

Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 4, 2024 • 10:30 AM



“Covenant-First’s mission is to praise the Father, proclaim the Son
and submit to the perfecting power of the Holy Spirit.”

Covenant-First Presbyterian Church • 717 Elm Street • Cincinnati, OH 45202
www.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.

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

We offer Communion during the worship service on the first Sunday of each month. We welcome anyone who proclaims Christ as Savior to partake. The Communion table is not restricted to Presbyterians. During the service, the church elders will distribute the elements, while the congregation remains seated in the pews.

Parking

Validated parking is available in the adjacent garage for all worship services. Please pick up a validation sticker and apply the sticker to your parking ticket to use for validation. Then simply scan your ticket with the sticker at the parking gate on your way out of the garage. If you are unsure how to obtain your parking sticker, any greeter or our security personnel will be happy to assist you.

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, please pick up any of the literature located on the back tables, see your morning greeter, contact the church office at 513-621-4144, or visit our website at www.covfirstchurch.org.

Service for the Lord's Day

Pre-Service Music Sarabande, from *Suite in D minor* HWV 437
Andrew Hackett, Organist

G. F. Handel

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship

Zach Burnham

One: Let us worship the sovereign God, who in total grace chose us, atoned for us, irresistibly draws us, and preserves us. We gather, humbled and thankful, to glorify the One who makes us flourish in a world bent on destruction.

Prelude

Improvisation on *Nicaea*

Andrew Hackett, Organist

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 #1

Holy, Holy, Holy

Invocation

Zach Burnham

All: Almighty and gracious God, in your wisdom, you have called us out of darkness into your marvelous light. We stand in awe of your total sovereignty, celebrating your unconditional election, marveling at the atonement made specifically for us. Overwhelmed by your irresistible grace, we rejoice in the assurance of our perseverance in faith. As we gather in your presence, guide our hearts and minds so that we may worship you in spirit and in truth, reflecting the glory of your eternal grace. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Heavenly Father, we humbly come before you, acknowledging our total depravity, our continual falling short of your glory. We confess that too often we resist your grace, neglect your call, and wander from your paths. We admit our failure to uphold your truths and our frequent lapse in reflecting your love and justice. In your mercy, forgive our sins, those known and unknown, things done and left undone. Thank you for your unconditional election, limited atonement that covers us, and irresistible grace that draws us back to you. Strengthen us to persevere in faith and obedience. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Regardless of your position on theology, hear this, the unconditional truth for everyone who is found in Jesus Christ: Jesus gives you salvation. Every human on earth needs to know that forgiveness for sins is found in Jesus Christ. There is no one who gets it on their own; they need Jesus Christ. Jesus has come and given you grace upon grace. He removes the guilt, shame, and embarrassment.

All: Thanks be to God.

*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, Amen.

Anthem

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

Mark Hayes

Covenant Choir

Why should I feel discouraged? And why should the shadows come?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home?

When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he.

His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free.

For his eye is on is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,

I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free.

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free.

For his eye is on is on the sparrow and I know he's protecting,
and I know that he's loving, and I know he watches me.

Prayers of the People

The 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.

Offertory

Behold the Lamb

Keith & Kristyn Getty/
Stuart Townend

Madeline Jentsch, Natalie Sheppard,
Jarrett Hazleton and Emilio Vasquez

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us, and we remember the promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you, eat and remember; the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you, drink and remember he drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond and to remember our call to follow in the steps of Christ as his body here on earth. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of heaven around the table of the King.

*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

Scripture Lesson

Romans 3:9-18

Rev. Dan Turis

What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know. There is no fear of God before their eyes."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What in the world do TULIPs have to do with the church?

Rev. Dan Turis

*Apostles Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

The Invitation

The Thanksgiving

The Words of Institution

The Communion

We will share in the body together. You may drink of the cup when desired.

The Prayer of Blessing

***Hymn #313** My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

***Benediction**

Postlude Nachspiel in D major, BWV W 12 Felix Mendelssohn
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

*Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Rob and Genita Heidenreich in celebration of the six-month anniversary of Rev. Turis' first Sunday at Covenant-First. Thank you, Pastor Dan, for your faithful leadership and ministry with us. Onward!

Prayers for Healing and Wholeness

Following worship this morning, and after the postlude, you are welcome to join in a prayer circle with elders and Pastor Dan. Anyone who wishes prayer for healing is welcome to join the group. The group will gather by the baptismal font at the end of worship.

Annual Congregational Meeting — Sunday, March 3 following worship

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3, immediately following the worship service. During the meeting the Nominating Committee will review their work and present nominees, and we will elect elders and deacons. We will also review and approve Pastor Dan's Terms of Call. Be sure to be in worship this Sunday on Sunday, March 3. Questions? See Pastor Dan, or Rob Heidenreich, Clerk of Session.

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 13 19

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! A-men.

THE TRINITY

313 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Other foundation can no man lay; than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 3:11

Edward Mote, 1834

SOLID ROCK L.M. Ref.
William B. Bradbury, 1863

1. My hope is built on noth-ing less Than Je - sus' blood and right-eous-ness;
2. When dark-ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un-chang-ing grace;
3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood Sup - port me in the whelm-ing flood;
4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in Him be found;

I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, But whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
When all a-round my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay.
Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.

Refrain

On Christ the sol - id Rock I stand; All oth - er ground

is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

LIFE IN CHRIST