

RESTING • RENEWED • RESPONDING

RIVERVIEW

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

WELCOME TO RIVERWOOD

We are glad you are here! Finding a church home can be a daunting process, so we want to help you by telling you who we are up front. We are first and foremost a people **resting** in God's grace offered to us in the gospel of Jesus Christ, being progressively **renewed** by the Holy Spirit, and **responding** in faith, repentance, and obedience.

We are also a reformed, confessional church. That means that we trace our roots back to the Protestant Reformation, and we view the historic confessions, catechisms, and creeds as being invaluable and immensely relevant, because they were derived from our ultimate authority: God's word.

No matter where you are in your understanding of the Christian faith, we hope you find Riverwood to be a place where you can build relationships, ask questions, and grow in your knowledge of Jesus.

We would love to connect with you today before you leave! You can help us with that by filling out the connection card in the back of this bulletin and then dropping it in the offering plate. Our elders will also be in the foyer after the service to meet you and answer any questions you may have.

Now receive this welcome into worship from the risen, reigning Christ:

"To all who are weary and need rest; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who fail and need forgiveness; to all who struggle and need strength; to all who sin and need a savior: this church opens wide her doors in the name of Jesus, the friend of sinners."



Christ has a banner for his saints, and that banner is love. All their protection is from his love, and they shall have all the protection his love can give them.

John Owen

Affliction is sometimes sent for the conversion of the soul. Sometimes in health the Word does not touch the heart. The world is all. Its gaieties, its pleasures, its admiration, captivate your mind. God sometimes draws you aside into a sickbed, and shows you the sin of your heart, the vanity of worldly pleasures and drives the soul to seek a sure resting-place for eternity in Christ. O happy sickness that draws the soul to Jesus.

Robert Murray McCheyne

I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.

Martin Luther

God is true. His Word of Promise is sure. In all His relations with His people God is faithful. He may be safely relied upon. No one ever yet really trusted Him in vain. We find this precious truth expressed almost everywhere in the Scriptures, for His people need to know that faithfulness is an essential part of the Divine character. This is the basis of our confidence in Him.

A. W. Pink



January 29, 2023

10:30 Worship Service

Leaders In Worship: Pastor, *Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *Allen Powers*; Pianist, *Ginny Coleman*

WELCOME & PRELUDE

Program all communication devices to be in silent mode. Thank you.

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 40*

Pastor: Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust,
who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

**All: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.**

Pastor: I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your
faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and
your faithfulness from the great congregation.

**All: As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me;
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!**

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: 38 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE READING: *Ephesians 2:1-9 (ESV)*

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Eternal Father, your Word reminds us that we were once dead in sins. But we are also reminded that you are rich in mercy and that your love for us was great *even when we were dead in our trespasses*. Your love is immense and your mercy is abundant! We admit that we continue to struggle with sin in our lives today, so our souls are bowed down before you. Our faith is in you but we often doubt your love and mercy when we excuse sin instead of confessing it. Have mercy on us. As we believe, help us to truly repent. As we receive mercy, help us to show mercy. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from 1 Peter 2*

Pastor: Hear the good news! Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. By God's grace and through faith in Jesus you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN: "Before the Throne of God Above"

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is "Love," who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart.

I know that while in Heav'n He stands,

No tongue can bid me thence depart, no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;

for God, the just, is satisfied,

to look on Him and pardon me, to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of Glory and of grace!

One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood!

My life is hid with Christ on high,

with Christ my Savior and my God, with Christ my Savior and my God.

Words by Charitie Bancroft; Music by Vikki Cook

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OFFERTORY PRAYER / OFFERTORY

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

DOXOLOGY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #1*

Leader: Christian, what is your only comfort in life and death?

All: 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.

RECEIVING THE WORD

RESPONSE: "Gloria Patri"

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.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 669 "Commit Now All Your Grievs"

SCRIPTURE: *Lamentations 3:19-33*

19 Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! **20** My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. **21** But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: **22** The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; **23** they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. **24** "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." **25** The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. **26** It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. **27** It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. **28** Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; **29** let him put his mouth in the dust—there may yet be hope; **30** let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. **31** For the Lord will not cast off forever, **32** but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; **33** for he does not afflict from his heart or grieve the children of men.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades,

All: but the Word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON:

"It Is Good to Wait"

Rev. Kirk Norris

I. Waiting exposes us.

A. Our lack of HUMILITY

B. Our lack of TRUST

C. Our lack of COMMUNION

II. Waiting exposes the situation.

THE SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 32

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Pastor: He forgives all your iniquity, heals all your diseases, redeems your life from the pit, and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

All: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Pastor: And because we are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Let us eat the feast with thankful hearts as God's redeemed and beloved children.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 699

"Like a River Glorious"

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSING HYMN: #263 "Lift High the Cross"

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.

Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow of its healing peace.

(Refrain)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Your Calendars

- Today — Congregational Meeting immediately after worship
- Tonight — Covenant Kids, Youth Group, and Sheppard Pier Group from 5:30-7 at the church.
- February 2 — Women's study at 10 a.m (Admin building) and 6:30 p.m. (home of Steve and Ginny Nippert).
- February 12 — Youth Party at the Sheppards'
- February 18 — Women's Ministry Cupcake Competition
- February 22 — Ash Wednesday Services & afternoon corporate prayer

Congratulations!!

We are thrilled to celebrate the arrival of Henry Graham with Kaley and Zac!
Please continue to pray for them as they finalize the adoption process
and adjust to being new parents.

Snacks for Children's Ministry

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Thanks to everyone who chipped in to provide snacks
and drinks for Riverwood Children's Ministry

2022 Contribution Statements

Your detailed contribution statements are located in the foyer. Any envelopes left
after worship today will be mailed out. Please remember that if you gave money
online, that money will not be reflected in this statement. You will get a separate
statement from the PCA foundation.

Financials through December

Operating Income:	\$464,921.56
Operating Expense*:	\$448,737.06
Net Income:	(\$16,184.50)
Designated Gifts:	\$145,588.14
Building Loan Balance:	\$621,345.18

CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Staff

Jeff Pate, Pastor
Joann Williams, Children's Director
Zac Martin, Director of Student Ministries
April Henry, Nursery Coordinator

Elders

Jimmy Hopper
John Kim
Gene Martin
Allen Powers
Dusty Sheppard
Clay Staggs

Deacons

Tom Arnold
Wayne Bell
Steven Crawford
Bruce DeHaan
Jeremy Jones
Ed Kidder
Marvin Skelton

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
riverwoodchurch.org
secretary@riverwoodchurch.org

CONNECTION CARD

Name: _____

Email: _____

Number: _____

I would like to receive more information about:

- Our Beliefs
- Pier Groups (In-Home Bible Studies)
- Youth or College Ministry
- Children's Ministry
- Other: _____

Once you drop this in the offering plate one of our elders or deacons will reach out to you within the next week.

Prayer Card

Once you drop this in the offering plate a deacon will get it to our prayer team to be prayed over at our next prayer meeting.



RIVERWOODCHURCH.ORG