

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 28, 2025

10:30 Worship Service

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

Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*

Piano, *Mrs. John Graham*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 93*

Pastor: The Lord reigns; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed;
he has put on strength as his belt.

All: Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

Pastor: Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

**All: Your decrees are very trustworthy;
holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.**

Pastor: The Almighty God invites us to know him and delight in him.
Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 64

"God, the Lord, a King Remaineth"

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 6:4-9*

4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. **5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. **6** And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. **7** You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. **8** You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. **9** You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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 PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Romans 3*

Pastor: Lift your heads and your hearts to hear the gospel! “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 your sins have been forgiven and you are justified by his grace. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: "Reformation Song"

1. Your word alone is solid ground, the mighty rock on which we build.
In every line the truth is found, and every page with glory filled.
2. Through faith alone we come to you, we have no merit we can claim,
sure that your promises are true, we place our hope in Jesus' name.

Chorus:

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone. Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

3. In Christ alone we're justified, his righteousness is all our plea.
Your law's demands are satisfied, his perfect work has set us free.

Chorus

4. By grace alone we have been saved, all that we are has come from you.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved, now by your pow'r have been made new.

Chorus

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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: *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:

"For Your Gift of God the Spirit"
sung to "All the Way My Savior Leads Me" (#605)

For your gift of God the Spirit, power to make our lives anew,
pledge of life and hope and glory, Savior, we would worship you.
Crowning gift of resurrection, sent from your ascended throne;
fullness of the very Godhead come to make your life our own,
fullness of the very Godhead come to make your life our own.

He who in creation's dawning brooded on the lifeless deep,
still across our nature's darkness moves to wake our souls from sleep;
moves to stir, to draw, to quicken, thrusts us through with sense of sin;
brings to birth and seals and fills us, saving Advocate within,
brings to birth and seals and fills us, saving Advocate within.

He, himself the living Author, wakes to life the sacred Word,
reads with us its holy pages and reveals our risen Lord.
He it is who works within us teaching rebel hearts to pray,
he whose holy intercessions rise for us both night and day,
he whose holy intercessions rise for us both night and day.

He, the mighty God, indwells us; his to strengthen, help, empower,
his to overcome the tempter ours to call in danger's hour.
In his strength we dare to battle all the raging hosts of sin,
and by him alone we conquer foes without and foes within,
and by him alone we conquer foes without and foes within.

Father, grant your Holy Spirit in our hearts may rule today,
grieved not, quenched not, but unhindered, work in us his sovereign way.
Fill us with your holy fullness, God the Father, Spirit, Son;
in us, through us, then, forever shall your perfect will be done,
in us, through us, then, forever shall your perfect will be done.

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *John 6:35-51*

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." **41** So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." **42** They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" **43** Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. **44** No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. **45** It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— **46** not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. **47** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. **48** I am the bread of life. **49** Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. **50** This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. **51** I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: "Jesus and the Doctrines of Grace"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 691

"It Is Well with My Soul"

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: 181

"We Come, O Christ, to You"

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

October 3 Todd Quinn

Youth Group Tonight

All 6th thru 12th grade students are welcome to join the youth tonight from 5:30-7pm.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible study meets this Wednesday, October 1 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 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.

Riverwood Members Host College Students for Lunch

Let's get to know each other by eating a meal together on Sunday, October 12! The deadline to sign up is Thursday, October 9. 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.

UnBound216: Free Indeed

The Riverwood congregation is invited to UnBound216's *Free Indeed* event on Saturday, October 11. There will be a graduation ceremony at 3:00pm at Brent Missions Church followed by a time of fellowship with alumni and tons of incredible smoked BBQ.

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 28: Lorrie Pate & Warren Pate
October 5: Sumlin Pate & Claire Hutchins

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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RPC!



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