

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."**





September 13, 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 93*

Pastor: The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed;
he has put on strength as his belt.

All: Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

Pastor: Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

**All: Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house,
O LORD, forevermore.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 64

"God, the Lord, a King Remaineth"

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: *Isaiah 45:5-13*

5 "I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, **6** that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. **7** I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things. **8** Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout; I the LORD have created it. **9** Woe to him who strives with him who formed him, a pot among earthen pots! Does the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' or 'Your work has no handles'? **10** Woe to him who says to a father, 'What are you begetting?' or to a woman, 'With what are you in labor?'" **11** Thus says the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and the one who formed him: "Ask me of things to come; will you command me concerning my children and the work of my hands? **12** I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host. **13** I have stirred him up in righteousness, and I will make all his ways level; he shall build my city and set my exiles free, not for price or reward," says the LORD of hosts.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Lord, you speak to us in your Word, but we do not listen; you call, but we do not follow; you command, but we do not obey, you bless us, but we do not thank you. Please forgive and help us. Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others; you forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us; you love us, but we do not love our neighbors. Please forgive and help us. Lord, you showed us how to carry out your mission, but we still insist on our own; you identified yourself with outcasts, the needy, and the poor, but we do not bother to find out what is happening to them; you suffered and died for our salvation, but we do not give up our comfortable lives. Please forgive and help us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

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

Pastor: Hear the good news of our salvation! "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace." The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: "Reformation Song"

1. Your word alone is solid ground, the mighty rock on which we build.
In every line the truth is found, and every page with glory filled.

2. Through faith alone we come to you, we have no merit we can claim,
sure that your promises are true, we place our hope in Jesus' name.

Chorus:

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone. Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

3. In Christ alone we're justified, his righteousness is all our plea.
Your law's demands are satisfied, his perfect work has set us free.

Chorus

4. By grace alone we have been saved, all that we are has come from you.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved, now by your pow'r have been made new.

Chorus

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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: *Colossians 1:15-20*

Leader: Christian, what do you believe about Jesus Christ?

All: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

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:

"For Your Gift of God the Spirit"
sung to "All the Way My Savior Leads Me" (#605)

For your gift of God the Spirit, power to make our lives anew,
pledge of life and hope and glory, Savior, we would worship you.
Crowning gift of resurrection, sent from your ascended throne;
fullness of the very Godhead come to make your life our own,
fullness of the very Godhead come to make your life our own.

He who in creation's dawning brooded on the lifeless deep,
still across our nature's darkness moves to wake our souls from sleep;
moves to stir, to draw, to quicken, thrusts us through with sense of sin;
brings to birth and seals and fills us, saving Advocate within,
brings to birth and seals and fills us, saving Advocate within.

He, himself the living Author, wakes to life the sacred Word,
reads with us its holy pages and reveals our risen Lord.
He it is who works within us teaching rebel hearts to pray,
he whose holy intercessions rise for us both night and day,
he whose holy intercessions rise for us both night and day.

He, the mighty God, indwells us; his to strengthen, help, empower,
his to overcome the tempter ours to call in danger's hour.
In his strength we dare to battle all the raging hosts of sin,
and by him alone we conquer foes without and foes within,
and by him alone we conquer foes without and foes within.

Father, grant your Holy Spirit in our hearts may rule today,
grieved not, quenched not, but unhindered, work in us his sovereign way.
Fill us with your holy fullness, God the Father, Spirit, Son;
in us, through us, then, forever shall your perfect will be done,
in us, through us, then, forever shall your perfect will be done.

SCRIPTURE: *John 13:12-38*

12 When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? **13** You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. **14** If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **15** For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. **16** Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. **17** If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. **18** I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' **19** I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. **20** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me." **21** After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." **22** The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. **23** One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side, **24** so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. **25** So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" **26** Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. **27** Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." **28** Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. **29** Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. **30** So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night. **31** When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. **32** If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. **33** Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' **34** A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. **35** By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." **36** Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." **37** Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." **38** Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times."

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

SERMON: "Our Sovereign, Sending Savior"

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION & BENEDICTION

HYMN: 691

"It Is Well with My Soul"

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: 75

"O Father, You Are Sovereign"

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

September 14 Madeline Schultz

September 17 Dusty Sheppard

Sunday Evening Worship

Our celebration of the Lord's Day now includes evening worship meeting at 5pm in the fellowship hall. Evening worship is a time of mutual encouragement through Scripture reading, preaching, singing, and corporate prayer. Everyone is encouraged to come and bring a friend.

Wednesday Evening Meal and Studies

Our Wednesday evenings at Riverwood provide a great opportunity to grow in Christian fellowship and knowledge of God's Word. There is a meal provided for anyone who would like to come at 5:30pm (please see your email on Friday to RSVP for dinner). Following the meal, there are discipleship opportunities through Youth Group, a Ladies' Bible Study, a Men's study, Children's Catechism, and a co-ed Pier Group. Please pray that God will bless our efforts to equip the saints and grow in Christian community.

Join College Students for Lunch and Prayer Time

College students gather each Lord's Day after worship for prayer and lunch. We want you to have an opportunity to support their fellowship and be encouraged by it. There will be three Sundays this fall that other congregants can provide food for their lunch, pray with them, and spend time getting to know one another better. If you are interested in supporting this wonderful fellowship on September 27 or October 11, contact Lorrie Pate (205-771-0158). If you are able to support this gathering on November 1, contact Vielyana Kim (205-239-3101).

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 on Mondays in the Sheppards' home (1513 Heritage Dr, 35406) @ noon. For more info contact Gene at (205) 614-2781.
- Pates on Wednesdays at Riverwood @ 6:30 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

September 13: Lynn Tootle & Bruce DeHaan

September 20: Katie Gill & 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 August

Operating Income:	\$241,561.98
Operating Expense:	\$262,483.17
Net Income:	(\$20,921.19)
Designated gifts:	\$68,032.30
Building loan balance:	\$206,982.82



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