



Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



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 Symphony No. 9, Op. 70, IV

A boy is born to us

Charles-Marie Widor

Concerns of the Congregation

Randy Page

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-2

Kelly Millhaem

One: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Prelude

Tune on Nun Komi, Der Heiden Heiland

Arr. Michael D Costello

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 #107

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

*Invocation

Matthew 18

Kelly Millhaem

One: Dear Lord, thank you that you promise us that where two or three are gathered you are
here in the midst.

**All: We welcome you among us today. We ask that you open our ears so that we may
hear your voice. Open our minds that we may receive your wisdom. Open our
hearts that we may receive your love.**

*Prayer of Confession

Romans 7:21-23

Randy Page

**All: So we find this law at work: Although we want to do good, evil is right there with
us. For in our inner being we delight in God's law; but we see another law at work
in us, waging war against the law of our minds and making us prisoners of the law
of sin at work within us. Father, hear our prayers of confession and forgive our sins.**

*Moments of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

Randy Page

One: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not
always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so
great is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he
removed our transgressions from us.

***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.

Hymn #121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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

Tune on Wie Soll Ich Dich Empfangen

Arr. Michael D Costello

Christie Lee, Organ Scholar

***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 #110**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Scripture Lessons

Psalms 119:33-34

³³ Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow them to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:19-21

¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon	‘Til I Come, Give Attendance to Reading		Randy Page
Read and Pray Jeremiah 33:3	Read and Depend John 16:13	Read and Meditate Joshua 1:8	
Read and Apply James 1:22-25	Read and Practice Colossians 3:15-17	Read and Try 1 John 4:1	
	Read and Tell John 4:28-29		

***Hymn #223** God Hath Spoken by His Prophets

***Benediction**

Postlude	Tune on Adeste Fidelis	Arr. T. Roderick H. Candlyn
Christie Lee, Organ Scholar		

*Those who are able, please stand.

Welcome Randy Page

This morning we welcome Elder Randy Page to the pulpit. Randy is covering for Rev. Dr. Dan Turis while he is away. Randy currently serves on the Session at Covenant-First Presbyterian Church and has also completed the Commissioned Ruling Elder training through the Presbytery of Cincinnati.

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child 107

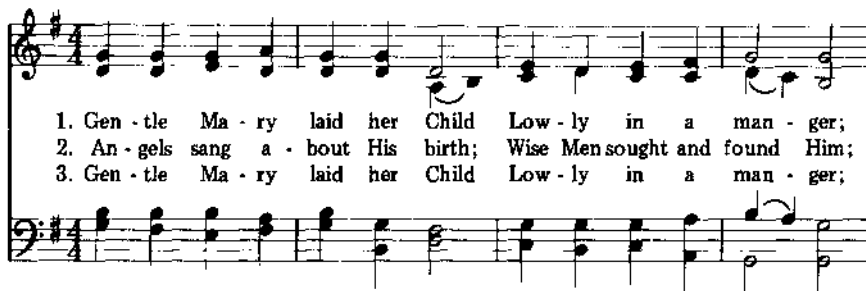
And she brought forth her firstborn son . . . and laid Him in a manger. Luke 2:7

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM 7 6 7 6 D.

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Arr. by Ernest Macmillan, 1930

