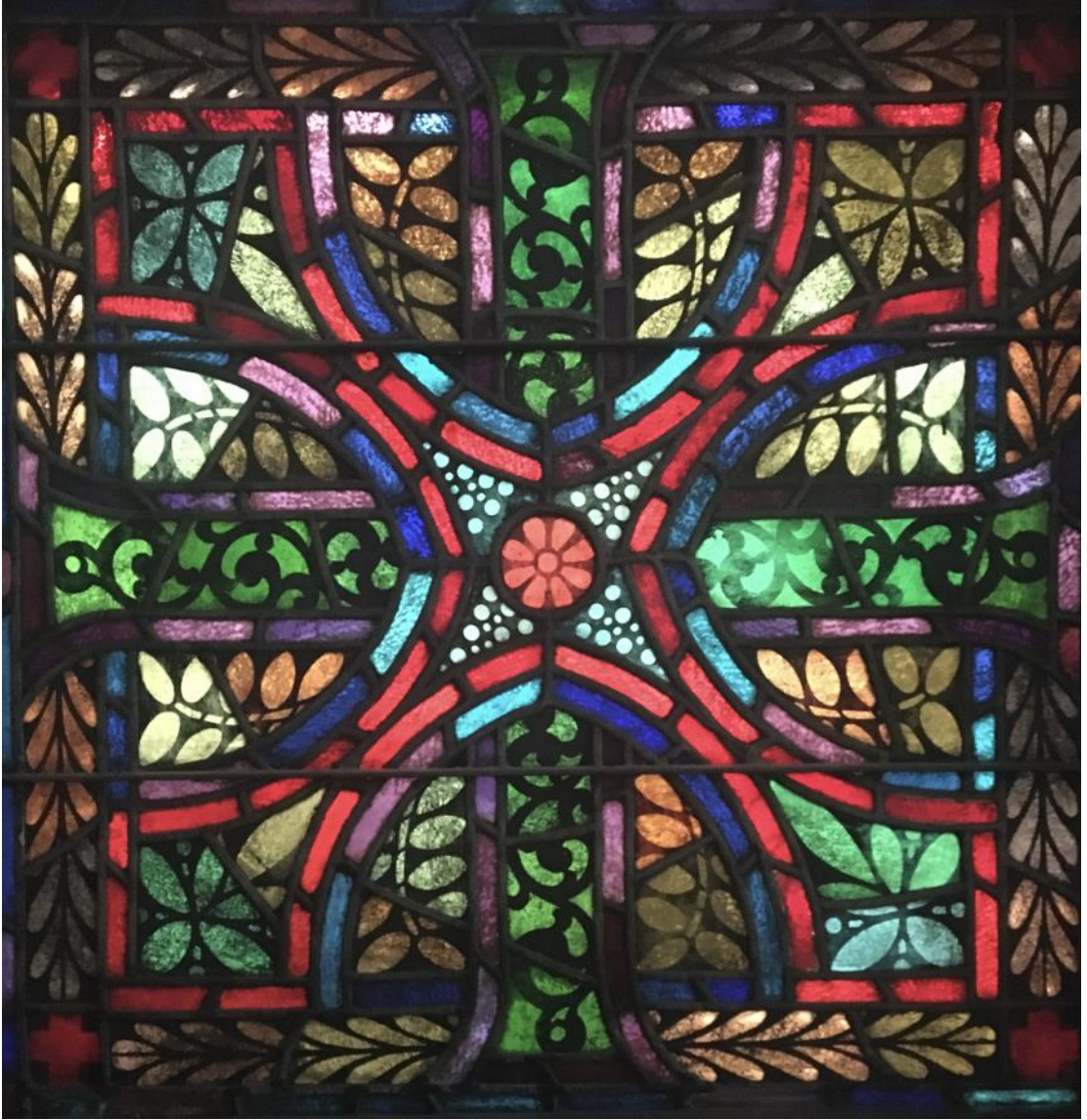




Covenant-First Presbyterian Church

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



August 3, 2025 • 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.

