

In fundamentals...faith is primary, and we may not appeal to love as an excuse to deny essential faith. In non-fundamentals, however, love is primary, and we may not appeal to zeal for the faith as an excuse for failure in love. Faith instructs our own conscience; love respects the consciences of others. Faith gives liberty; love limits its exercise.

John Stott

The bondage that liberates is a bondage to righteousness, a bondage to the will and ways of God, a bondage that claims as its Master and Lord the One whose holy and merciful character is now reproduced in us and through us. Our freedom to be what we were created to be consists, then, in our bondage to God and in nothing else.

Bruce Ware

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

July 4, 2021 • 11:00 Worship Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

### Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00am

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder John Kim  
Linda Graham, piano

### WELCOME

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

### PRELUDE

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

## PRAISE

---

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *from Hebrews 12 & Revelation 4*

Pastor: Church of Jesus Christ, as we gather to worship in His name,  
you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God,

**All:** We come to the heavenly Jerusalem,  
and to innumerable angels in festal gathering.

Pastor: And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all  
around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

**All:** “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was and is and is to come!”

Pastor: And you come to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous  
made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant...

**All:** Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be  
shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence  
and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

## HYMN: 103 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

Holy God, we praise your name;  
Lord of all, we bow before you;  
all on earth your scepter claim,  
all in heav'n above adore you.  
Infinite your vast domain,  
everlasting is your reign.

Hark, the loud celestial hymn  
angel choirs above are raising;  
cherubim and seraphim  
in unceasing chorus praising,  
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:  
"Holy, holy, holy Lord."

Lo! the apostolic train  
join your sacred name to hallow;  
prophets swell the glad refrain,  
and the white-robed martyrs follow;  
and from morn to set of sun,  
through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name you;  
while in essence only One,  
undivided God we claim you,  
and adoring bend the knee,  
while we sing this mystery.

## 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: *Psalm 99*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! <sup>2</sup>The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. <sup>3</sup>Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he! <sup>4</sup>The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. <sup>5</sup>Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he! <sup>6</sup>Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called upon his name. They called to the Lord, and he answered them. <sup>7</sup>In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them; they kept his testimonies and the statute that he gave them. <sup>8</sup>O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings. <sup>9</sup>Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy!

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

All: Almighty God, we bow before you confessing our sins of silence. You are glorious; your deeds are marvelous, and you are worthy of our continual worship. Too often we have been silent when should have confessed our sin and remained quiet when you deserved shouts of praise. Please forgive us. Work repentance in us so we will confess our sin in humility and then worship you with gratitude. Heavenly Father, help us to see your glory and splendor, today. Holy Spirit, sanctify us through your power and fortify our songs with faith and adoration. Take our eyes and our minds off of ourselves so that we can see Jesus in all his majesty and love. We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

## SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

# CONFESSION

---

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Hebrews 10:12-17*

Pastor: Hear the good news of your salvation. When Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.

**All: For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.**

Pastor: And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying; “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

**All: Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.**

Pastor: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven and God remembers your sins no more. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

## HYMN: 247 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;  
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;  
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain:  
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;  
look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest Friend,  
for this, thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?  
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

## OFFERING

*\*Tithes and offerings will be collected by deacons following the morning service as congregants leave the sanctuary.*

## 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: "Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen, amen.

# COMMITMENT

---

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

**HYMN:** 332 “Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

Come, Holy Spirit, heav’nly Dove, with all your quick’ning pow’rs;  
kindle a flame of sacred love in these cold hearts of ours.

In vain we tune our formal songs, in vain we strive to rise;  
hosannas languish on our tongues, and our devotion dies.

And shall we then forever live at this poor dying rate?  
Our love, so faint, so cold to you, and yours to us so great!

Come, Holy Spirit, heav’nly Dove, with all your quick’ning pow’rs;  
come, shed abroad a Savior’s love, and that shall kindle ours.

## PREACHING OF THE WORD

---

**SCRIPTURE:** *John 8:36*

<sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

**Pastor:** The grass withers, the flower fades,

**All:** but the word of our God will stand forever.

**SERMON:**

“Free Indeed!”

Rev. Jeff Pate



# COMMUNION

HYMN: 455 “And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

*Chorus:*

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies; who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),  
humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

## RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

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.

## 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.*

# BENEDICTION

---

HYMN: 235 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,  
who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present:  
to thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

## 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)*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

July 7 Janalie Graham

July 9 Meg Sigmon

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It is here! Vacation Bible School is this week Tuesday through Friday, July 6-9, from 9:00-11:30am. This year our kids will be studying the book of Esther and learning that God is sovereign over everything.

**Registration:** Online registration is available under the "Forms and Sign-Ups" tab on our website (or click here). You are not required to pre-register your children. Hard copies of the registration form will be available in the Narthex as well as during VBS.

**Volunteers:** Do you wish to volunteer and forgot to sign up? It is not to late! You can sign up on Sunday in the narthex or contact Joann (jwilliams@riverwoodchurch.org).

**Prayer:** Please pray for the children and volunteers at VBS. Pray that...

- the gospel will be boldly spoken
- God's love will be on display the entire week
- God will write His word upon everyone's hearts
- God will provide good weather for all activities
- God will protect everyone during the week.

## VBS SETUP

Help is needed to set up for VBS. If you are available, please join us at 6:00pm on Monday, July 5. The more hands we have helping, the quicker we will be done. Thank you.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## BACKPACKS FOR WINGS OF GRACE

As part of VBS and during the month of July, we will be collecting school supplies to be placed in backpacks in Covenant Kid's Club and distributed to children in the community through Wings of Grace. I have the backpacks. We need the school supplies. We are collecting pencils, pens, erasers, highlighters, glue sticks, scotch tape, crayons, colored pencils, kid scissors, pocket folders, 1 and 2 inch three-ring binders, and wide-ruled notebook paper. A box is in the Narthex to collect these supplies. If you have any questions, please contact Joann (jwilliams@riverwoodchurch.org).

## TEACHERS FOR RCS

Riverwood Classical School is seeking teachers for the upcoming school year. Please be in prayer that God would raise up people passionate about helping students fulfill their God-given mandate to spread his glory to the ends of the earth. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Addison Canevaro (mrcanevaro@riverwoodclassical.org).

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & DINNER ON THE GROUNDS

There will be a Congregational Meeting following Morning Worship on July 18, 2021, for the purpose of the election of officers. Dustin Sheppard was nominated to serve as a Ruling Elder and Marvin Skelton was nominated to serve as a Deacon. Both have completed officer training and have been examined and approved by the Session and will stand for election by the Congregation. Additionally, Steven Crawford has been on sabbatical and wishes to return to service as a Deacon, a position he previously held and in which he has been ordained to serve. Jeremy Jones, an ordained Deacon, also is returning to service. Both will be on the ballot for approval for service. Following the Congregational Meeting, there will be dinner on the grounds, a time of good food and fellowship.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

*Through June 2021*

Operating Income:	\$211,998.73
Operating Expense*:	\$244,092.10
Net Income:	(\$32,093.37)
Designated gifts:	\$46,608.00
Building loan balance:	\$676,660.44

*\*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*