

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 9, 2020 • 8:30 & 10:30am • Rev. Jeff Pate, pastor

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30am

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

10:30am

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder John Kim  
Tindol Pate, piano

## REFLECTIONS:

Christ is not only the way on which we must begin our journey, but He is also the right and the safe way we must walk to the end. We dare not be deflected from this. Here Christ wants to say: "When you have apprehended Me in faith, you are on the right way, which is reliable. But only see that you remain and continue on it." Christ wants to tear and turn our hearts from all trust in anything else and pin them to Himself alone.

Martin Luther

We want to avoid suffering, death, sin, ashes. But we live in a world crushed and broken and torn, a world God Himself visited to redeem. We receive his poured-out life, and being allowed the high privilege of suffering with Him, may then pour ourselves out for others.

Elisabeth Elliot

God has planted testimonies to his presence throughout life; there is no safe-haven in any part of creation; no exit door through which we can permanently escape from the reality of his creating and sustaining power.

Sinclair Ferguson

Life may still bear the marks of desert trials, but the pillars of cloud and fire are there to guide and protect. Follow the call of Christ despite the uncertainty and chaos of modern circumstance, and you have the story line of your life.

Os Guinness

## CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Isaiah 52*

Pastor: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

All: **Break forth together into singing you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem.**

Pastor: The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. Come, let us see the salvation of our God. Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 604 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

*Chorus:*

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong men and maidens meek,  
raise high your free, exulting song; God's wondrous praises speak. (*Chorus*)

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth,  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth! (*Chorus*)

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go,  
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. (*Chorus*)

At last the march shall end, the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their Father's house, Jerusalem the blest. (*Chorus*)

Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. (*Chorus*)

**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: Romans 7:14-24**

<sup>14</sup>For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup>For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup>So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

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

**CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:**

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. We often pursue profit and pleasure without regard for your will in our lives or the good of those around us. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor, even within the church you love. Your righteous law reveals the sinfulness that divides us. We murder with our angry thoughts, commit adultery in our lust, and covet in our selfish cravings. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *Romans 8:1-4***

Pastor: Church of Jesus Christ, lift your head and hear the proclamation of good news for you!  
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

**All: God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.**

Pastor: Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ you are forgiven and declared righteous. The peace of God be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

**HYMN: 230 "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor"**

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,  
all for love's sake becamest poor;  
thrones for a manger didst surrender,  
sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.  
Thou who was rich beyond all splendor,  
all for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
all for love's sake becamest man:  
stooping so low, but sinners raising,  
heav'nward by thine eternal plan.  
Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
all for love's sake, becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling,  
Savior and King, we worship thee.  
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,  
make us what thou wouldst have us be.  
Thou who art love beyond all telling,  
Savior and King, we worship thee.

**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:** *Colossians 1:15-20*

Leader: What do you believe concerning Jesus Christ?

All: **I believe that: 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: 735 “Gloria Patri”

**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 ev'ry sin in each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least; gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my striving 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.



HYMN: 642 "Be Thou My Vision"

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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 9 Mike Zheng  
August 10 Katherine Odom  
August 14 Michael Henry  
August 14 Ed Kidder

#### LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

#### COVENANT KIDS CLUB AND YOUTH GROUP

Covenant Kids Club and Youth Group will meet tonight from 6:30-7:30pm.

#### GIFT BASKET FOR THE GILLS

For the next three weeks, there will be a basket in the foyer for a "baby shower" for the Gills! Gift cards suggested, but gifts welcome as well.