

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN exists to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of JESUS CHRIST
to our community *and* the world.



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me! For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy? O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

—Psalm 43 NRSV

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to You, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

—based on Psalm 19:14, *The Worship Sourcebook*.

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }



INTROIT

“NOW LET US ALL PRAISE GOD AND SING!”

The Chancel Choir
 Anna Lu Hemphill, *piano*
 Donald Given, *organ*

FIRST HYMN OF PRAISE

“COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING”

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
 Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above.
 Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; Hither by Thy help I've come;
 And I hope by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;
 He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor, Daily I'm constrained to be!
 Let that grace now like a fetter, Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
 Clothed then in blood washed linen how I'll sing Thy sovereign grace;
 Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, Take my ransomed soul away;
 Send thine angels now to carry me to realms of endless day.

(Words: Robert Robinson. Music: American Folk Tune).

 Congregation stand, as able

DAILY WORSHIP RESOURCES

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers, and hymns. These scripture readings are set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible reading in accord with the Church year. They are designed around a two-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently. We are currently in the “Year 1” cycle.

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY • TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Morning	Psalm 24, 29	Nehemiah 5:1-19	Luke 12:22-31
Evening	Psalm 8, 84	Acts 20:7-12	

MONDAY

Morning	Psalm 56, 57	Nehemiah 6:1-19	Matthew 13:36-43
Evening	Psalm 64, 65	Revelation 10:1-11	

TUESDAY

Monday	Psalm 61, 62	Nehemiah 12:27-31a, 42b-47	Matthew 13:44-52
Evening	Psalm 68:1-20, 24-36	Revelation 11:1-19	

WEDNESDAY

Morning	Psalm 72	Nehemiah 13:4-22	Matthew 13:53-58
Evening	Psalm 119:73-96	Revelation 12:1-2	

THURSDAY

Morning	Psalm 71	Ezra 7:11-26	Matthew 14:1-12
Evening	Psalm 74	Revelation 14:1-13	

FRIDAY

Morning	Psalm 69:1-23, 31-38	Ezra 7:27-28; 8:21-36	Matthew 14:13-21
Evening	Psalm 73	Revelation 15:1-8	

SATURDAY

Morning	Psalm 75, 76	Ezra 9:1-15	Matthew 14:22-36
Evening	Psalm 23, 27	Revelation 17:1-14	

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY • TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Morning	Psalm 93, 96	Ezra 10:1-17	Luke 14:12-24
Evening	Psalm 34	Acts 24:10-21	

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Bill Boyd, Senior Pastor-Elect
 Rev. Marty Crawford, Church Administrator
 Rev. Dan Edwards, Pastor to Children and Families
 Rev. Stephen Folmar, Pastor of Music and Worship
 Rev. Craig Boden, Pastoral Care/Senior Adults
 Rev. Danny Giffen, Pastor of Discipleship
 Rev. T. J. Wolters, Pastor of Community
 Mr. Brian Oaks, Director of College Ministry
 Mr. John Steakley, Director of Student Ministries
 Miss Lucy Anderson, Director of Young Adults
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RULING ELDERS

Sandy Stradtman, Clerk of Session

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Steve Ankenbrandt	Mark Lee
Bill Bennett	Charlie Logan
Will Brooke	Robert Luttrell
William Dow	Russell Martin
A. C. Frese	Bruce McLeod
George Jones	Warren Norville
Win Jones	John Oliver
Michael Latta	Bill Ratliff

Bob Schaffeld
 Richard Thompson
 Sam Tortorici
 Lex Williamson
 John Wood

DEACONS

Lee Sheppard, Chairman of the Diaconate

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Eddy Alonso	Jonathon Gidley
Ward Bailey	Heath Henderson
Mike Barnett	Jeff Hicks
Chris Butler	John James
Trey Clegg	Rich Laws
Dave Condon	David Malone
Charles Crabbe	Stephen Mince
Ty Dedmon	Jason Peevy

Charlie Regan
 Todd Sitton
 Alan Spooner
 Mark Taylor
 Dave Traylor
 Joe Welsh

☒ CALL TO WORSHIP AND SALUTATION

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
People: *His love endures forever.*

Let Israel say:
His love endures forever.

