

The Holy Spirit is in the church today and he does a regular work in it, though these are the days of small things. But we must not despise these days because, after all, what is happening is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones

...take a serious view of the portion that is here offered to you. Consider upon what easy terms it may be yours forever. This portion is no less than the infinite God is.

George Swinnock

True spirituality is not a superhuman religiosity; it is simply true humanity released from bondage to sin and renewed by the Holy Spirit. This is given to us as we grasp by faith the full content of Christ's redemptive work; freedom from the guilt and power of sin.

Richard Lovelace

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

February 4, 2018 • 11:00 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Leaders In Worship: Assisting Elder Gene Martin
Nancy Allen, piano

WELCOME & PRELUDE

The Lord's My Shepherd

Riverwood Choir

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

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 98*

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

All: **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

Pastor: The LORD has made known his salvation;

All: **he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN OF PRAISE: 316 "The Mighty God, the Lord"

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: *Exodus 20:1-17*

¹And God spoke all these words, saying, ²“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. ⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN: *based on passages in Romans*

All: **Heavenly Father, your law is holy and your commandments are righteous and good. As it reveals your righteous character, your law also exposes our sinfulness and increases our trespass. Please forgive us for disobeying and disregarding your will as you have communicated it in your righteous law. Forgive us for failing to love you by worshiping the work of our own hands, taking your name lightly, forsaking the rest you offer, and dishonoring our parents and those you have placed in authority over us. Please forgive us for not loving our neighbor by harboring anger toward him, lusting after our neighbor's spouse, taking what isn't ours, lying about our neighbor or coveting what doesn't belong to us. Have mercy on us. We rejoice in knowing that where sin increased, grace abounded all the more. We claim the forgiveness that you have offered in Jesus Christ, our Sin-bearer and Redeemer, praying by faith in his name. Amen.**

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Romans 10:9-11*

Pastor: Lift up your heads and your hearts to hear the promise of the gospel. If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your hearts that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

All: **With the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.**

Pastor: For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”
The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 460 “Amazing Grace!”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *Across the Lands*
Presentation of tithes & offerings

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Nicene Creed*

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

RESPONSE: 735 “Gloria Patri”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 337 “O Spirit of the Living God”

PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 24:44-49*

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

SERMON: “The Gift of Our Seeking, Sending, Saving God”

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION

HYMN: 562 “All to Jesus I Surrender” st. 3,4

RESPONSIVE READING:

Pastor: Our Lord commands all believers to eat this broken bread and to drink this cup in true faith and in the confident hope of his return in glory.

All: **In this supper God declares to us that our sins have been completely forgiven through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ, which he himself finished on the cross once for all.**

Pastor: He also declares to us that the Holy Spirit grafts us into Christ, who with his very body is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father, where he wants us to worship him.

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: “Across the Lands” (lyrics on page 6)

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSING HYMN: 263 “Lift High the Cross” v. 4

ACROSS THE LANDS

1. You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began;
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together by the power of your voice.
Let the skies declare your glory; let the land and seas rejoice. (Chorus)

Chorus:

You're the author of creation, You're the Lord of ev'ry man,
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

2. Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of Heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry, with a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered, that the guilty may go free. (Chorus)

3. With a shout You rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into Heaven, leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation You are leading sinners home. (Chorus)

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

Everyone is invited to return to the sanctuary tonight at 5:00pm for a time of evening worship. Covenant Kids Club meets tonight at 4:30pm. Youth groups meet together for a Super Bowl Party (see below for details).

SUNDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

Feb. 4 Covenant Kids Club / Youth Super Bowl Party / Evening Worship
Feb. 11 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth / Choir Rehearsal
Feb. 18 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth / Evening Worship

YOUTH GROUP SUPER BOWL PARTY

All youth (grades 6-12) are officially invited to the Pate's house (2030 Idlewood Drive) tonight for a Superbowl Bash! We're going to eat, fellowship, play some games, and - oh yeah - watch the Superbowl of course! If you are a girl, you need to bring a 2 liter drink with you. If you are a guy, you need to bring some chips and/or dip with you. Be there at 5:00 - kickoff is at 5:30 - and the bash is over when the game is over. All friends are welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

February 4 Chanley Henson
February 4 Bill Hewett
February 4 Lorrie Pate
February 7 Kay Kirkley
February 7 Olivia Patridge
February 8 Jacob Bell

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

SESSION & DIACONATE MEETING

The elders and deacons will meet this Wednesday, February 7, at 6:30pm in the Administration Building for their monthly meeting.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:

This Friday, February 9th @ 6:30pm. This is open to everyone. We will be turning the Fellowship Hall into a living room. Please bring blankets and pillows for the floor. The movie we will be viewing is "UP!". Children's Ministry with the Youth Ministry will provide popcorn and lemonade. Please bring other snacks and drinks to share.

WOMEN'S VALENTINE'S TEA

Put on your chef hats and fire up your ovens, ladies, for this year's cupcake showdown! Ladies of all ages are invited to the Cupcake Battle this Saturday, February 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll sample the contest entries, sip tea, chat, and, of course, crown this year's best bakers! Teams are strongly encouraged, so contact a college student, phone some friends or partner up with your sisters or daughters to create the most creative - and delicious - confection!

LUNCH FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND NURSERY WORKERS

...and their families following service on Feb. 11. Immediately following the lunch, we will have a short meeting regarding the Children's Ministry Policy.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday, February 14, 7:00am: Ash Wednesday Service
Sunday, February 18, 2:00pm: Baby Shower for Erin Sheppard
Thursday, March 1: Women's Event - Favorite Things Party
Sunday, March 4: Ridge Haven fundraiser luncheon

SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Riverwood Presbyterian Church we have Sunday School at 9:45am for all age groups.

MEETING DOWNSTAIRS:

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

MEETING UPSTAIRS:

Grades 1-3: Monica Urban
Grades 4-6: Ginny Nippert

MEETING IN THE BARN:

Youth Class – led by Jeff Pate

MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Adult Class

MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:

Adult Class – *Disability and the Gospel* led by Gene Martin

MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

February 4: Denell Skaar / Tammy Bell / Katharine Bedsole & Savannah Cook / David Barnes
February 11: Aaron Powers / Debbie Jones / Bruce & Mickey DeHaan / Kaitlin Jones

FEBRUARY DEACON SCHEDULE:

Head Deacons: Bruce DeHaan & Tom Arnold
Clean Up: Steve Patridge & Dusty Sheppard

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2018:

Operating Income:	\$27,027.46
Operating Expense*:	\$31,737.48
Net Income:	(\$4,710.02)
Designated gifts:	\$1,100.00
Building loan balance:	\$941,234.90

**Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*