

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 2, 2020 • 8:30 & 10:30am • Rev. Jeff Pate, pastor

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Gene Martin  
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

10:30am

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Gene Martin  
Joann Williams, piano

## REFLECTIONS:

God's commitment to His plan of redemption does not absolve us from our responsibility to obey His commands. God will reach every corner of this world, and He has chosen to accomplish this task by working through His church.

Francis Chan

What is at stake, then and now, is the question of whether we will use the God-given revelation of love and grace as a way of boosting our own sense of isolated security and purity, or whether we will see it as a call and challenge to extend that love and grace to the whole world.

N. T. Wright

We may be surprised at the people we find in heaven. God has a soft spot for sinners. His standards are quite low.

Desmond Tutu

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you... You were with me, and I was not with you.

St. Augustine

## CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 108*

Leader: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;  
I will sing praises to you among the nations.

**All: For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

Leader: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

**All: That your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by your right hand and answer me!**

Leader: Come, let us worship.

O praise ye the Lord and sing a new song,  
amid all his saints his praises prolong;  
the praise of their Maker his people shall sing,  
and children of Zion rejoice in their King.

With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim,  
with gladness and mirth, sing praise to his name;  
for God in his people his pleasure doth seek,  
with robes of salvation he clotheth the meek.

In glory exult, ye saints of the Lord;  
with songs in the night high praises accord;  
go forth in his service, be strong in his might  
to conquer all evil and stand for the right.

For this is his word: his saints shall not fail,  
but over the earth their pow'r shall prevail;  
all kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sway.  
To God give the glory and praise him for aye.

**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: Luke 18:9-14**

<sup>9</sup>He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:**

Merciful God, we think of ourselves as good. We seek approval from others and even from you because of that perceived goodness. Yet we know, in the depths of our heart, that we are not what we present ourselves to be. We know that our hearts are deceitful, and desperately wicked. Today, in this time of repentance and confession, we confess the truth, that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have sinned in what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Through your great, never-ending mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and humbly walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD:** *from Psalm 66*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Pastor: In this assurance, your sins are forgiven. May the peace of God be with you always.  
People: **And also with you.**

**HYMN: 498** "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! lover of my soul;  
friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

*Chorus:*

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;  
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

*(Chorus)*

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,  
even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul.

*(Chorus)*

Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,  
storms about me, night o'er-takes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry.

*(Chorus)*

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;  
he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine.

*(Chorus)*

**OFFERING:**

*\*Remember to worship through the giving of tithes and offerings. There are offering plates next to the exits for you to place your offering. You may also give online using the link on the church's website or send checks to the church's mailing address.*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator 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 to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended to 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:** 735 "Gloria Patri"

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

**HYMN:** 335 "Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me"

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would gracious be;  
and with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal;  
and with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would truthful be;  
and with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear;  
and with actions brotherly speak my Lord's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would mighty be;  
mighty so as to prevail where unaided man must fail;  
ever by a mighty hope pressing on and bearing up.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would holy be;  
separate from sin, I would choose and cherish all things good,  
and whatever I can be, give to him who gave me thee!

**SCRIPTURE:** *Jonah 1:1-3*

<sup>1</sup>Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” <sup>3</sup>But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

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

SERMON: “I Once Was Found but Now I Am Lost”

Rev. Stewart Swain

HYMN: 36 “Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me”

Lord, thou has searched me, and dost know  
where'er I rest, where'er I go;  
thou knowest all that I have planned,  
and all my ways are in thy hand.

My words from thee I cannot hide;  
I feel thy pow'r on every side;  
O wondrous knowledge, awesome might,  
unfathomed depth, unmeasured height!

**THE SACRAMENT OF LORD'S SUPPER:**

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.

HYMN: 36 "Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me"

Where can I go apart from thee,  
or whither from thy presence flee?  
In heav'n? - it is thy dwelling fair;  
in death's abode? - lo, thou art there.

If I the wings of morning take,  
and far away my dwelling make,  
the hand that leadeth me is thine,  
and my support thy pow'r divine.

If deepest darkness cover me,  
the darkness hideth not from thee;  
to thee both night and day are bright,  
the darkness shineth as the light.

BENEDICTION

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**

August 5 Joann Williams

August 6 Eleanor Gill

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

**COVENANT KIDS CLUB AND YOUTH GROUP**

Covenant Kids Club and Youth Group will NOT meet tonight.

**WINGS OF GRACE DONATION DRIVE**

Riverwood is currently collecting donations of school supplies, food, and Christmas bags for Wings of Grace. Please see your weekly email for all the details.