RESTING • RENEWED • RESPONDING

RIVERWOOD

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."

November 22, 2026	10:30 Worship Service

Pastor, *Rev. Jeff Pate*
Assisting Elder, *John Kim*
Piano, *Ginny Coleman*

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

PRELUDE

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *based on Psalm 67*

Pastor: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for our God shall judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
Pastor: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.
All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 164 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

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.

SCRIPTURE READING: *Deuteronomy 11:1–7*

1 "You shall therefore love the LORD your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always. **2** And consider today (since I am not speaking to your children who have not known or seen it), consider the discipline of the LORD your God, his greatness, his mighty hand and his outstretched arm, **3** his signs and his deeds that he did in Egypt to Pharaoh the king of Egypt and to all his land, **4** and what he did to the army of Egypt, to their horses and to their chariots, how he made the water of the Red Sea flow over them as they pursued after you, and how the LORD has destroyed them to this day, **5** and what he did to you in the wilderness, until you came to this place, **6** and what he did to Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, son of Reuben, how the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households, their tents, and every living thing that followed them, in the midst of all Israel. **7** For your eyes have seen all the great work of the LORD that he did."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Holy God, you have given us many good gifts. Today we thank you for all of them, but we also confess that sometimes we love those gifts more than we love you. We confess wanting more and more things: food, clothes, toys, and money. Forgive us for not being content and thankful. Forgive our selfishness. Heavenly Father, discipline us through your Word for our good, and sanctify us by your Spirit that we may share in your holiness. Help us to love you more than everything else. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from 2 Cor. 8 & Ephesians 1*

Pastor: Lift up your heads and hear the good news of salvation! "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." For all who are united to Jesus Christ by faith, God's Word promises us that "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: 230 "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor"

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: *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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: "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.

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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SCRIPTURE: *Revelation 21:1-5*

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.”

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

SERMON: “Newer, Not Novel” *Rev. Tim Lien*

HYMN: 469 "How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place"

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
All: We who are many are one body, for we all share the same loaf.
Pastor: The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
All: The cup that we drink is our participation in the blood of Christ.
Pastor: Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord. The gifts of God for the people of God.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: 715 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

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)

November 22, 2026	5:00 Worship Service

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from 1 Chronicles 16*

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!
Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!
Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: 125 "Let All Things Now Living"

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 103, page 821

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prayer of thanks for God's righteous deeds
Prayer of confession for our sins
Prayer of praise for our redemption
Prayer for God's sustaining grace

HYMN: 311 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

READING OF SCRIPTURE & SERMON *Ruth 2:14-23*

HYMN: 701 "Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It!"

CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

Happy Birthday

November 28 Bob Prince

No Wednesday Activities this Week

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no Wednesday evening activities this week. Please enjoy this time with your family and friends. Wednesday evenings at Riverwood will resume on December 2!

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, November 29, all cash and designated gifts will be used for this purpose.

Christmas Cookie Swap

Please join us for the annual ladies cookie exchange on Saturday, December 5 at 7:00pm at Carrie Henry's home (2901 47th Ave. East). Please bring 3-dozen Christmas cookies from your favorite homemade recipe with 20 recipe cards. Everyone will be able to take home an assortment of cookies!

College Student Study Days

College students, come study for finals at Riverwood Church on Monday and Tuesday, December 7 and 8, and enjoy free coffee, snacks, and lunch from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Lunch will be served beginning at noon.

Help with College Student Study Days

Dear Riverwood Families, would you be willing to help by either preparing meals or assisting with hosting? There are several shifts available. To sign up, please use the link provided on Facebook or in the email announcement this Tuesday. If you have any questions, please contact Vielyana Kim (205-239-3101). Thank you!

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

November 22: George & Joanie Norris
November 29: Vielyana Kim & Caleb Kim

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 October

Operating Income:	$308,423.20
Operating Expense:	$330,534.11
Net Income:	($22,110.91)
Designated gifts:	$74,232.30
Building loan balance:	$180,698.78

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