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

Improvisation on *Neumark*

Andrew Hackett, Organist

Concerns of the Congregation

Rev. Dr. Dan Turis

Call to Worship

Hugh Ralston

One: Come, beloved of God, into the presence of the one who rules all of history. Even in exile, he intercedes for us. Let us behold the grace that goes before us, faithful despite our unfaithfulness.

Prelude

Sixth Double Concerto, mvt. i

Antonio Soler

Andrew Hackett, Organist

Ringling of the Revere Tower Bell

Let the ringing of the Revere bell call our attention away from ourselves
and onto the living Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Hymn #420

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

*Invocation

Hugh Ralston

All: Holy Father, source of all existence and eternal light, we gather under your sovereign mercy. By your Spirit, draw us into communion with your Son, Jesus Christ, who mediates all our prayers and praises. Lift our hearts from confusion to clarity, from exile into your eternal embrace.

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Turis

All: O merciful Lord, we confess that we have trusted in alliances not built on your Word. Like David among the Philistines, we have misplaced hope, fearing man more than God. Yet you are always faithful. Deliver us from double-mindedness, and root our allegiance entirely in Christ. Forgive what we cannot redeem, and restore what we cannot repair.

*Moments of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the Gospel: Though David faltered, God's providence did not. In Christ, our true David, the breach is healed. He bore our exile to bring us back. You are not cast away, but drawn near. In him, the verdict is changed: Condemned no longer, but loved for eternity. Receive this pardon, not as something abstract, but in the living person of Jesus Christ. You are forgiven and welcomed into his everlasting kingdom.

***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.

Special Music

I will Trust in the Lord

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Emily Garcia, Soprano; Yolanda Parker, Alto; Jarrett Hazelton, Tenor

Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding; and in all of
your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths. I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in
the Lord. I will trust in the Lord 'til I die.

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word. Just to rest upon his promise, just to
know, "Thus saith the Lord." Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and
o'er. Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus, O for grace to trust him more!

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.**

Call for the Offering

(If you would like to give online see the back of the bulletin.)

Offertory

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ray Palmer & Lowell Mason

Emily Garcia, Soprano; Yolanda Parker, Alto; Jarrett Hazelton, Tenor

My faith looks up to Thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!

Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away; O let me from this day
be wholly Thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn today, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.

***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

1 Samuel 29

Rev. Dr. Turis

The Philistines gathered all their forces at Aphek, and Israel camped by the spring in Jezreel.

² As the Philistine rulers marched with their units of hundreds and thousands, David and his men were marching at the rear with Achish. ³ The commanders of the Philistines asked, "What about these Hebrews?" Achish replied, "Is this not David, who was an officer of Saul king of Israel? He has already been with me for over a year, and from the day he left Saul until now, I have found no fault in him." ⁴ But the Philistine commanders were angry with Achish and said, "Send the man back, that he may return to the place you assigned him. He must not go with us into battle, or he will turn against us during the fighting. How better could he regain his master's favor than by taking the heads of our own men?" ⁵ Isn't this the David they sang about in their dances: " 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands?'" ⁶ So Achish called David and said to him, "As surely as the LORD lives, you have been reliable, and I would be pleased to have you serve with me in the army. From the day you came to me until today, I have found no fault in you, but the rulers don't approve of you. ⁷ Now turn back and go in peace; do nothing to displease the Philistine rulers." ⁸ "But what have I done?" asked David. "What have you found against your servant from the day I came to you until now? Why can't I go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?" ⁹ Achish answered, "I know that you have been as pleasing in my eyes as an angel of God; nevertheless, the Philistine commanders have said, 'He must not go up with us into battle.' ¹⁰ Now get up early, along with your master's servants who have come with you, and leave in the morning as soon as it is light." ¹¹ So David and his men got up early in the morning to go back to the land of the Philistines, and the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The God Who Redirects

Rev. Dr. 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 #58**

This Is My Father's World

***Benediction**

Postlude

Improvisation on *Terra Beata*

Andrew Hackett, Organist

*Those who are able, please stand.

