

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 26, 2026

10:30 Worship Service

Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *Gene Martin*
Piano, *Ginny Coleman*

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 28*

Pastor: Bless the LORD!

**All: The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts,
and I am helped; my heart exults and with my song I give thanks to him.**

Pastor: The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**All: Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 349

“O Thou Who the Shepherd of Israel Art”

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 9:57-62*

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." **58** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." **59** To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." **60** And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." **61** Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." **62** Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Heavenly Father, we gather today to worship in the name of Jesus Christ because he alone is the way, the truth, and the life, and no-one can come to the Father except through him. We call ourselves Christians and followers of Jesus, but we confess that we can be guilty of taking his name in vain. Please forgive us for the times we bear his name but don't follow where he leads, serve as he commands, or submit to his yoke. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us for putting other things in our lives ahead of you, forgetting that you won't withhold anything good from us. Holy Spirit, help us to learn to rest more fully in our Savior's care and more gladly follow where he leads. We ask this all in his name, amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Ephesians 1 & Hebrews 6*

Pastor: Hear the good news of our salvation! For all who have faith in Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. Therefore we who have fled to Jesus for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: "Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor"

Christ the sure and steady Anchor; In the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt blow through me; And my sails have all been torn
In the suffering, in the sorrow; When my sinking hopes are few
I will hold fast to the Anchor; It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor; While the tempest rages on
When temptation claims the battle; And it seems the night has won
Deeper still then goes the Anchor; Though I justly stand accused
I will hold fast to the Anchor; It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor; Through the floods of unbelief
 Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now; Lift your eyes to Calvary
 This my ballast of assurance; See His love forever proved
 I will hold fast to the Anchor; It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady Anchor; As we face the wave of death
When these trials give way to glory; As we draw our final breath
We will cross that great horizon; Clouds behind and life secure
And the calm will be the better; For the storms that we endure

Christ the sure of our salvation; Ever faithful, ever true
We will hold fast to the Anchor; It shall never be removed (2x)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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: *Westminster Shorter Catechism #86, 87*

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 his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his 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: 457

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Psalm 80*

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. **2** Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us! **3** Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved! **4** O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? **5** You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. **6** You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves. **7** Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved! **8** You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. **9** You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. **10** The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. **11** It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River. **12** Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? **13** The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it. **14** Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, **15** the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself. **16** They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face! **17** But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself! **18** Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! **19** Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

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

SERMON:

"The God Who Turns"

Rev. Jeff Pate

HYMN:**"Behold the Lamb"**

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us – and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ, torn for you – eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love, around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you – drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in, to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace, around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise, to respond, – and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ, as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven, around the table of the King.

Words and music by Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend
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COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

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: 442

"Arise, O God"

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 26 Colin Marsh
July 28 John Kim
July 31 Isabella Berry
August 1 Savannah Cook

Corporate Prayer

Everyone is encouraged to join us for corporate prayer this 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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 26: Joanie & George Norris

August 2: Janalie Graham & Nora Crawford

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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