

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."**





August 16, 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: *taken from Isaiah 25:6-9*

Pastor: On this mountain the LORD of hosts will swallow up the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

All: He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

Pastor: It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

All: This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

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: *Ezekiel 18:20-23,30-32*

20 The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. **21** "But if a wicked person turns away from all his sins that he has committed and keeps all my statutes and does what is just and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. **22** None of the transgressions that he has committed shall be remembered against him; for the righteousness that he has done he shall live. **23** Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?...**30** "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. **31** Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? **32** For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Almighty God, you are eternally holy, infinitely just, and unchangeably powerful. We confess that we have sinned against you in the words we have said, the imaginations of our minds, and the actions of our lives. Your word tells us that the wages of sin is death. We deserve that wage physically and spiritually. Left to ourselves we are unable to stand before your justice or withstand your judgment. Have mercy on us, sinners. Through faith in Christ, wash us so that we may be truly clean. Holy Spirit, enable us to repent and turn from the sin that so easily entangles us. Help us to live in the light of the new life that is ours in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from 1 Cor. 15 & Revelation 1*

Pastor: Hear the good news of our salvation! If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins...But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come...from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 305

"Arise, My Soul, Arise"

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: *Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 51-52*

Leader: How does this glory of Christ our head benefit us?

All: **First, through his Holy Spirit he pours out gifts from heaven upon us his members. Second, by his power he defends us and keeps us safe from all enemies.**

Leader: How does Christ's return "to judge the living and the dead" comfort you?

All: **In all distress and persecution, with uplifted head, I confidently await the very judge who has already offered himself to the judgment of God in my place and removed the whole curse from me. Christ will cast all his enemies and mine into everlasting condemnation, but will take me and all his chosen ones to himself into the joy and glory of heaven.**

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 COMMUNING MEMBER

Eleanor Gill

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 145

"The Spirit Breathes upon the Word"

SCRIPTURE: *Revelation 20:11-21:11*

11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. **14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. **1** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. **4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." **5** And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. **7** The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. **8** But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." **9** Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." **10** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, **11** having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

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

SERMON:

"The Glory that Awaits"

Rev. Zac Martin

COMMUNION

HYMN: 542

"Who Are These like Stars Appearing"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: With these words our Lord commands all believers to eat this broken bread and to drink this cup in true faith and in the confident hope of his return in glory.

All: **In this supper God declares to us that our sins have been completely forgiven through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ, which he himself finished on the cross once for all. He also declares to us that the Holy Spirit grafts us into Christ, who with his very body is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father, where he wants us to worship him.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 267

"The Day of Resurrection!"

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

August 17 Evelyn Gill

August 20 Bruce Brown

Riverwood Women's Event

This Friday, August 21 from 6-8pm, the women of all ages will be meeting for food, fellowship, and information in the Fellowship Hall. We hope that this will be an opportunity for all women to connect, learn more about ways to serve, hear about the upcoming Bible study and Warrior Presbytery Women's Ministry function, and tour the facilities and equipment available for church-wide functions. We are excited to spend some time together!

Warrior Presbytery Women's Ministry Spiritual Connection

Riverwood ladies are invited to the presbytery women's ministries' annual spiritual connection this 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 **tomorrow** – Monday, August 17.

Sunday School Update

Sunday School classes for all ages are scheduled to start back up next Sunday, August 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Classes for children through middle school are available in the education building. The combined high school and adult class will resume its study of the Westminster Confession of Faith and meet in the Fellowship Hall, where breakfast food is also available for everyone.

Mark Your Calendars:

Wednesday, August 26, 5:30pm: Corporate Prayer

Sunday, August 30: Deacon's Fund Offering

Sunday, August 30: Dinner on the Grounds

Saturday, November 21: Birthday Celebration for Bob Prince

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

August 16: Katie Gill & Lauryn Elliot
August 23: Lorrie Pate & Warren Pate

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 July

Operating Income:	\$205,398.00
Operating Expense:	\$230,667.82
Net Income:	(\$25,269.82)
Designated gifts:	\$63,471.30
Building loan balance:	\$218,666.08



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