

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

RIVERLEAF WOOD

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

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."**





March 15, 2026

10:30 Worship Service

Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*
Piano, *Nancy Allen*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 106*

Pastor: Praise the LORD!

**All: Oh give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD, or declare all his praise?

**All: Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 16

"Come, Let Us Sing unto 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 8:11-20*

11 "Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, **12** lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, **13** and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, **14** then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, **15** who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, **16** who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end. **17** Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' **18** You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day. **19** And if you forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. **20** Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Lord, you are a God who makes and keeps promises. In our prayers and songs we say that we want to be Christians, but can be so different from Jesus. Our actions do not match up with our words. We say mean things to other people, we don't consider their needs or feelings, we think of ourselves first, and, worst of all, we ignore you. Please forgive us. Lord, we are like sheep, and we get lost. We go after the false gods of this world and do not love you above all else. We need a Savior, so we long for Jesus. Come, fill our lives, Jesus. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Ezekiel 36*

Pastor: Hear the good news as prophesied by Ezekiel. "I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you." For everyone who has faith in Jesus Christ, you have been washed, sprinkled clean, and your sins have been forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 253

"There Is A Fountain Filled with Blood"

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: *Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q & A 84-87*

Leader: What does every sin deserve?

All: **Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.**

Leader: What does God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse, due to us for sin?

All: **To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption.**

Leader: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

All: **Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.**

Leader: What is repentance unto life?

All: **Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of their sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of their sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.**

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: 597

"Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire"

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *John 10:1-9*

1 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. **2** But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. **4** When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. **5** A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” **6** This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. **7** So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. **8** All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. **9** I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: “The Door of the Sheep”

Rev. Jeff Pate

HYMN:

"Jesus, Strong and Kind"

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him.
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him.

Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to him.
No one else can be my strength, I should come to him.

*For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.*

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to him.
No one else can be my shield, I should come to him.

Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me.
And he showed me on that cross, He will come to me.

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

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: 605

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

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

March 19 Marvin Skelton

Youth Group

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 will meet this Wednesday, March 18 at 5:30pm in the Administration Building.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study on the book of Revelation meets this Thursday, March 19 at 6p.m. A light dinner will be provided. Looking forward to a time of fellowship and learning more about God's word.

Sundaes on Sunday

You are invited to a co-ed wedding shower for Anna Gardner Herren and Arden Markin on Sunday, March 22nd from 4-6 in the Riverwood fellowship hall. With limited space for transporting gifts in their move to California, gift cards are warmly welcomed. They are also registered at theknot.com.

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer next Wednesday, March 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.

Holy Week at Riverwood

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Communion Service at 7:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 5

The Son Has Risen Service & Breakfast at 9:00am

Worship Service at 10:30am

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 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

March 15: Lynn Tootle & Lilly Henry

March 22: Vielyana Kim & Caleb Kim

Riverwood Church Officers

Elders:

John Kim

Gene Martin

Jeff Pate

Dusty Sheppard

Elders Emeritus:

Bob Prince

Robert Sheppard

Deacons:

Tommy Coleman

Steven Crawford

Bruce DeHaan

Ed Kidder

Steve Patridge

Marvin Skelton

Financials through February

Operating Income:	\$54,162.50
Operating Expense:	\$62,648.84
Net Income:	(\$8,486.34)
Designated gifts:	\$18,878.46
Building loan balance:	\$303,505.66



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



RIVERWOODCHURCH.ORG