

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 scanning the QR code on the back page of this bulletin and filling out the linked *Information Connection* page. 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."**



'Be strong & very courageous' is God's word today. Unbelief 'wavers' & 'staggers' & 'stumbles.' Faith rests.

Lilias Trotter

ALL experiences of the fear of man share at least one common feature: People are big. They have grown to idolatrous proportions in our lives. They control us. Since there is no room in our hearts to worship both God and people, whenever people are big, God is not. Therefore, the first task in escaping the snare of the fear of man is to know that God is awesome and glorious, not other people.

Edward Welch

It is not the being seen of men that is wrong, but doing these things for the purpose of being seen of men. The problem with the hypocrite is his motivation. He does not want to be holy; he only wants to seem to be holy. He is more concerned with his reputation for righteousness than about actually becoming righteous. The approbation of men matters more to him than the approval of God.

Augustine



March 10, 2024

10:30 Worship Service

Leaders In Worship: Pastor, *Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*
Piano, *Mrs. John Graham*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Jay Rouse

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 27*

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**All: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

Pastor: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

**All: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.**

Pastor: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!
Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 376

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

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 OF SIN

SCRIPTURE READING: *Revelation 3:1-6*

1 And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: "The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. **2** Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. **3** Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. **4** Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. **5** The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. **6** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Almighty and merciful God, 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. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *Romans 3:21-25a*

Pastor: Now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. Through faith in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 521

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

"A Child of the King" with "I'd Rather Have Jesus" arr. Marilyn Ham

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

Pastor: 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.**

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: 457

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 51:12-23*

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,
All: but the Word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON: "Who Are You to Fear?!" *Rev. Jeff Pate*

HYMN: "Behold the Lamb"

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us – and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
 So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice,
 As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ, torn for you – eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the price to make us one.
 So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
 As a sign of our bonds of love, around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you – drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in, to receive the life of God.
 So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
 As a sign of our bonds of grace, around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise, to respond, – and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ, as His body here on earth.
 As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!
 And we'll join in the feast of heaven, around the table of the King.

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: God meets us in the sacraments, holy acts in which his deeds elicit our response. In the supper our Lord offers the bread and cup to believers to guarantee our share in his death and resurrection, and to unite us to him and to each other.

All: We take this food gladly, announcing as we eat that Jesus is our life and that he shall come again to call us to the Supper of the Lamb.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 92 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

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

Baby Shower

We will have a baby shower to honor Lucy Heydt and welcome Charles Otto Heydt today at 2:00 in the Administration Building.

Youth Group/Movie Night

This evening, the youth will be meeting from 5:30-8:30 at the Pates house (2030 Idlewood Dr.) for food, singing, Bible study, and a movie. Come and bring a friend!

UnBound216 Easter Hygiene Kits

We will be putting together hygiene kits for the 320 inmates who are involved in the UnBound216 ministry. There is a basket in the narthex to place your items. Donations needed: white washcloths, full size bars of soap, full size toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, full size stick deodorant, and plain white crew socks. There will be a packing party on March 22 at 5:30pm at Brent PCA, and all are invited!

Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, March 24 for the purpose of electing new officers. The two candidates will be Robert Sheppard (elder) and Tommy Coleman (deacon).

Holy Week at Riverwood

Palm Sunday, March 24

Congregational Meeting after worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Communion Service at 7:00pm

Saturday, March 30

Kids Club Easter Event at 10:00am

Easter Sunday, March 31

The Son Has Risen Service at 8:30am

Easter Breakfast at 9:15am

Worship Service at 10:30am

Happy Birthday

March 12 Jake Sheppard

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, March 23

Church Work Day

College Movie Night

More information on both events coming soon!

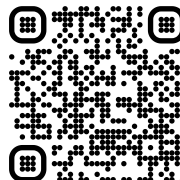
Pier Groups

We believe an important component of Christian discipleship is regular time in the word and prayer with fellow believers. One way we seek to provide opportunities for that is through small groups that we refer to as Pier Groups. We currently have four groups for you to choose from.

- Martins (4004 Triple Crown Circle, 35406) on Sundays in their home @ 5:30 pm. For more info contact Gene at (205) 614-2781.
- Sheppards on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall @ 5:30 pm. To find out more about this group, call Dusty at (205) 542-0252.
- Pates (2030 Idlewood Drive, 35405) on Tuesdays at their home @ 6 pm. You can reach out to Jeff at (205) 771-0170.
- Kims (5010 Lakehurst Drive, 35473) on Fridays at their home @ 6:30 pm. John can be reached at (443) 722-1727.

Financials through February

Operating Income:	\$53,856.50
Operating Expense*:	\$66,262.19
Net Income:	(\$12,405.69)
Designated gifts:	\$12,095.00
Building loan balance:	\$504,032.64



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