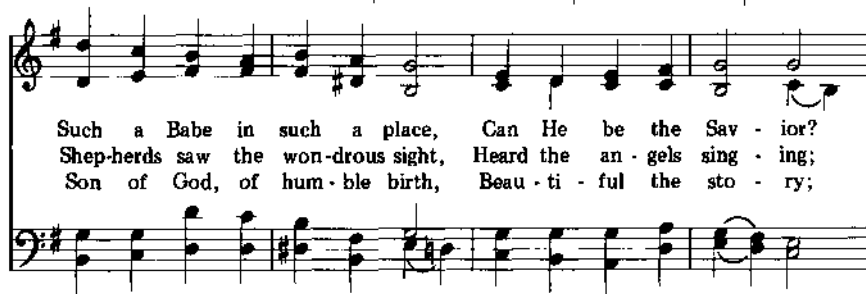
Joseph S. Cook, 1919



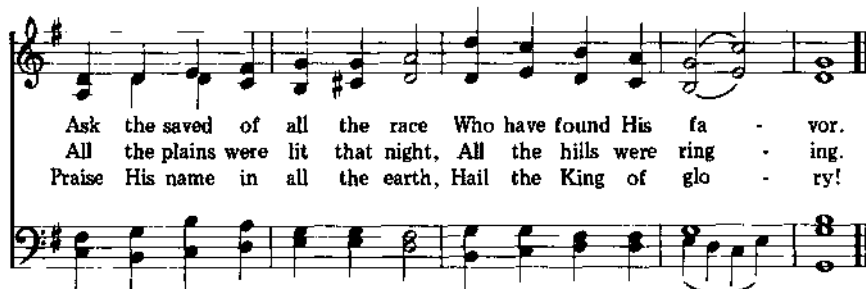
1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2. An - gels sang a - bout His birth; Wise Men sought and found Him;
3. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger:
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round Him:
He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger:



Such a Babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

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HIS BIRTH

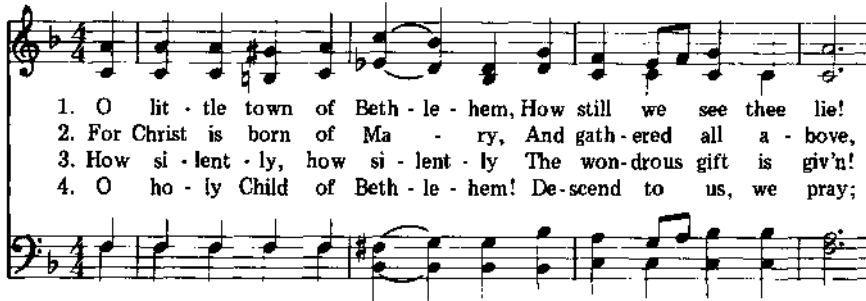
O Little Town of Bethlehem 121

Thou, Bethlehem . . . though thou be little . . . out of thee shall He come. Micah 5:2

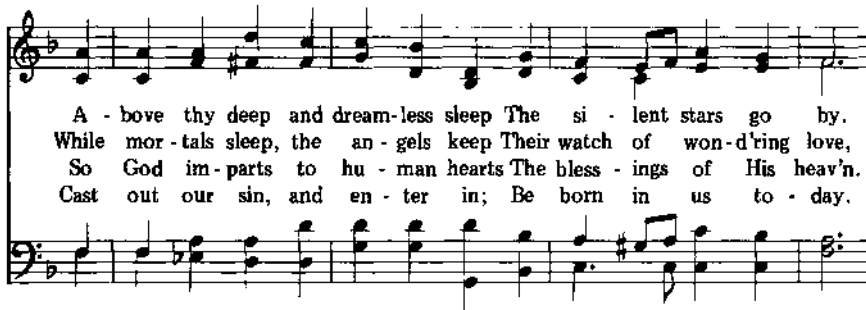
ST. LOUIS 8 6 8 6 7 6 8 6

Lewis H. Redner, 1868

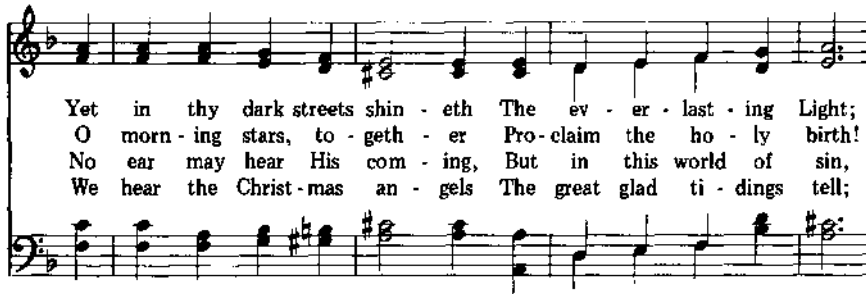
Phillips Brooks, 1868



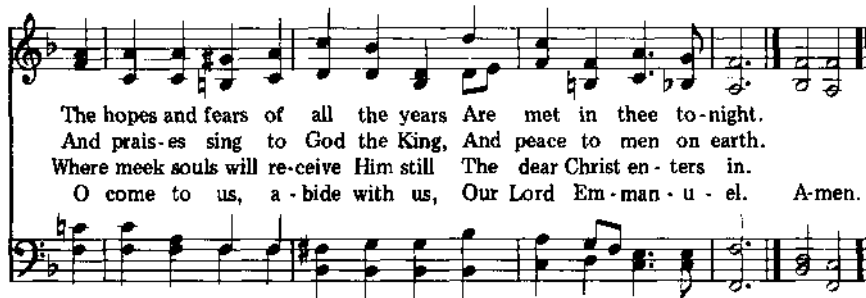
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love,
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear His com - ing, But in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el. A - men.

HIS BIRTH

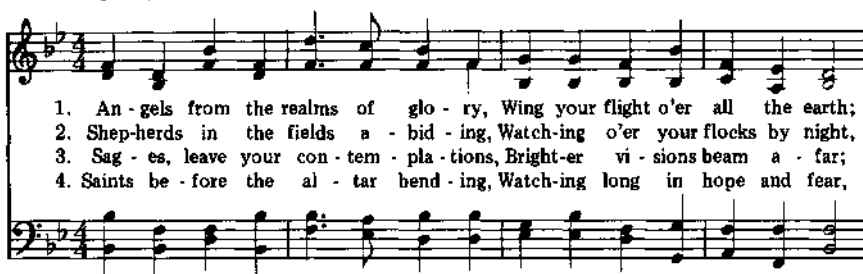
110 Angels from the Realms of Glory

We ... are come to worship Him. Matt. 2:2

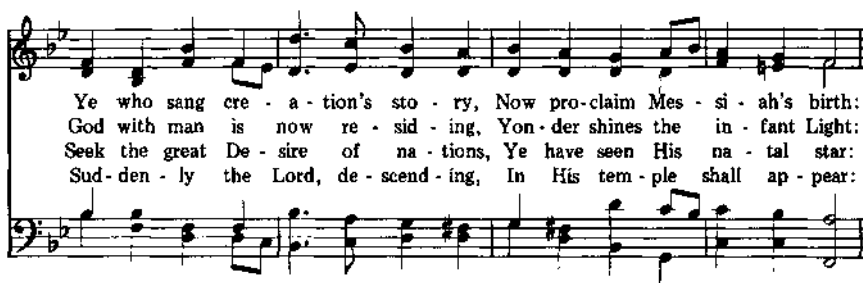
James Montgomery, 1816

REGENT SQUARE 8 7 8 7 8 7

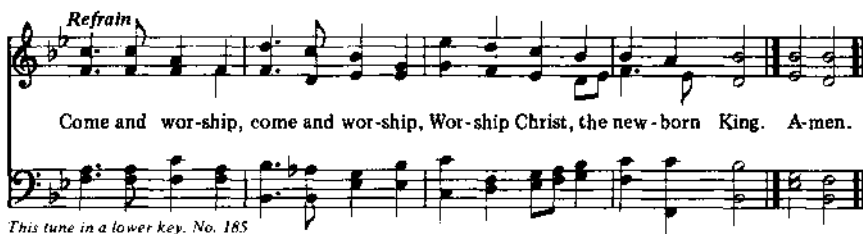
Henry T. Smart, 1867



1. An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep-herds in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch-ing long in hope and fear,



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, Now pro-claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with man is now re - sid - ing, Yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
Seek the great De - sire of na - tions, Ye have seen His na - tal star:
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In His tem - ple shall ap - pear:



Refrain
Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, Wor-ship Christ, the new-born King. A-men.

This tune in a lower key. No. 185


223 God Hath Spoken by His Prophets

God . . . spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets . . . Heb. 1:1


George W. Briggs, 1952

HYMN TO JOY 8 7 8 7 D.

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824




1. God hath spo - ken by His proph-ets, Spo - ken His un-chang - ing Word;
2. God hath spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
3. God yet speak - eth by His Spir - it—Speak-ing to the hearts of men,





Each from age to age pro-claim-ing God the One, the right-eous Lord!
Bright-ness of the Fa-ther's glo - ry, With the Fa-ther ev - er one;
In the age-long word de - clar - ing God's own mes - sage, now as then.




'Mid the world's de-spair and tur-moil One firm an-chor hold-ing fast,
Spo - ken by the Word In - car - nate, God of God ere time be - gan,
Through the rise and fall of na - tions One sure faith yet stand - eth fast:

God is on His throne e - ter - nal, He a - lone the First and Last.
Light of Light, to earth de-scend-ing, Man, re - veal - ing God to man.
God a - bides, His Word un-chang-ing, God a - lone the First and Last. A-men.



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THE SCRIPTURES