

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."**





October 5, 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: *from Psalm 96 & 1 Timothy 1:17*

Pastor: Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

All: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

Pastor: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

All: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: 38 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

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 59:1-4*

1 Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; **2** but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. **3** For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness. **4** No one enters suit justly; no one goes to law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Eternal God, your inspired Word reveals that you are infinitely just, eternally holy, and unchangeably good. There is nothing and no-one who can frustrate your will or prevent you from fulfilling all of your purposes. You are all-powerful, all-wise, and all-present. We humbly acknowledge that it is our sins that separate us from you. You can see all things but our moral failures hinder our fellowship with you, hiding your face from us. You are the fountain of truth, but we often seek to deceive and distort the truth to cover over our shame and guilt. You are just and we deserve your wrath. Have mercy on us. Forgive us for our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Remember your mercy that has been promised to those who look to Jesus, believing in him for salvation. Holy Spirit, enable us to repent, and renew us to be more and more like Jesus. We ask this in his name, amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Colossians 1*

Pastor: Hear the gospel! "You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him." As you come to Jesus Christ in faith, you have the promise of God that your sins are forgiven and you are accepted into fellowship with him. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

HYMN:

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus:

You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore;
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

Almighty, Infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

Words by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse; Music by Dawn Rodgers
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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: *from Philippians 2*

Leader: What does Scripture teach concerning the humiliation and exaltation of Jesus?

All: **Though he was in the form of God, Christ Jesus did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

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

RECEIVING THE WORD

HYMN:

"Holy Spirit"

Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord, to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me; Give me faith for what I cannot see,
Give me passion for Your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within, may Your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my strivings into works of grace; Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth, cause Your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; Lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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SCRIPTURE: *John 6:51-59*

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."
52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" **53** So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. **54** Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. **55** For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. **56** Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. **57** As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. **58** This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." **59** Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

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

SERMON:

"Vicarious Atonement"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 307

"Nothing but the Blood"

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: 327

"One Day He's Coming"

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

Youth Group Tonight

All 6th thru 12th grade students are welcome to join the youth tonight from 5:30-7pm. Following a meal, we will spend time in Scripture and songs of praise & worship.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible study meets this Wednesday, October 8 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, October 9 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 this 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

New Members Class

We will be offering a New Members class on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00am-1:00pm. If you are interested in finding out more about Riverwood or are ready to join the church as a member, please email Jeff (jpate@riverwoodchurch.org) and let him know if you plan to attend. Lunch is provided!

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, October 25: Baby Shower for Mercedes Quinn

Sunday, October 26: Reformation Celebration

Wednesday, October 29: Corporate Prayer

Sunday, November 16: We Give Thanks lunch

UnBound216: Christmas Hygiene Kits

We are continuing our ministry to the 318 men in the UnBound216 program at Bibb Correctional Facility by again providing hygiene kits and goodie bags at Christmas. The needed items are full-size toothpaste, full-size stick deodorant, and plain white crew socks. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation please mark the check with UnBound216 Hygiene Kits in the memo line. There is a basket in the narthex marked UnBound216 for any collected items. The cutoff to collect items is November 14th with the packing party on November 21st at Brent Presbyterian Church.

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

October 5: Sumlin Pate & Claire Hutchins

October 12: Erin Sheppard & Halsie Bardin

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 September

Operating Income:	\$272,296.24
Operating Expense:	\$294,788.65
Net Income:	(\$22,492.41)
Designated gifts:	\$37,415.00
Building loan balance:	\$364,473.21



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