

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."**





July 19, 2026

10:30 Worship Service

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 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: *Luke 9:46-48*

46 An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest. **47** But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side **48** and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort: we confess that we want to come to you in our own strength and ability, not in childlike faith and humility. Jesus told us that God blesses those who are poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is given to them. But we have been proud in spirit, inflated with pride in our own self-sufficiency. We have forgotten how needy we are. Our Lord said that God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. But we have not mourned over our sins, or the damage we have done to others. We know that God blesses those who are meek, for the whole earth will be their inheritance. But we have valued toughness over gentleness. We have too often chosen to be concerned with ourselves rather than with our brothers and sisters and neighbors. Like the prodigal son, we want to satisfy ourselves rather than our Father. Please forgive us as we come in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

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SCRIPTURE:

Psalms 78

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON:

"The Call to Discipleship"

Rev. Jeff Pate

- I. The approach to discipleship
- II. The divine command to make disciples
- III. The purpose of discipleship
- IV. The obstacles to and opportunities for discipleship
- V. The hope of discipleship

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 523

"My Hope Is in the Lord"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Pastor: He forgives all your iniquity, heals all your diseases, redeems your life from the pit, and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

All: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Pastor: And because we are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Let us eat the feast with thankful hearts as God's redeemed and beloved children.

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

Happy Birthdays

July 22 Lisa Kidder

July 24 Darla Cook

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer next Wednesday, July 29 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.

Warrior Presbytery Women's Ministry Spiritual Connection

Riverwood ladies are invited to the presbytery women's ministries' annual spiritual connection on Saturday, August 22 at Eutaw Presbyterian Church. Registration begins at 9:00am. The theme is *From Stuck to Spirit-Led: How to Pay Attention to God When Life Feels Rough* with speaker Elizabeth Renicks. Join us for a time of refreshment, encouragement, and fellowship! Please RSVP to Kristina Patridge (kspatridge@ua.edu) by Monday, August 17.

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.*

No Sunday School this Summer

We will be taking a break from Sunday School classes this summer. Fall classes will kick off on Sunday, August 23. Stay tuned for more details!

Nursery Schedule

July 19: Lorrie Pate & Warren Pate

July 26: Joanie & George Norris

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 June

Operating Income: \$179,540.64

Operating Expense: \$195,015.35

Net Income: (\$15,474.71)

Designated gifts: \$59,956.30

Building loan balance: \$230,809.67



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