

REFLECTIONS

Dear God, I cannot love Thee the way I want to. You are the slim crescent of a moon that I see and my self is the earth's shadow that keeps me from seeing all the moon. The crescent is very beautiful and perhaps that is all one like I am should or could see; but what I am afraid of, dear God, is that my self shadow will grow so large that it blocks the whole moon, and that I will judge myself by the shadow that is nothing.

Flannery O'Connor
from *A Prayer Journal*

There are only two classes of people in the world: those who have found God, and those who are looking for Him—and everybody is looking, thirsting, hungering, seeking. And the great sinners are closer than the proud intellectuals! Pride swells and inflates the ego; gross sinners are depressed, deflated, and empty. They therefore have room for God. God prefers a loving sinner to a loveless “saint.”

Fulton J. Sheen

Through “death on a cross” he not only “saved us,” but modeled for us God’s way of dealing with the opposition - loving them to death.

Gordon Fee
from *Paul’s Letter to the Philippians*

To preach the gospel to yourself, then, means that you continually face up to your own sinfulness and then flee to Jesus through faith in His shed blood and righteous life.

Jerry Bridges

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

May 5, 2019 • 10:30 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Third Sunday of Easter

Leaders In Worship: Rev. Todd Gothard, Assisting Elder Allen Powers
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

WELCOME

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

PRELUDER Children's Medley 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 95:1-5

Leader: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
Leader: Come! Let us worship!

HYMN OF PRAISE: 302 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

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.

CONFSSION

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 7:1-5

¹“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

O Lord,

Let not pride swell in my heart.

I find it easy to look down on those who I perceive are lower than me.

And I can readily tear down those who I believe are above me.

In both cases, pride has taken hold of my heart.

Help me to see myself from Your perspective,

then pride will wither and decay and perish.

Humble my heart before You,

then replenish it with Your grace.

Call to my remembrance at all times

that Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death

even death on a cross

for sinners like me.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Philippians 2:5-8*

Pastor: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. The Peace of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: 688 “Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”

COMMITMENT

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us arr. Larry Shackley
Presentation of tithes & offerings

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 30, 32, 36 “On the Benefits of Redemption in this Life”

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Leader: | How does the Holy Spirit apply to us the redemption Christ bought? |
| People: | The Spirit applies to us the redemption Christ bought by producing faith in us and so uniting us to Christ in our effective calling. |
| Leader: | What benefits do those effectively called share in this life? |
| People: | In this life those who are effectively called share justification, adoption, sanctification, and the other benefits that either go with or come from them. |
| Leader: | What benefits in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification? |
| People: | The benefits that in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification are the assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, and growing and persevering in grace to the end of our lives. |

RESPONSE: 735 “Gloria Patri”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 605 "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:36-50

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. ³⁷And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." ⁴⁸And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

SERMON:

Rev. Todd Gothard

COMMUNION

HYMN: 585 “Take My Life, and Let It Be” vs. 1-4

RESPONSIVE READING:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.
Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.
Pastor: The gifts of God are 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: 585 “Take My Life, and Let It Be” vs. 5-6

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

Youth Group meets tonight at 5:30pm. Covenant Kids Club will not meet regularly in the summer months.

SUNDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

May 5	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
May 12	No evening activities
May 19	Covenant Kids Summer Kickoff
May 26	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

May 7 Edmund Henry
May 10 Heather Crawford
May 11 James Urban
May 11 Monica Urban

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 9:1-6; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

RIVERWOOD CLASSICAL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

RCS is having an Open House this afternoon from 3:30-5:00. This will be a time for families to see the school, meet the teachers, and ask questions about the school and classical education.

BINGO NIGHT

Come one, come all to an evening of family fun!

WHEN: Saturday, May 11 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

WHAT: Bingo and Pizza and Prizes!

The cost is \$5.00 per person with a maximum of \$20 per family. Child care for 3 and under will be provided. All proceeds will go to the Ridge Haven Scholarship Fund. Please join us and help support our campers.

COVENANT KIDS SUMMER KICKOFF

The end of the school year bash is planned for Sunday, May 19 on Tina and Jeremy Jones's property starting at 4:00pm. Hot dogs and condiments will be provided. Bring buns and drinks for your family and a side dish or dessert to share. This will be in the woods by water. It is a primitive camp area.

OTHER EVENTS COMING SOON

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30pm: Session & Diaconate Meeting

May 27-June 1: Ridge Haven Camp

July 8-11: Vacation Bible School

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: Greg & Sarah Vander Wal
Grades 4-6: Tom & Elena Arnold

MEETING IN THE BARN:

Youth Class led by Jeff Pate

MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Adult Class – led by elders

MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:

Adult Class – led by Gene Martin

MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

May 5: April Henry / Lisa Kidder / Vielyana Kim & Gabriel Henson / Calvin Kim
May 12: Lynn Tootle / Lorrie Pate / Kristen Hancock & Sumlin Pate / Daniel Page

MAY DEACON SCHEDULE:

Head Deacon: Bruce DeHaan
Clean Up: Ed Kidder

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through April 2019:

Operating Income:	\$135,750.26
Operating Expense*:	\$133,057.95
Net Income:	\$2,692.31
Designated gifts:	\$31,151.52
Building loan balance:	\$842,408.76

*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment