

CONGREGATIONAL PRELUDE "Is He Worthy?"

Do you feel the world is broken? **We do.**
Do you feel the shadows deepen? **We do.**
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? **We do.**
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **We do.**
Is all creation groaning? **It is.**
Is a new creation coming? **It is.**
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **It is.**
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **It is.**

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? **He is.**

Does the Father truly love us? **He does.**
Does the Spirit move among us? **He does.**
And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? **He does.**
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **He does.**

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? **He is!**

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
He is! He is!

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

March 27, 2022 • 10:30 Worship Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Leaders In Worship: Zac Martin,
Assisting Elder Allen Powers,
RUF Music Team

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 Psalm 105*

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

All: We will sing praises to him and tell of all his wondrous works!

Pastor: Glory in his name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

**All: We will seek the LORD and his strength.
We will seek his presence continually!**

Pastor: Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles,
and the judgments he uttered.

**All: We worship with thanksgiving because he is the LORD our God
and he remembers his covenant forever.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: “O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go”

O Love that will not let me go,
 I rest my weary soul in thee;
 I give thee back the life I owe,
 That in thine ocean depths its flow
 May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,
 I yield my flickering torch to thee;
 My heart restores its borrowed ray,
 That in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
 May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
 I cannot close my heart to thee;
 I trace the rainbow through the rain,
 And feel the promise is not vain,
 That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;
 I lay in dust life’s glory dead,
 And from the ground there blossoms red
 Life that shall endless be.

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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 9:9-18*

⁹ “When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God. ¹¹You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. ¹²You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord. ¹³You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. ¹⁵You 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*

O Lover of the loveless, it is your will for me to love you with my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love 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 for 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

GOSPEL ASSURANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Hebrews 9*

Pastor: Hear the gospel! “When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with human hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.” By God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ, your salvation has been purchased in full and there is no more payment due for your sins. In Christ, you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 308 “Jesus Paid It All”

I hear the Savior say, “Your strength indeed is small,
child of weakness watch and pray,
find in me your all in all.”

(refrain)

*Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,
can change the leper’s spots, and melt the heart of stone.

And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,” my lips shall still repeat.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer #1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

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.

PRAYER & SUPPLICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

David Curtis

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: “Speak, O Lord”

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.

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.

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.

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PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *James 1:19-27*

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Speaker: The grass withers, the flower fades,
All: but the word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON: “Receiving the Word Rightly”

Zac Martin

COMMUNION

HYMN: “He Will Hold Me Fast”

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Chorus:

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last!

Words by Ada Habershon & Matt Merker; Music by Matt Merker
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RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION: *Revelation 1:4b-7*

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus
Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of
kings on earth.

**All: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and
made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and
dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

Pastor: Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, and all
tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CLOSING & BENEDICTION

HYMN: “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law’s demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly, wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

RIVERWOOD PRAYER FOR 2022

Almighty God, fill us with the knowledge of your will that we may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord Jesus Christ, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. Holy Spirit, strengthen us with all power, according to your glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy that we may constantly give thanks to our Heavenly Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. We ask this in Jesus's name. Amen.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL TONIGHT

Have you missed being together with your church family? Are you new to Riverwood and have wanted to find a way get to know people in an informal setting? Do you have friends or neighbors you've wanted to invite to come and meet your church family? If you answered "YES" to any of these then we have a great opportunity for you. Tonight we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 for food, fellowship, and fun. Plan to bring enough food for your family and some to share with visitors. Also, sit at a table with at least one person you haven't met before or someone you haven't seen in a long time.

THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT RPC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

1. We feed approximately 45 snacks a week to our children through Catechism and Covenant Kid's Club. We need individual wrapped snacks (no peanuts please) and individual drink boxes (e.g. capri sun/kool aid). You can leave the items in the foyer of the Sanctuary or the church office.
2. Volunteers are needed for April 9th Children's Event - "Walking with Christ". This event will be held from 9:00 a.m.-noon. If you can help, please contact Joann Williams.
3. Easter Baskets for Wings of Grace. The children of Riverwood will once again be filling Easter baskets for Wings of Grace. We need the following items - stuffed animals, toys, candy, and grass. A box will be placed in the foyer of the Sanctuary for these items.

CHURCH WIDE WORKDAY

Everyone is encouraged to come and join in our workday here at the church property on Saturday, April 2, beginning at 8 a.m. The Deacons are putting together a list of tasks that will help us get the grounds spruced up as we continue to build relationships with one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-32

COVENANT KIDS CLUB & YOUTH GROUP

Covenant Kids Club and youth group will resume next Sunday, April 3 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTN: RIDGE HAVEN CAMPERS (rising 3rd through 9th grades)

The dates that Riverwood will transport campers to Ridge Haven will be May 30th - June 4th. Please sign up on Ridge Haven's website (ridgehaven.org). There is no group code. Please email Joann and let her know that you will be attending (jwilliams@riverwoodchurch.org).

HOMELESS CONNECT WITH LOVE INC

You can make a difference in our local homeless community on April 30. For more information go to www.loveinctuscaloosa.com/homeless-connect/550-2/

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 27	Churchwide Fellowship meal (5:30 p.m.)
April 1	Trivium Trot 5K (RCS fundraiser)
April 2	Churchwide Workday (8 a.m.)
April 9	Riverwood Kids Event (9 a.m.)
April 14	Maundy Thursday Service (6 p.m.)
April 17	Easter Sunrise Service (6:30 a.m.)

Through February 2022

Operating Income:	\$60,318.97
Operating Expense*:	\$70,533.92
Net Income:	(\$10,214.95)
Designated gifts:	\$16,992.88
Building loan balance:	\$714,581.54

*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment

BIRTHDAYS

March 27	Linda Graham
March 28	Tammy Bell
March 28	Vielyana Kim
March 31	George Norris