

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."**





September 7, 2025

10:30 Worship Service

Leaders In Worship: Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*
Piano, *Nancy Allen*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 147*

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

All: The Lord lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Pastor: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!

**All: ...the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

Pastor: Come, let us hope in God's steadfast love as we gather to worship.

HYMN: 660

"O God beyond All Praising"

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 5:6-15*

6 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. **7** You shall have no other gods before me. **8** You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **9** You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, **10** but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. **11** You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. **12** Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. **13** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **14** but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. **15** You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN: *from Psalm 51*

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin! For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and uphold us with a willing spirit. Then we will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. We ask this in Christ's name, amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Titus 3:4-7*

Pastor: Lift up your heads and hear the good news! When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 461

“Not What My Hands Have Done”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

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: *Nicene Creed*

Christians, what do you believe?

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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: "Speak, O Lord"

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You; To receive the food of Your Holy Word
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today; In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us; All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord, full obedience; Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes; In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see; Your majestic love and authority
Words of pow'r that can never fail; Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time; That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built; And the earth is filled with Your glory

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *John 6:22-29*

22 On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. **23** Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. **24** So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. **25** When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" **26** Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. **27** Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." **28** Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

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

SERMON:

"What Must We Do?!"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 528

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Our Savior Jesus Christ has ordained and instituted this Holy Supper to nourish and sustain those who are born again and grafted into his family: his church. Christ has instituted an earthly and visible bread as the sacrament of his body and wine as the sacrament of his blood.

All: Just as truly as we take and hold the sacraments in our hands and eat and drink them in our mouths, by which our life is then sustained, so truly we receive into our souls, for our spiritual life, the true body and true blood of Christ, our only Savior. We receive these by faith, which is the hand and mouth of our souls.

Pastor: This banquet is a spiritual table at which Christ communicates himself to us with all his benefits. By the use of this holy sacrament we are moved to a fervent love of God and our neighbors.

—from Belgic Confession, Art. 35

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 669

"Commit Now All Your Griefs"

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 Birthday

September 7 Christie Parker

Youth Group for the Fall

All 6th thru 12th grade students are welcome to join the youth on Sunday evenings from 5:30-7pm beginning tonight, September 7. This fall we will spend time in Bible study, prayer, worshiping in song, fellowship, and fun. Oh yeah, we will also have food!

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible study meets this Wednesday, September 10 at 5:30pm in the Administration Building. If you cannot attend in person, check your weekly email announcements for a zoom link.

Women's Fall Bible Study

Fall Bible study continues this Thursday, September 11 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We are studying the book *Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom* via video with Jen Wilkin. The book is available through Amazon. Questions? Please contact Brenda at 205-792-3851.

Riverwood Members Host College Students for Lunch

Let's get to know each other by eating a meal together on Sunday, Sept 14! The deadline to sign up is Thursday, Sept 11. Please check GroupMe, Facebook, or the email announcements for links to sign up. Vielyana Kim and Lorrie Pate will pair up hosts with students before Sunday and text to let you know who you are paired up with. Thanks for being willing to spend time together as the Body of Christ! If you have any questions, please contact Vielyana at 205-239-3101.

Favorite Things Party

Women in the church, you're invited to a Favorite Things party, Thursday, September 18, at 7 p.m. at Carrie Henry's home (843-412-5273). Please bring an item (about \$10) that is one of your favorite things. Be prepared to share why it is your favorite thing. We'll enjoy dessert and fellowship, and everyone will leave the party with a new item that may be one of your new favorite things! Text Carrie for questions or directions.

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

September 7: Sumlin Pate & Lilly Henry
September 14: Lynn Tootle & Bruce DeHaan

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 August

Operating Income:	\$248,637.66
Operating Expense:	\$254,768.24
Net Income:	(\$6,130.58)
Designated gifts:	\$36,145.00
Building loan balance:	\$371,408.05



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