

The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy, which can ever engage the attention of a child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father. It is a subject so vast, that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity; so deep, that our pride is drowned in its infinity. But while the subject humbles the mind, it also expands it. He who often thinks of God, will have a larger mind than the man who simply plods around this narrow globe. And, while humbling and expanding, this subject is eminently consolatory. Oh, there is, in contemplating Christ, a balm for every wound; in musing on the Father, there is a quietus for every grief; and in the influence of the Holy Ghost, there is a balsam for every sore. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead. It is to that subject that I invite you this morning.

Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

November 25, 2018 • 11:00 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

**Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
Leaders In Worship: Assisting Elder Bob Prince  
Dr. Linda Graham, piano

### WELCOME

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

### PRELUDE

*The Church's One Foundation*

arr. S. Wesley

*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 145*

Pastor: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

All: **Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

Pastor: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.

All: **The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.**

Pastor: May our mouths speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.  
Come, let us worship!

**HYMN OF PRAISE: 21 "Sing Praise to 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

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## SCRIPTURE READING: *Isaiah 6:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" <sup>4</sup>And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Lord, as the prophet was confronted with your holiness, we also are as we come before you in worship. Our lips are unclean and we also dwell in the midst of people with unclean lips. Without your mercy, we too are lost. Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we commit so readily. Forgive us for our lack of thankfulness for your gracious gifts. Forgive us for our haughtiness toward other people, for our neglect of those whom you call us to love. Forgive us for our pride in accomplishments and position, for our worship of idols, those lesser gods that we try to find satisfaction in. Forgive us through the blood of Jesus alone, our High Priest and Advocate. Our hope is in you alone. Amen.

## SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *Isaiah 6:6-7*

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

Pastor: God Himself has atoned for our sins, and we are saved only through His atonement. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: "O Church, Arise" (*lyrics on page 6*)

# COMMITMENT

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## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

*The Gift to Be Simple*

Trad. American melody

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: 230 “Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

# PREACHING OF THE WORD

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SCRIPTURE: *John 1:1*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

SERMON:

“He Dwelt Among Us: *Very God of Very God*”

Rev. Jeff Pate

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## COMMUNION

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HYMN: 181 “We Come, O Christ, to You” st. 1-2

### 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.**

### 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: 181 “We Come, O Christ, to You” st. 3-5

### BENEDICTION

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

# O CHURCH, ARISE

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HYMN: "O Church, Arise"

1. O church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our captain.  
For now the weak can say that they are strong in the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies.  
An army bold, whose battle cry is love, reaching out to those in darkness.

2. Our call to war - to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor;  
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor.  
When faced with trials on ev'ry side, we know the outcome is secure;  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died: an inheritance of nations.

3. Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken;  
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen!  
And as the stone is rolled away, and Christ emerges from the grave,  
This victory march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

4. So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride; give grace for every hurdle.  
That we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old, still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace,  
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

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

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Covenant Kids Club is tonight at 4:30pm. Junior High Youth Group meets at 4:30pm, and Senior High Youth Group is at 5:40pm.

### SUNDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

November 25	Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth
December 2	Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth
December 9	Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth
December 16	Angel Tree Party / Youth Group Christmas Party

### LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

November 28 Bob Prince

November 30 Rebecca Wright

## HELP NEEDED FOR THE ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

The Angel Tree is for children who have a parent that has been incarcerated. Through this ministry, the parent can request Christmas gifts for their children. This year, we have 31 children and 17 families. There are many ways that you can help with this ministry:

- Praying for the incarcerated parent, the children and their caretakers. Please pray that through this ministry they will see and experience the grace and mercy of God and come to know Jesus Christ.
- Providing gifts for a child. We are asking for one toy and an article of clothing. Information for each child is available in the foyer of the sanctuary.
- Providing non-perishable food items to be given to each family. We will collect these food items during the month of December.
- Helping with the Angel Tree Christmas Party on Dec. 16th. Please see Joann Williams for more information regarding the party.

## CRAM KIT DONATIONS

The women's ministry has requested donations for cram kits for college students (hot chocolate packs, candy, crackers, gum, hot tea bags, etc). There is a bin in the entryway or ladies can bring things the day of. They will be making the bags this Friday, November 30 at 6:00 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND FUN DAY

Christmas Craft and Fun Day will be this Saturday, December 1st, from 9:00am-12:30pm. This day is for children from 4 - 12 years old. We will have crafts, games, the Christmas story, music, and great food. Children, please invite a friend to spend the morning with us. Please prayerfully consider participating in this program by: providing food, helping with crafts, or helping with any of the tasks that need to be completed prior to December 1st. For more information, see Joann Williams.

## RIVERWOOD CHRISTMAS PARTY

Let's Celebrate! Join us for the Riverwood Church Christmas Party on Friday, December 7. This year the Riverwood Classical School Christmas Concert will begin our evening of festivities at 6:30 in the sanctuary. Then the celebration will continue in the fellowship hall with finger foods, fellowship, and dancing beginning around 7:30. Of course, you can choose to join for both events or either. Everyone is encouraged to contribute to the food for the party! See the link in your email announcements this week to sign up.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

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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: 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 - *Beginnings: Studies in Genesis* led by Jimmy Hopper

**MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:**

Adult Class - *Radical* by David Platt - discussion led by Gene Martin

## MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

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**NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:**

November 25: April Henry / Lisa Kidder / Brad & Rachel Yarbro / Daniel Kidder  
December 2: Elena Arnold / Lynn Tootle / Ginny Nippert & James Urban / Quay Finch

**NOVEMBER DEACON SCHEDULE:**

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT

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*Through October 2018:*

Operating Income:	\$345,911.02
Operating Expense*:	\$372,328.86
Net Income:	(\$26,417.84)
Designated gifts:	\$34,754.12
Building loan balance:	\$890,158.43

*\*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*