Let the house of Aaron say:
His love endures forever.

Let those who fear the Lord say:
His love endures forever.

from Psalm 118:1-4

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 2 Corinthians 13:14

ALL: *Amen!*

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }

☒ SECOND HYMN OF PRAISE

“WE COME, O CHRIST TO YOU”, Hymn 117

We come, O Christ to You, true Son of God and man,
By Whom all things consist, in Whom all life began:
In You alone we live and move, and have our being in Your love.

You are the Way to God, Your blood our ransom paid;
In You we face our Judge and Maker unafraid,
Before the throne absolved we stand, Your love has met Your law’s demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in You,
The Source of every skill, the one eternal True!
O great I AM! In You we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true Life, to know You is to live
The more abundant life that earth can never give:
O risen Lord! We live in You: in us each day Your life renew!

We worship You, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
To You our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
So fill our hearts, that all may view Your life in us, and turn to You.

(Words: Margaret Clarkson. Music: John Darwall).



A weekend of celebrating Home Missions November 19-20, 2011

with special guest • **John Croyle, Founder and Executive Director of Big Oak Ranch**

Schedule of Events

Saturday • November 19

- 8:00 a.m. Meet at Christian Service Mission (3600 3rd Avenue South) to assemble Thanksgiving “Baskets of Kindness.”
Covenant participants will deliver baskets to tornado victims and to families served by our home missionaries.
- 5:30 p.m. Home Missions Celebration Dinner • Fellowship Hall
Enjoy fellowship and sharing around the tables with Guest Missionaries

Sunday • November 20

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service • John Croyle, Pulpit Guest
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Guest missionaries will share in student and adult Sunday School classes
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service • John Croyle, Pulpit Guest
- 12:15 p.m. Covenant members host Guest Missionaries for lunch and fellowship

We Need Your Help!

To volunteer, complete the information on the sign-up sheet located in the church foyer

- Make a donation of \$25 to cover the cost of providing a “Thanksgiving Basket of Kindness”.
Basket will include items for a full meal for a family of 6. Place your donation in the offering plate (please note your gift is for “Thanksgiving Basket of Kindness”).
- Assemble and deliver Thanksgiving “Baskets of Kindness” on November 19
- Host a Guest Missionary for lunch on Sunday, November 20.

*If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Hamm in the Missions Office
phamm@covpres.com or 871-7002, ext. 130.*

A WARM WELCOME

To Our Guests

We are glad you chose to worship with us at Covenant Presbyterian Church. As we planned the music and the message, we were praying that you would find it both meaningful and relevant to your life. You are our guest—and we are honored by your presence.

Let's Get Acquainted

Would you take just a moment to complete the information located in our Pew Pads? We want to hear from you! We also invite you to pick up a Guest Welcome Packet from the Sanctuary foyer. It contains valuable information regarding our church and the ministries that are available for you. For our members...please be sure to register your attendance by signing the Pew Pad and be certain to check "Covenant member."

Sunday School Communities

Our church is organized around smaller communities of people in similar stages of life, from babies to senior adults. We gather weekly for the purposes of Bible study, relationship building, and mobilizing for ministry. We would love for you to join us for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. A brief description of our Sunday School classes is available in the Guest Welcome Packet located at the Welcome Center in the church foyer. If you need assistance in finding a class, just ask an Usher or Greeter for directions.

Listening Aids

Listening aids are available that will enhance the worship experience for those who are partially hearing impaired. Please see an Usher if you would benefit from such assistance. They will be happy to provide you with a listening aid.

Sermons Available

To request a copy of today's message, please complete the CD Request Envelope located in the church foyer. Recordings are duplicated each week and may be picked up the following Sunday at the table in the foyer. CDs are \$3.00 each. Sermons may also be downloaded at no charge from our website at www.covpres.com.

Need Assistance?

If you need assistance for any reason during your visit with us today, our Ushers and Greeters will be more than happy to help you or answer any questions. Ushers and Greeters are located in the foyer of the Sanctuary and are ready to provide assistance.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

MICAH 3:5-12

Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who lead my people astray, who cry "Peace" when they have something to eat, but declare war against him who puts nothing into their mouths. Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision, and darkness to you, without divination. The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be black over them; the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame; they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God. But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin. Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight, who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity. Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets practice divination for money; yet they lean on the LORD and say, "Is not the LORD in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us." Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Thanks be to God!

{ GATHERED WORSHIP: The Triune God Renews His People }

CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:8-9

People: *ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father;
We have erred, and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against Your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
And we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.
And restore those who are penitent;
According to Your promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake;
That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
To the glory of Your holy Name.
Amen.*

from *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1662

(PAUSE FOR A TIME OF INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION)

MIDWEEK WORSHIP



The Ten Commandments

A FENCE IS NOT ENOUGH

THIS WEEK AT WED WORSHIP

The Ninth Commandment • Exodus 20:16

“You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.”

Message by Danny Giffen • Pastor of Discipleship

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 | Fellowship Hall

Dinner served at 5:30

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • October 30

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Worship Celebration (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship • 4 Years through 3rd Grade
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Every Age
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Celebration (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship • 4 Years through 3rd Grade
- 6:00 p.m. Junior High High Small Groups
Senior High Worship and Bible Study (Senior High Room)
Parent Prayer Time (E204)

6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

MONDAY • October 31

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Mother's Day Out and Covenant Day School (*pre-registration required*)

TUESDAY • November 1

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Covenant Day School (*pre-registration required*)

10:00 a.m. Divine Design (C316)

6:00 p.m. WIC Study: *Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit* (E201)

WEDNESDAY • November 2

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Mother's Day Out and Covenant Day School (*pre-registration required*)

10:30 a.m. The Grands Bible Study and Fellowship (E202)

9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. WIC Study: Ephesians (E301)

12:00 noon Wednesday Book/Lunch Study: *Surprised by Grace* (E206)

5:00 p.m. Music Clubs

- Cherubs • 4K-5K (S104)
- Glad • 1st-3rd Grades (S100)
- Faith • 4th-6th Grades (S101)

Jubilate • 7th-12th Grades (S103)

5:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

Menu: *Rosemary Beef over Grits with grilled onions and roasted carrots, Mixed Green Salad, Rolls, and Banana Pudding. Children: Mini Hamburgers, French Fries and Carrots*

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Worship (Fellowship Hall)
Kidz Club • 3 years-6th Grade
Student Bible Studies • 7th-12th Grades
Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY • November 3

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Covenant Day School (*pre-registration required*)

FRIDAY • November 4

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Mother's Day Out and Covenant Day School (*pre-registration required*)
Mother's Day Out Holiday Bazaar

SATURDAY • November 5

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Churchwide Hour of Prayer (Tower Room)



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

ALL: *Amen.*

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }



 **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS”, Hymn 94

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
‘Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary, rest.

Dear name, the rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding place,
My never failing treasure, filled
With boundless stores of grace!

Jesus! my shepherd, brother, friend,
My prophet, priest and king,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
Accept the praise I bring.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath,
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death!

(Words: John Newton, 1779. Music: Alexander Reinagle, 1836).

 Congregation stand, as able

NEXT SUNDAY AT COVENANT

orphan
sunday

ONE DAY. ONE VOICE. ONE PURPOSE

One of the central applications of the Gospel is to imitate it.

James says to Christians, “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction” (James 1:27). James is not content to refer merely to God. Rather, he writes of “God, the Father,” reminding his readers of the privileged relationship they have with God—namely, He has become their “Father.”

As believers, we may call God “Father” because of our adoption as “sons” in Jesus Christ. We were born “sons of disobedience” and “children of wrath” (Ephesians 2:1-3). But the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ chose us and predestined us for adoption and through faith in Jesus Christ, we are adopted as sons of God and become heirs (Galatians 3-4). God the Father graciously makes His home with us until He calls us to His house (John 14).

If God the Father has blessed us with this great and altogether undeserved adoption, we will show like care to “orphans and widows in their affliction.” In applying the gospel, we become people who display the greatness of their Father through their care for those in need.

**One Day. One Voice. One Purpose
Sunday • November 6**
Morning Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

An offering will be taken during worship with an opportunity to give a gift to our Adoption/Orphan Ministry.

