

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, and apostolic church. That means that we trace our roots back through the Protestant Reformation, the historic confessions, catechisms, and creeds of the church, all the way back to the teachings of the apostles. In all of this, our ultimate authority is 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."**





August 24, 2025

10:30 Worship Service

Leaders In Worship: Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*

Assisting Elder, *John Kim*

Piano, *Ginny Coleman*

WELCOME

Please program all communication devices to be in silent mode. Thank you.

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 33:18-22*

Pastor: Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

All: Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Pastor: For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

All: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Pastor: Hoping in the Lord's steadfast love, waiting on his help,
rejoicing and trusting in his holy name, come, let us worship.

HYMN: 97

"We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"

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: *Deuteronomy 8:1-6*

1 "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. **2** And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. **3** And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. **4** Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. **5** Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. **6** So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Heavenly Father, you have tested our hearts and know what is in them. You have fed us, provided for us, and watched over our lives, but we have not remembered to walk in your ways. When you test us in the wilderness, we are more ready to complain than to humble ourselves before you and admit our need for your grace. When you bless us with full cups we are quick to think it is what we deserve, instead of being grateful for your undeserved kindness. Please forgive us for our pride. Feed us today with your inspired Word. Remind us of the hope that is for those who look to Jesus for their salvation. Then, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts so that we can walk in your ways and delight in your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: Colossians 3:2-4

Pastor: For everyone who looks to Jesus in faith for their salvation, God's Word reminds you where to set your heart's gaze and of the assurance that is yours. "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: "He Will Hold Me Fast"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He Will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Chorus:

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those he saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He Will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He Will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last.

Words by Ada Habershon & Matt Merker; Music by Matt Merker
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OFFERTORY PRAYER & OFFERTORY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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: *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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: 146

"Break Thou the Bread of Life"

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *John 6:1-15*

1 After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. **2** And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. **3** Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. **4** Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. **5** Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" **6** He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. **7** Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little." **8** One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, **9** "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" **10** Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. **11** Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. **12** And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." **13** So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. **14** When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" **15** Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

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

SERMON: "When Much Was Done with Little"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 565

"All for Jesus!"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Pastor: With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us — even when we fell into sin.

All: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Pastor: Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Happy Birthdays

August 28 Caleb Drinkard

August 29 Lynn Tootle

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer this Wednesday, August 27 at 5:30pm. We will meet in the conference room in the Admin Building. Come when you can and stay for as long as you are able.

Deacon's Fund Offering

Every month that has a fifth Sunday, our deacons have an offering to replenish funds in an account used exclusively for short-term mercy ministry needs. This has enabled our Diaconate to extend the kingdom of God to many within our community. Next Sunday, August 31, all cash and designated gifts will be used for this purpose.

Dinner on the Grounds

Please make plans to join your church family for dinner on the grounds next Sunday, August 31, immediately after the morning worship service. If you are able, please bring enough food for your family and a little extra to share.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible study will begin meeting weekly on Wednesday, September 3 at 5:30pm in the Administration Building. If you cannot attend in person, check your weekly email announcements for a zoom link.

Other Events Coming Soon

Sunday, September 14: College Student Lunches

Thursday, September 18, 7:00pm: Women's Ministry Favorite Things Party

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. There are three Pier Groups currently meeting:

- Martins (4004 Triple Crown Circle, 35406) on Sundays in their home @ 5:30 pm. For more info contact Gene at (205) 614-2781.
- 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.

Nursery Schedule

August 24: Joyce Huizinga & Lauren Elliot

August 31: Janalie Graham & Warren Pate

Riverwood Church Officers

Elders:

John Kim
Gene Martin
Dusty Sheppard

Elders Emeritus:

Bob Prince
Robert Sheppard

Deacons:

Tommy Coleman
Steven Crawford
Bruce DeHaan
Ed Kidder
Steve Patridge
Marvin Skelton

Financials through July

Operating Income:	\$215,787.75
Operating Expense:	\$224,756.94
Net Income:	(\$8,969.19)
Designated gifts:	\$33,818.00
Building loan balance:	\$378,480.48



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