

P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H • T U S C A L O O S A , A L A B A M A

RIVEIL WOOD

R E S T I N G • R E N E W E D • R E S P O N D I N G

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."**





February 22, 2026

10:30 Worship Service

Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *John Kim*
Piano, *Ginny Coleman*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: from Psalm 149

Pastor: Praise the LORD!
Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!

All: **Let Israel be glad in his Maker;**
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Pastor: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with salvation.

All: **Praise the LORD!**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 361

"O Praise Ye the Lord"

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 7:17-26

17 "If you say in your heart, 'These nations are greater than I. How can I dispossess them?' **18** you shall not be afraid of them but you shall remember what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt, **19** the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs, the wonders, the mighty hand, and the outstretched arm, by which the LORD your God brought you out. So will the LORD your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. **20** Moreover, the LORD your God will send hornets among them, until those who are left and hide themselves from you are destroyed. **21** You shall not be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is in your midst, a great and awesome God. **22** The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little. You may not make an end of them at once, lest the wild beasts grow too numerous for you. **23** But the LORD your God will give them over to you and throw them into great confusion, until they are destroyed. **24** And he will give their kings into your hand, and you shall make their name perish from under heaven. No one shall be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them. **25** The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. **26** And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is devoted to destruction."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSiON OF SIN:

Almighty God, you are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in power, holiness, and goodness. You have graciously entered into covenant with us through Jesus Christ, the Mediator between God and man, who is the Head and Savior of the church. We confess that we are quick to forget your character and so we become fearful and anxious. We admit that we can lose sight of the eternal blessings we have in Christ and begin to covet the treasures and idols of the world. Please forgive us. We have sinned against you and brought destructive and sinful things into our lives and into our homes. Please have mercy on us. Holy Spirit, enable us to truly repent, turning away from the sin that entangles and toward Jesus in faith and obedience. Lead us on new paths, where, instead of living in fear, we are filled with a spirit of power, and love, and self-control. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSiON

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: from Psalm 103

Pastor: For all those who have faith in Jesus Christ who was offered up for our sins, hear these words of assurance: "Bless the LORD...who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy." The Lord Jesus has redeemed you with his own life, given you eternal life, and promised that no one will snatch you from his hand. The Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: "He Will Hold Me Fast"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He Will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Chorus:

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those he saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He Will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He Will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last.

Words by Ada Habershon & Matt Merker; Music by Matt Merker
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OFFERTORY PRAYER & OFFERTORY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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: *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

RECEIVING THE WORD

HYMN: 330

"Holy Ghost, Dispel Our Sadness"

SCRIPTURE: *John 9:13-25*

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. **14** Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. **15** So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." **16** Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. **17** So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." **18** The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight **19** and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" **20** His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. **21** But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." **22** (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. **23** Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him.") **24** So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." **25** He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON:

"Though I Was Blind, Now I See"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 476

"The Light of the World Is Jesus"

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: 598

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

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

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

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer this Wednesday, February 25 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, the men's Bible study will NOT meet this week.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study on the book of Revelation meets this Thursday, February 26 at 6 p.m. A light dinner will be provided. Looking forward to a time of fellowship and learning more about God's word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bridal Shower

You're invited to a bridal shower for Ashton Daum next Sunday, March 1 at 2:00pm at Riverwood. Ashton is registered on Amazon.

New Members Class

We will be offering a New Members class on Saturday, February 28 from 9am-1pm. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in finding out more about Riverwood or are ready to join the church, please email Pastor Jeff Pate (jpate@riverwoodchurch.org) and let him know you would like to attend.

Host College Students for Lunch

Riverwood Members, thank you for your hospitality in hosting college students on Sunday, March 8th, for lunch. Hosts: you can choose to either be a primary host or a co-host. Primary host hosts as before, either alone or with a co-host. A co-host partners with and helps out a primary host with the lunch. If you are interested in hosting or co-hosting, please reach out to Vielyana at 205-239-3101. Students: if you'd like to join a Riverwood member for lunch, please check GroupMe for a link to sign up or text Vielyana. The deadline to sign up for both hosts and students is Thursday, March 5th.

Short-Term Mission Trip

Join a Briarwood PCA mission trip to L'Arcada - a Christian summer camp in Spain! We will be the English camp staff; serving in activities and as counselors from June 24-July 6. Contact Halsie Bardin (770-681-3466) for more information and the application.

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 (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 Mondays/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

February 22: Janalie Graham & Lauryn Elliot
March 1: Lynn Tootle & Bruce DeHaan

Riverwood Church Officers

Elders:

John Kim
Gene Martin
Jeff Pate
Dusty Sheppard

Deacons:

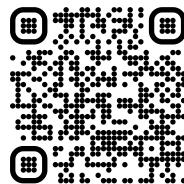
Tommy Coleman
Steven Crawford
Bruce DeHaan
Ed Kidder
Steve Patridge
Marvin Skelton

Elders Emeritus:

Bob Prince
Robert Sheppard

Financials through January

Operating Income:	\$23,911.75
Operating Expense:	\$32,467.41
Net Income:	(\$8,555.66)
Designated gifts:	\$14,210.00
Building loan balance:	\$314,683.02



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