

REFLECTIONS

God is pursuing with omnipotent passion a worldwide purpose of gathering joyful worshipers for Himself from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. He has an inexhaustible enthusiasm for the supremacy of His name among the nations. Therefore, let us bring our affections into line with His, and, for the sake of His name, let us renounce the quest for worldly comforts and join His global purpose.

John Piper

Hostility and hunger: that's what you'll find as you tell others about Jesus. And, of course, at the moment you open your mouth, you don't know which you're going to be met with; and you don't know what your words may do in people years later. You have to risk the hostility to discover the hunger.

Rico Tice

Trained faith is a triumphant gladness in having nothing but God - no rest, no foothold - nothing but Himself - A triumphant gladness in swinging out into that abyss, rejoicing in a very fresh emergency that is going to prove Him true - The Lord Alone - that is trained faith.

Lilias Trotter (1853-1928)
Artist and Missionary to Algeria

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

January 28, 2018 • 11:00 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Leaders In Worship: Assisting Elder Jimmy Hopper
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

WELCOME & PRELUDE *As the Deer/Fairest Lord Jesus* M. Nystrom, arr. M. Hayes
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: *based on Psalm 106*

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

All: Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to our holy name and glory in your praise.

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!
And let all the people say,

All: “Amen!” Praise the LORD!

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN OF PRAISE: 53 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

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: *Leviticus 19:15-18*

¹⁵“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord. ¹⁷You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN: *A Puritan Prayer*

All: O Lover of the loveless, it is your will that I should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and my neighbor as myself. But I am not sufficient for these things. There is by nature no pure love in my soul; every affection in me is turned away from you; I am bound by sin and cannot love you, even as lovely as you are, until you set me free. But I praise you because by your grace, I am freed and enabled to serve you, for I believe you are my God in Jesus, and that through him I am redeemed, and my sins are forgiven. May your Spirit draw me nearer to you and your ways. Order my steps by your holy Word. Spirit of love, make me like the loving Jesus that I may shine before other people to your glory. The more your love accomplishes in me and through me, humble me all the more. Keep me meek, lowly, and always ready to give you honor. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Galatians 4*

Pastor: Lift your heads and hear the good news. When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

All: **God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”**

Pastor: So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

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

PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 10:1-20*

¹After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ²And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ ⁶And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹²I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ¹³Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ¹⁵And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades. ¹⁶The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.” ¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” ¹⁸And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

SERMON:

“Our Seeking and Sending Savior”

Rev. Jeff Pate

HYMN: 675 “Only Trust Him” st. 1-3

RESPONSIVE READING:

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Pastor: With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.

All: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Pastor: Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION

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: 453 "All Authority and Power"

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SPEAK, O LORD

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

Covenant Kids Club meets tonight at 4:30pm. Youth groups meet tonight (Junior High at 4:30pm and Senior High at 5:40pm). Choir rehearsal is at 5:00pm in the sanctuary.

SUNDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

Jan. 28 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth / Choir Rehearsal
Feb. 4 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth / Evening Worship
Feb. 11 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth / Choir Rehearsal

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

January 29 Stephen Locklear
January 30 Jeremy Jones
January 31 Caleigh Henson
February 3 Nora Crawford

2017 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your detailed 2017 contribution statements are located in the foyer. Please pick up your envelope today. After today, all remaining statements will be placed in the mail.

COMBINED SUNDAY SCHOOL: BENEVOLENCE TEAM UPDATE

Next Sunday, February 4, all adult and youth group Sunday School classes will combine in the sanctuary for a special church-wide Sunday School. We will focus on updating the church body on the Benevolence Committee's work over the past year and plans for moving forward with Benevolence Teams, which include opportunities for everyone to get involved in the work of mercy ministry.

ATTENTION YOUTH - CURRENTLY IN GRADES 8-12

RYM High School Florida #1 - SIGNUP is happening NOW! That's right, if you are a rising 9th grader, a graduated senior, or somewhere in between when summer 2018 arrives - then YOU need to make a \$100 non-refundable deposit by Tuesday, January 30th (*Get a \$100 check payable to RPC to our church secretary*) so you can join us on this trip from July 2nd - 6th to Laguna Beach Christian Retreat in **Panama City Beach, Florida!** Total cost will be \$375. For more information go to: rymonline.org and click the appropriate links. **DON'T DELAY - SIGNUP TODAY!**

WOMEN'S VALENTINE'S DAY 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, 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!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday, February 7, 6:30pm: Session and Diaconate Meeting
Friday, February 9, 6:30pm: Family Movie Night
Wednesday, February 14, 7:00am: Ash Wednesday Service

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:

January 28: Kristina Patridge / Lorrie Pate / Heather & Ceilidh Crawford / Bob DeWitt
February 4: Denell Skaar / Tammy Bell / Katharine Bedsole & Savannah Cook / David Barnes

JANUARY DEACON SCHEDULE:

Head Deacons: Chris Locklear & Bruce DeHaan
Clean Up: Tom Arnold & Steve Patridge

FINANCIAL REPORT

	2017:	
Operating Income:		\$436,630.79
Operating Expense*:		\$428,881.44
Net Income:		\$7,749.35
Designated gifts:		\$72,903.08
Building loan balance:		\$976,342.71

*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment