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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
November 22, 2020

*Covenant's Mission Statement*  
Covenant seeks to glorify God by  
*Establishing* Disciples biblically,  
*Engaging* Culture redemptively,  
*Expanding* Christ's Church faithfully.

*Covenant's Values*  
Covenant is *biblical* by affirming the Bible as the  
authoritative Word of God,  
*connectional* by affiliating with the Presbyterian Church  
in America (PCA),  
*confessional* by adhering to the Westminster Standards,  
*missional* by seeking to spread the Gospel worldwide, and  
*relational* by encouraging families to build community.

*“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Prelude

**During the prelude, prepare for worship by  
reflecting on 1 Thessalonians 5:18 printed above.**

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

- <sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
- <sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!
- <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Invocation

Hymn

*“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:  
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied:  
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield;  
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown:  
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take His harvest home;  
from His field shall in that day all offences purge away;  
give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home;  
gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there for ever purified, in Thy presence to abide:  
come, with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

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The Sacrament of Baptism

Oliver Sebastian Aili  
Covenant son of Daniel and Elisa Aili

The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered by Oliver's grandfather,  
Rev. Henry Fernandez, Bryce Avenue PCA, White Rock, NM.

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
born of His Spirit, established by His Word;  
our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:  
O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
for we have known it, the love of God outpoured;  
now let us learn how to return the gift of love once giv'n:  
O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases heav'n.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us to be a family, diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall His work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
we die alone, for on its own each member loses fire:  
yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.

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## Scripture Reading

Romans 8:28-39

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

*28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

*29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

*30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

*31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

*32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?*

*33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.*

*34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died - more than that, who was raised - who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.*

*35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?*

*36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."*

*37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.*

*38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,*

*39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Congregational Prayer

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

Corporate Profession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jason Van Goor, Deacon

Hymn

*“A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus, My Lord”*

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord,  
a wonderful Savior to me;  
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,  
where rivers of pleasure I see.

***refrain:*** *He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock  
that shadows a dry, thirsty land;  
He hideth my life in the depths of His love,  
and covers me there with His hand,  
and covers me there with His hand.*

A wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord,  
He taketh my burden away;  
He holdeth me up, and I shall not be moved,  
He giveth me strength as my day.

***refrain***

With numberless blessings each moment he crowns,  
and filled with a fullness divine,  
I sing in my rapture, O glory to God  
for such a Redeemer as mine!

***refrain***

When clothed in His brightness, transported I rise  
to meet Him in clouds of the sky,  
His perfect salvation, His wonderful love,  
I'll shout with the millions on high.

***refrain***

## Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts.  
We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care.

We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns.  
We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts.

We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us.  
Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from  
our sin, and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

## Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

### Assurance of Pardon

Acts 13:38-39

*<sup>38</sup> Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man  
forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,*

*<sup>39</sup> and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything  
from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.*

### Hymn

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

For the beauty of the earth for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,

***refrain:*** *Lord of all, to Thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flow’r, sun and moon, and stars of light,  
***refrain***

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,  
***refrain***

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
***refrain***

For each perfect gift of Thine, to our race so freely giv’n,  
graces human and divine, flow’rs of earth and buds of heav’n,  
***refrain***

<sup>13</sup> *Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked?*

<sup>14</sup> *In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.*

Sermon

*“Giving Thanks, Even in 2020”*

Pastor Reed

\*Hymn

*“Now Thank We All Our God”*

Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms,  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in His grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father, now be given,  
the Son, and Him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven -  
the one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“Giving Thanks, Even in 2020”*  
Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

I. Consider God.

II. Consider Man.

III. Consider Life.

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**Class of 2021**  
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Jerry Potts

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Ben Russ, Bookkeeper  
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