

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:

**"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."**





November 2, 2025

10:30 Worship Service

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

Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*

Piano, *Joann Williams*

## WELCOME

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

## PRELUDE

## PRAISE

### CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 115*

Pastor: Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"

**All: Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases...We will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

### HYMN: 70

"With Glory Clad, with Strength Arrayed"

## 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

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## **SCRIPTURE READING:** Amos 8:4-12

**4** Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, **5** saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, **6** that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" **7** The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. **8** Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who dwells in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?" **9** "And on that day," declares the Lord God, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. **10** I will turn your feasts into mourning and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day. **11** "Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord God, "when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. **12** They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it..."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:**

**Almighty God, your inspired Word reminds us that you are compassionate toward the poor and the needy. We know that you desire for us, as people made in your image, to not only deal with others justly, but even mercifully. Please forgive us when we fail to care for those who are the most disadvantaged and the most vulnerable. Holy Spirit, give us the mind of Christ who loved and served us when we were helpless, and dead in our sins. Heavenly Father, you have revealed your character and your will to us in Scripture. Have mercy on us when we ignore your Word and at the same time say we want to hear you and know you. Forgive us and enable us to repent. Give us an appetite and delight in your Word and a sincere love for our neighbors. We ask this in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

# RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

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## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD:** *from Romans 5*

Pastor: God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**HYMN:** 455

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain"

## **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

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**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**      *The Heidelberg Catechism, #27-28*

Leader:      What do you understand by the providence of God?

**All:**      **The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

Leader:      How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**All:**      **We can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.**

**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: 334**

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

**SCRIPTURE:**        *John 7:25-36*

**25** Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? **26** And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? **27** But we know where this man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." **28** So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. **29** I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." **30** So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. **31** Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?" **32** The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. **33** Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. **34** You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." **35** The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? **36** What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come'?"

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

**SERMON:**        "Jesus's Divinely Directed and Divinely Protected Life"        *Rev. Jeff Pate*

# COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

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**HYMN: 424**

"Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless"

## **RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Pastor: The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**All: We who are many are one body, for we all share the same loaf.**

Pastor: The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**All: The cup that we drink is our participation in the blood of Christ.**

Pastor: Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord. The gifts of God for the people of God.

## **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)

## **Happy Birthdays**

November 6 Lori Turner

November 7 Jerry Douglas

## **Men's Bible Study**

Men's Bible study meets this Wednesday, November 5 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, November 6 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.

## **Operation Christmas Child**

RUF and the Navigators are working together with Riverwood to make 30 Operation Christmas Child boxes. Ways you can help:

1. Sign up for items at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/5c468dsa>
2. Come to the packing party at Riverwood on Sunday, November 9 at 12:30.
3. Volunteer to bring food for lunch at the packing party (see the weekly email for a signup link).
4. Pray for the children who will receive the boxes and hear the gospel.

## **Prayer and Pancakes**

On Friday, November 14, Riverwood will be hosting college students for "Prayer & Pancakes." The evening will begin at 6pm with a lesson/discussion about prayer as a means of God's grace. This will be followed by time in corporate and individual prayer. The evening will conclude with a pancake supper. While the event is especially aimed at college students, Riverwood congregants are welcome to attend.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **UnBound216 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 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.

## **Bridal Shower Brunch**

Join us for a bridal shower brunch honoring Caleigh Henson on Saturday, November 15 at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Caleigh's registry: [www.theknot.com/hensontohart](http://www.theknot.com/hensontohart)

## **We Give Thanks Service**

After church on Sunday, November 16, plan to join your Riverwood family for dinner on the grounds. All are welcome! Please bring a dish to share. We encourage the use of coolers to keep things cold or hot as refrigerator space is very limited and too many crock pots blow our circuit breakers. The church will provide plates, cups, cutlery, napkins, and ice. Join us as we break bread together. Riverwood's annual We Give Thanks service will directly follow the meal in the Fellowship Hall.

## **Mark Your Calendars**

Sunday, November 30: Deacon's Fund Offering  
December 8-9: College Student Study Days  
December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

## 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 (4032 Carousel 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

November 2: Lynn Tootle & Bruce DeHaan

November 9: Vielyana Kim & Caleb Kim

## 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 October

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Operating Income:      | \$314,938.04 |
| Operating Expense:     | \$323,124.72 |
| Net Income:            | (\$8,186.68) |
| Designated gifts:      | \$38,300.00  |
| Building loan balance: | \$357,573.85 |



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