

## REFLECTIONS

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The service of the Lord's Day is God's action: he calls us into his presence; he declares our sins forgiven; he speaks his word of comfort, rebuke and encouragement; he feeds us at his table; and he sends us back into the world. Of course, at each point, we also respond: when God invites us in, we enter; when he [forgives] our sins, we praise his grace in his Son; we...believe his promises; we eat and drink at his banquet; and when he sends us out, we go. But these are responses and depend on the Spirit's work.

Peter Leithart

But may we yearn for days when God will cause us to crave the spiritual banquet of worship more than any smorgasbord.

Donald S. Whitney

from *Spiritual Disciplines of the Christian Life*

At the heart of the present significance of the Lord's Supper is our communion or fellowship with Christ, hence the term "communion service." In coming to this service the believer comes to meet with Christ and have fellowship with Him at His invitation. The examination takes place because it would be hypocrisy for us to pretend that we are in communion with the Holy One while actually cherishing known sin in our hearts.

James Montgomery Boice

We should remember that it is through Christ's death that we are reconciled to God and each other. He has made us one, and we set our hearts on pursuing unity in love. The Lord's Supper is a great time to pray and plan for oneness with our brothers and sisters. It is a time to explore new ways to be kind, compassionate, and forgiving.

Edward Welch

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

October 10, 2021 • 10:30 Worship Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

### Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Dusty Sheppard  
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

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#### CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 116*

Pastor: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**All: Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?

**All: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,  
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all people.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship.

HYMN: 700 "Come, We That Love the Lord"

Come, we that love the Lord,  
and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord,  
and thus surround the throne.

Let those refuse to sing  
that never knew our God;  
but children of the heav'nly King  
may speak their joys abroad.

The men of grace have found  
glory begun below;  
celestial fruits on earthly ground  
from faith and hope may grow.

The hill of Zion yields  
a thousand sacred sweets,  
before we reach the heav'nly fields  
or walk the golden streets.

Then let our songs abound,  
and ev'ry tear be dry;  
we're marching through Immanuel's ground  
to fairer worlds on high.

#### 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: *Jeremiah 7:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: <sup>2</sup>“Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. <sup>4</sup>Do not trust in these deceptive words: ‘This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord.’ <sup>5</sup>For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, <sup>6</sup>if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, <sup>7</sup>then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever. <sup>8</sup>Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. <sup>9</sup>Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, <sup>10</sup>and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, ‘We are delivered!’—only to go on doing all these abominations? <sup>11</sup>Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, declares the Lord.”

Leader:           This is the Word of the Lord.  
All:                Thanks be to God!

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

All:                Almighty God, we have gathered to worship you today but admit that we need to amend our ways. We confess that we are more concerned with our wants than the needs of the widow, the orphan, or the sojourner. Please forgive us for padding our own lives while neglecting the needs of others. Have mercy on us for going after the gods of our own choosing instead of submitting our lives to you, the Living God. We rely completely on your undeserved love and your sovereign mercy. If you wash us, we will be truly clean. If you give us life, we will have life, indeed. We ask this in the name of the One who lived, and died, and rose again, even our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

# CONFESSION

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## WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: 1 John 1:6-9

Pastor: Hear the promise of forgiveness and cleansing for sinners. *If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* By God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and have been cleansed from all unrighteousness.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## HYMN: 255 "O Jesus, We Adore Thee"

O Jesus, we adore thee, upon the cross, our King!  
We bow our hearts before thee, thy gracious name we sing.  
That name hath brought salvation, that name in life our stay,  
our peace, our consolation, when life shall fade away.

Yet doth the world disdain thee, still passing by the cross;  
Lord, may our hearts retain thee; all else we count but loss.  
Ah, Lord, our sins arraigned thee, and nailed thee to the tree:  
our pride, our Lord, disdained thee; yet deign our hope to be.

O glorious King, we bless thee, no longer pass thee by;  
O Jesus, we confess thee, the Son enthroned on high.  
Lord, grant to us remission; life through thy death restore;  
yea, grant us the fruition of life forevermore.

## 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 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.

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.

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend  
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# COMMUNION

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**HYMN:** 480 “Come, for the Feast Is Spread” st. 1, 3

Come, for the feast is spread, hark to the call;  
come to the Living Bread, offered to all.  
Come to his house of wine, low on his breast recline,  
all that he has is thine; come, sinner, come.