Churchwide Luncheon in Fellowship Hall at 12:15 p.m. • \$6 per person

Pre-release book signing by Larry Taunton, author of *The Grace Effect: How the Power of One Life Can Reverse the Corruption of Unbelief*.

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Christmas in the City

Again this Christmas season we are partnering with Mission Birmingham to provide gifts for inner city children and families. Stop by the display in the church foyer today and pick up an instruction packet with a child's name and "wish list" items. Drop off gifts not later than November 20 under the Christmas trees located in the Sanctuary foyer and 1st and 2nd floor lobbies of the Children's Building.

Love In Action Thanksgiving Meal

A gift of \$25 to our Love In Action Ministry will provide a complete Thanksgiving meal for individuals and families who are in need this Thanksgiving season. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church and note your gift is designated for "Love In Action."

First Monday Lunch Bunch • November 7

Ladies, please make plans to join us on Monday, November 7, at 11:45 a.m. in E206 for a delicious lunch and relaxed and informal fellowship. Our guest speaker for November will be Roxanne Given. Lunch is \$6 and nursery childcare (age 5 and under) is available by request to Laura Tucker at ltucker@covpres.com or 871-7004. No lunch reservations required.

Annual Student Ministries Chili Cook Off • November 10

Let the competition begin—Wednesday, November 10! This year's Chili Cook Off will take place right here on our own premises in the parking area just outside our newly renovated youth space (1st floor/Education Building). Make plans now to be present. Everyone welcome.

Home Missions Celebration • November 19-20

A weekend of moving beyond the walls of our church and into the city and surrounding communities as we share the love of Christ and learn more about the ministries of our home missionaries. John Croyle, Founder and Executive Director of Big Oak Ranch, will be our pulpit guest for both morning services on November 20. Turn to page 21 for more details and ways you can be involved.

Baptism Sunday

Baptism will be held November 13 during both morning services. If you would like to schedule a baptism at 8:30 or 11:00 a.m., please contact Rhonda Kimbrough in the Pastor's Office at 871-7002, ext. 130. A Baptism Training fellowship for parents will be held on Tuesday, November 8.

Women's Ministry Christmas Countdown • November 29

Reserve Tuesday, November 29, on your personal calendar and watch for more details.

THE GIVING OF "FIRST FRUITS"

"FOR ALL THE SAINTS"

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith
before the world confessed, Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might; Thou, Lord, their captain
in the well fought fight; Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Allelu...

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold, Fight as the saints who nobly
fought of old, And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Allelu...

The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon to faithful warriors
comes their rest; Sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed,
Alleluia, Allelu...

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day; The saints triumphant rise
in bright array; The King of glory passes on his way,
Alleluia, Allelu...

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

(Words: William How. Music: Christopher Miner).

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Our Children's Ministry provides Children's Worship for children, three years through 3rd Grade, during both morning worship services.

Children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to Children's Worship during the Passing of the Peace.

Three Years Old	Meet in Room C222 <i>(available for the entire worship hour)</i>
Four and Five Years Old	Meet in Room C221 <i>(available for the entire worship hour)</i>
First through Third Grades	Dismissed during the service • Meet in Room C316

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: *And also with you.*

Greet one another with a sign of friendship such as: "The peace of Christ be with you" and "And also with you."

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to fill out the attendance notepad located in the pew racks.

CLOSING HYMN

"O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO"

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its flow,
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day,
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red,
Life that shall endless be.

(Words: George Matheson. Music: Christopher Miner).

BENEDICTION

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL:

Almighty and merciful God, of your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may with free hearts accomplish those things that you would have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(from The Collects of Thomas Cranmer, compiled by C. Frederick Barbee and Paul F. M. Zahl, 1999).

INTERCESSOR:

(HERE THE INTERCESSOR WILL PRAY FOR THE CHURCH LOCAL, UNIVERSAL, AND FOR THE WORLD)

And so, Lord, we pray as Christ taught:

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 23:1-12

¹Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ²“The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, ³so practice and observe whatever they tell you—but not what they do. For they preach, but do not practice. ⁴They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. ⁵They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, ⁶and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues ⁷and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others. ⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. ¹⁰Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. ¹¹The greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹²Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Thanks be to God!