

REFLECTIONS

Through the Old Testament there flows a stream of mercy that has its source at the throne of God. The Shepherd of Israel is the King of love, a God full of mercy and truth. The God who stands upon the rock is the God who spared Abraham's beloved son Isaac from the sacrificial knife with the promise, "The LORD will provide" (Gen. 22:14).

Edmund Clowney

Christianity is not the sacrifice we make, but the sacrifice we trust; not the victory we win, but the victory we inherit. That is the evangelical principle.

P. T. Forsyth

In Christ we are secure and have everything we need with the peace of God as a garrison patrolling our hearts and His glorious riches laid open to meet our needs. In Christ we become new people with new feelings, a new mind or a way of looking at things, new encouragements or incentives to live as Christians should, and new abilities to bring those incentives to fruition. In Christ we have a whole new way of looking at life, seeing His hand and His sovereign will in all things.

John Stott

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

T U S C A L O O S A , A L A B A M A

February 16, 2020 • 10:30 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Leader In Worship: Rev. Josh Carmichael, Assisting Elder Allen Powers
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

WELCOME

Program all communication devices to be in silent mode. Thank you.

PRELUDE

As the Deer

arr. Mark Hayes

Please use this time for prayer and meditation as we prepare to go before the living God in worship.

PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 33*

Leader: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.

All: **Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!**

Pastor: Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love.

All: **Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.**

Pastor: Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.
Come, let us worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE: 97 “We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator”

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

SCRIPTURE READING: *Luke 17:1-6*

¹And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him." ⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Heavenly Father, we give glory to your name for the sake of your steadfast love and faithfulness. You, who made the heavens and the earth, are our help and our shield. We confess that instead of fleeing the temptations to sin, we often give ourselves over to them. We fail to pay attention to your word, to the Spirit's leading, and to ourselves. Please forgive us. Please have mercy on us for our struggle to forgive one another. Please forgive us for the offenses and slights that we hold against others, instead of forgiving as you have forgiven us. Our resentments and bitterness show how small our faith in you truly is. Holy Spirit, increase our faith so that we can delight in the peace we have with you and joyfully extend mercy to one another. We ask this in Jesus's name and for the praise of his name in the church. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Micah 7:18-19*

Pastor: The good news is that God has provided forgiveness for his people. Hear the assurance of God's mercy from Micah. "Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

All: **He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot."**

Pastor: In Christ, God has cast all your sins into the depths of the sea and you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" (*lyrics on page 6*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*
Presentation of tithes & offerings

arr. Cindy Berry

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

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: 331 “Come, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit”

COMMUNION

RESPONSIVE READING:

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 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

Riverwood Presbyterian uses wine in the celebration of Holy Communion. If you would prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please take a cup from the inner circle of the tray.

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

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSING HYMN: 263 "Lift High the Cross" v. 4

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE

1. How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss - the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.
2. Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished.
3. I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart - His wounds have paid my ransom.

Words and music by Stuart Townend
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

COVENANT KIDS CLUB & YOUTH GROUP

Covenant Kids Club is tonight from 5:30-7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Youth Group is in the Barn from 5:30-7:30pm.

PIER GROUPS

Weekly Bible study groups (Pier Groups) have begun. To find out times, topics, and locations of the groups, look on the website (www.riverwoodchurch.org) and click on "Forms and Sign-ups." You'll find a tab for Pier Groups. Check it out and sign up for a group while you're there.

YOUTH LOCK-IN

Youth Lock-In is this coming Friday night! All youth are invited to join in a night of food, fun, worship, study, fellowship, and maybe a little sleep. Arrive between 5:30 and 6 pm to be in time for supper. Bring a sleeping bag and pillow, a snack to share, and your 2nd Corinthians notebook. The lock-in will include breakfast Saturday morning and then departure at 8 a.m. Parents, keep an eye out for an email with food sign-up. See you Friday!

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Each year on Ash Wednesday, Riverwood comes before the Lord in prayer, repentance, and the symbolic cross marked in ashes. There will be two services on Wednesday, February 26 - 7:00am for those who need to get to work or school, and an 8:00am service to include RCS students and staff. You are welcome to join us at either service to begin the Easter season with worship, as we seek to acknowledge and turn from our sin. The service will be in the sanctuary and will last approximately 30 minutes.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, March 1: Joint Sunday School - Nathan Hilton, missionary

Sunday, March 29: Ridge Haven Fundraiser Lunch

Saturday, April 4: Family Easter Celebration

SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Riverwood Presbyterian Church we have Sunday School at 9:30am for all age groups.

MEETING DOWNSTAIRS:

Nursery: Multi-Staffed
2-3 year olds: Janalie Graham & Joanie Norris
4-5 year olds: Lorrie Pate

MEETING UPSTAIRS:

Grades 1-3: Lisa Kidder
Grades 4-6: Ginny Nippert

MEETING IN THE BARN:

Youth Class: Ben & Meg Sigmon

MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Adult Class - led by elders

MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:

Adult Class - *Every Good Endeavor* by Tim Keller - led by Gene Martin

MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

February 16: Lisa Kidder / Joanie Norris / Vielyana Kim & Chanley Henson / Parker Pate
February 23: Bob DeWitt / Janalie Graham / April Henry & Olivia Patridge / Phoebe Bell

FEBRUARY DEACON SCHEDULE:

Head Deacon: Wayne Bell
Clean Up: Dusty Sheppard

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through January 2020:

Operating Income:	\$25,321.37
Operating Expense*:	\$30,864.56
Net Income:	(\$5,543.19)
Designated gifts:	\$630.00
Building loan balance:	\$781,059.32

**Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*