Come to the throne of grace, boldly draw near;  
he who would win the race must tarry here.  
Whate’er thy want may be, here is the grace for thee,  
Jesus thine only plea; come, Christian, come.

**RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION:** *adapted from the Belgic Confession, Article 35*

**Pastor:** Our Savior Jesus Christ has ordained and instituted this Holy Supper to nourish and sustain those who are born again and ingrafted into his family: his church. Christ has instituted an earthly and visible bread as the sacrament of his body and wine as the sacrament of his blood.

**People:** **Just as truly as we take and hold the sacraments in our hands and eat and drink it in our mouths, by which our life is then sustained, so truly we receive into our souls, for our spiritual life, the true body and true blood of Christ, our only Savior. We receive these by faith, which is the hand and mouth of our souls.**

**Pastor:** This banquet is a spiritual table at which Christ communicates himself to us with all his benefits.

**People:** **By use of this holy sacrament, we are moved to a fervent love of God and of our neighbors.**

## 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

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HYMN: 420 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,  
who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;  
praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;  
death is conquered in the fight, thou has brought us life and light:  
hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;  
holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

## 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

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

October 14     John Graham  
October 15     Jenny Zheng  
October 16     Debbie Jones  
October 16     Meredith Patridge

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

## YOUTH GROUP & COVENANT KIDS CLUB

Youth Group and Covenant Kids Club meet tonight from 5:30-7:00pm.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

If you are interested in joining Riverwood as a member or just want to find out more about our beliefs and practices, please contact Jeff Pate ([jpate@riverwoodchurch.org](mailto:jpate@riverwoodchurch.org)).

## HELP NEEDED: REFORMATION CELEBRATION

Your help is needed for the Reformation Celebration on Sunday, October 31. This is a Church-wide celebration. There are many tasks that need to be done. Please contact Joann Williams ([jwilliams@riverwoodchurch.org](mailto:jwilliams@riverwoodchurch.org)) if you are able to help in any capacity either before or on the day of the celebration.

## SAV-A-LIFE IRON BOWL BANQUET

Riverwood's mercy ministries support Sav-a-life Tuscaloosa. You are invited to join us at their Iron Bowl Banquet fund raiser to see the wonderful work God is doing through this ministry and your support. The banquet will be held on Monday, November 15th, 6pm at the Tuscaloosa River Market. Riverwood has a table reserved, but seating is limited! For more information and to reserve your seat, please contact Wayne Bell at (205) 526-9011 or [wayne.h.bell4@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.h.bell4@gmail.com).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## NEXT WEEK: COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday, October 17, Jun Shiomitsu, founder of AVODA Institute of Entrepreneurship in Uganda will be joining our adult Sunday School class in the Fellowship Hall. Jun will be speaking about the ongoing work in Uganda of equipping Christian entrepreneurs to fulfill Christ's command to make disciples of all nations by redeeming the business sector in Uganda. For Uganda and other African nations to realize the full Gospel potential of its Christian population, its churches need to become financially independent, funded locally by its own congregations and Christian businesses. When this happens, the sheer size of its Christian population, combined with the economic and socio-cultural overflows that will come with it, will inevitably have a huge transformative Christian impact, not only in Africa, but globally.

Jun originally trained to be a pastor in Japan, studying theology, church history, comparative religion, apologetics, and other biblical studies. However, Jun was called to serve in the Financial Business Sector as an investment banker for 11 years in Japan, the UK, and Switzerland, initially as the Assistant Vice President at Citibank Japan's treasury department, and then as co-founder of the Global Financial Institute of Deutsche Bank Group. Jun earned his MBA at Cambridge University. Shortly after his time at Cambridge, Jun answered a new call to serve as co-founder and president of African Business Institute in Uganda and Malawi for 6 years. As African Business Institute moves to a full-time MBA program, Jun once again answered God's call to serve Christian Entrepreneurs through AVODA Institute of Entrepreneurship.

Joann Williams is also a member of the AVODA management team. She plans to travel to Uganda in January to serve as a facilitator and teacher for four weeks.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

*Through September 2021*

Operating Income:	\$317,359.58
Operating Expense*:	\$354,073.73
Net Income:	(\$36,714.15)
Designated gifts:	\$62,261.15
Building loan balance:	\$660,304.84

*\*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*