

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 21, 2025

10:30 Worship Service

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

Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*

Piano, *Ginny Coleman*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *taken from Hebrews 10*

Pastor: Since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus...and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

All: let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Pastor: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

All: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: 101

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

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: *Isaiah 5:20-25*

20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! **21** Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight! **22** Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine, and valiant men in mixing strong drink, **23** who acquit the guilty for a bribe, and deprive the innocent of his right! **24** Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble, and as dry grass sinks down in the flame, so their root will be as rottenness, and their blossom go up like dust; for they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. **25** Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against his people, and he stretched out his hand against them and struck them, and the mountains quaked; and their corpses were as refuse in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger has not turned away, and his hand is stretched out still.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Heavenly Father, you are exalted in justice and holy in righteousness. We bow humbly before you because we have sinned against you in our thoughts, our words, and our deeds. Please forgive us for our rebellion and our vain attempts to justify ourselves by calling good what you have called evil, and light what you reveal as darkness. We confess that we have been wise in our own eyes and heroic in our folly. We admit that we have despised your word and deserve your wrath. Have mercy on us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who we claim by faith to be our Savior and Lord. Our only hope is in his righteous life, his sacrificial death, and his triumphant resurrection. Therefore we pray and ask for your mercy and grace only in his name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Ephesians 2*

Pastor: Hear these words of hope and assurance! “You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked...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.” By grace you have been saved through faith. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: "His Mercy Is More"

What love could remember no wrongs we have done;
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam;
What Father, so tender, is calling us home.
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Refrain

What riches of kindness He lavished on us;
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Refrain

Words and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
©2016 Getty Music Songs; CCLI license #11239744

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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: *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: *John 6:35-40*

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. **36** But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. **37** All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. **38** For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. **39** And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. **40** For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: "Giving, Coming, Keeping"

Rev. Jeff Pate

HYMN: 503

“Out of My Bondage, Sorrow, and Night”

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:

"Jesus Is Lord"

"Jesus is Lord" – the cry that echoes through creation;
Resplendent pow'r, eternal Word, our Rock.
The Son of God, the King whose glory fills the heavens,
Yet bids us come to taste this Living Bread.

"Jesus is Lord" – whose voice sustains the stars and planets,
Yet in His wisdom laid aside His crown.
Jesus the Man, who washed our feet, who bore our suffering,
Became a curse to bring salvation's plan.

"Jesus is Lord" – the tomb is gloriously empty!
Not even death could crush this King of Love!
The price is paid, the chains are loosed, and we're forgiven,
And we can run into the arms of God.

Words and music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend
©2004 Thankyou Music; CCLI license #11239744

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

September 21 Steve Patridge
September 26 Vera Bell
September 27 Tristan Drinkard

Youth Group Tonight

All 6th thru 12th grade students are welcome to join the youth tonight from 5:30-7pm. We will start with a meal followed by Bible study and an extended time in guided prayer.

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer this Wednesday, September 24 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.

Men's Bible Study

Due to the corporate prayer meeting, Men's Bible study will NOT meet this week.

Women's Fall Bible Study

Fall Bible study continues this Thursday, September 25 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We are studying the book Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom via video with Jen Wilkin. Questions? Please contact Brenda at 205-792-3851.

Mark Your Calendars

-Sunday, October 12: College Student Lunches
-Sunday, October 26: Reformation Celebration

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 21: George & Joanie Norris
September 28: Lorrie Pate & 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 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



Scan this QR code to
fill out a visitor's
form, request prayer,
or learn more about
RPC!



RIVERWOODCHURCH.ORG