If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee 420

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee . . . Psa. 55:22

Georg Neumark, 1643
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1855
Based on Psalm 55

NEUMARK 989888
Georg Neumark, 1657

1. If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee, And hope in Him through
2. On - ly be still and wait His lei - sure In cheer - ful hope, with
3. Sing, pray, and keep His ways un - swerv - ing; In all thy la - bor

all thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be - tide thee,
heart con - tent To take what - e'er thy Fa - ther's plea - sure
faith - ful be, And trust His Word; though un - de - serv - ing,

And bear thee thro' the e - vil days; Who trusts in God's un -
And all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent; Nor doubt our in - most
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er will for -

chang - ing love Builds on the rock that naught can move.
wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.
sake in need The soul that trusts in Him in - deed. A - men.

COMFORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

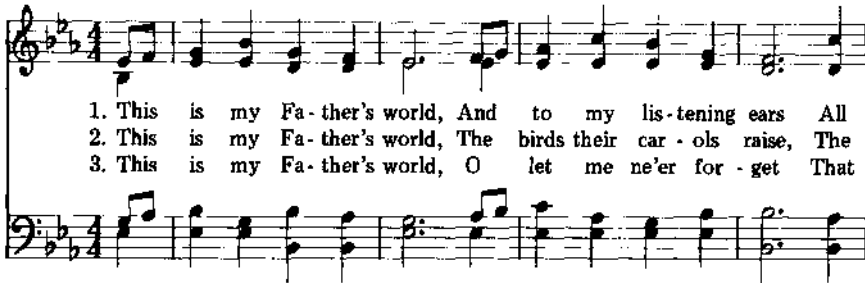
This Is My Father's World 58

The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy. Job 38:7

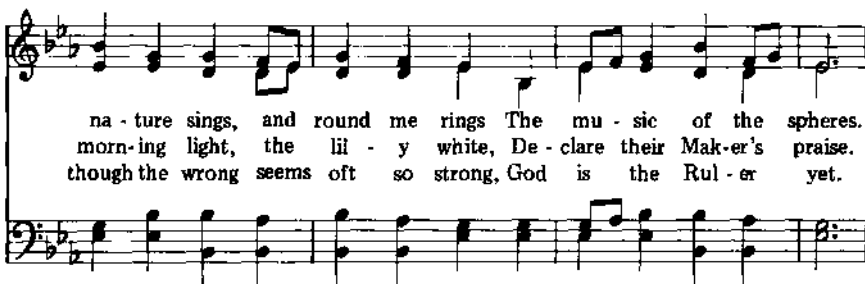
Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901

TERRA BEATA S.M.D.

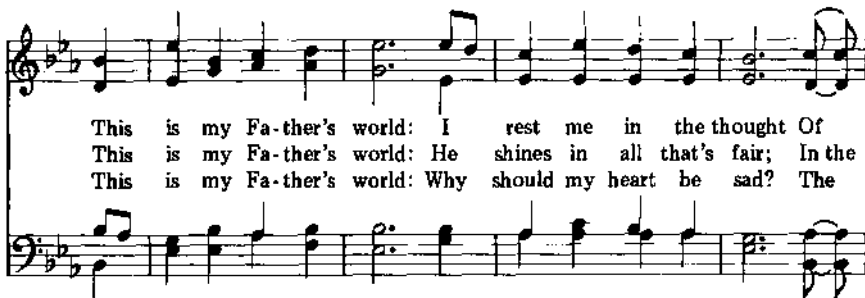
Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915



1. This is my Fa-ther's world, And to my lis-tening ears All
2. This is my Fa-ther's world, The birds their car - ols raise, The
3. This is my Fa-ther's world, O let me ne'er for - get That



na - ture sings, and round me rings The mu - sic of the spheres.
morn-ing light, the lil - y white, De - clare their Mak-er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought Of
This is my Fa-ther's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the
This is my Fa-ther's world: Why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the won-ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev-ery-where.
Lord is King: let the heav - ens ring! God reigns: let earth be glad! A-men.

HIS WORKS IN CREATION