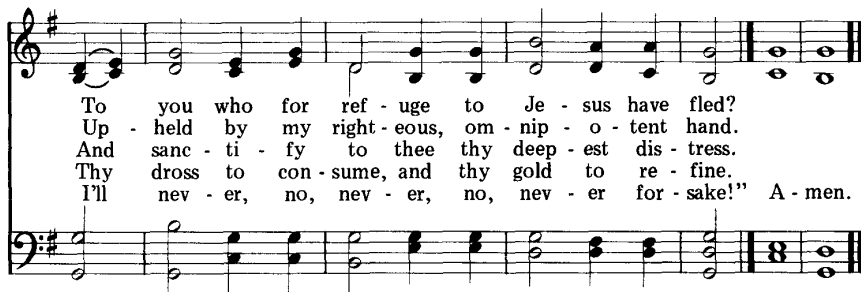
1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2. "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4. "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5. "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
The riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
My grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to his foes;



What more can He say than to you He hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
For I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
The flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
Up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
And sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
Thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!" A - men.

Alternate tune, ADESTE FIDELES, No. 103

THE SCRIPTURES

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' *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.

STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE