

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."**





May 24, 2026

10:30 Worship Service

Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *John Kim*
Piano, *Nancy Allen*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 105*

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Pastor: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

All: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 21

"Sing Praise to 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 23:21-23*

21 “If you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin. **22** But if you refrain from vowing, you will not be guilty of sin. **23** You shall be careful to do what has passed your lips, for you have voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth.”

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 your truth. Your Word is true and your promises are sure. We confess that we have made vows that we have failed to keep, promises that we have not followed through with, and professions of belief that weren't reflected in our actions. Have mercy on us. Please forgive us for the times we have spoken rashly and acted unfaithfully. Our only hope is in your mercy and grace sovereignly displayed through the sinless life, atoning sacrifice, victorious resurrection, and glorious ascension of Jesus Christ. Our faith and hope are in him alone, so we ask this in his name, amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

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

Pastor: Lift up your heads and hear the gospel! To all the church who believe in Jesus Christ, "Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 247

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Madeline Schultz

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 139

"Your Word Is like a Garden, Lord"

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *John 12:44-50*

44 And Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. **45** And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. **46** I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. **47** If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. **48** The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. **49** For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. **50** And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: “The Powerful Word of Jesus”

Rev. Jeff Pate

HYMN:**"All I Have Is Christ"**

I once was lost in darkest night; Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life; Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own; A rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first; I would refuse You still

But as I ran my hell-bound race; Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state; And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed; You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me; Now all I know is grace

Chorus:

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life

Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone; And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands; Could never come from me
O Father, use my ransomed life; In any way You choose
And let my song forever be; My only boast is You

Chorus (2x)

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin
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COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, as we come to the table of the Lord, let us cleanse out the old leaven that we may be a new lump, as we really are unleavened. For Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed.

All: Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil.

Pastor: We celebrate with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 700

"Come, We That Love the Lord"

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

May 24 Nancy Allen

May 25 Rachael Drinkard

No Sunday School this Summer

This morning was the final week of Sunday School before the summer break!

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer this Wednesday, May 27 from 5:30-6:30pm. We will meet in the conference room in the Admin Building. Come when you can and stay for as long as you are able.

Deacon's Fund Offering

Every month that has a fifth Sunday, our deacons have an offering to replenish funds in an account used exclusively for short-term mercy ministry needs. This has enabled our Diaconate to extend the kingdom of God to many within our community. Next Sunday, May 31, all cash and designated gifts will be used for this purpose.

Dinner on the Grounds

Please make plans to join your church family for dinner on the grounds next Sunday, May 31, immediately after the morning worship service. We need volunteers to bring food, set up, clean up, etc.! See your weekly announcement email for a link to sign up.

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 two 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. *Please text first since the location does fluctuate during the summer months.*

Nursery Schedule

May 24: Lorrie Pate & Warren Pate
May 31: Erin Sheppard & Lilly Henry

Riverwood Church Officers

Elders:

John Kim
Gene Martin
Jeff Pate
Dusty Sheppard

Elders Emeritus:

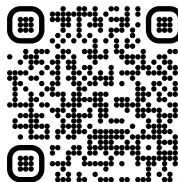
Bob Prince
Robert Sheppard

Deacons:

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

Financials through April

Operating Income:	\$119,198.14
Operating Expense:	\$132,742.52
Net Income:	(\$13,544.38)
Designated gifts:	\$29,022.30
Building loan balance:	\$279,017.26



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RIVERWOODCHURCH.ORG