

# REFLECTIONS

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In our presentation of the Gospel we often focus on what Jesus can do for us. Now don't get me wrong. Jesus does a lot for us. He forgives us, reconciles us with God, gives us meaning and eternal life. But the most important thing about Jesus is He gives us Himself. We have so emphasized the rewards of following Christ that we have forgotten that following Him, being with Him, knowing Him, and calling Him Friend, and Elder Brother, are far more wonderful and important than anything else.

Steve Brown

This is a wonderful thing, that the Savior of the world, and the King of Kings, was not ashamed to labor; yea, and to use so simple an occupation. Here he did sanctify all manner of occupations.

Hugh Latimer

This image of the banquet remains, throughout the whole Bible, the central image of life. It is the image of life at its creation and also the image of life at its end and fulfillment: "...that you eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

Alexander Schmemmann

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

October 1, 2017 • 11:00 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

### Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Leaders In Worship: Assisting Elder Lowell Urban

Dr. Linda Graham, piano

#### WELCOME & PRELUDE

*The Power of the Cross*

Getty & Townend

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

*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 97*

Pastor: The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

All: **Clouds and thick darkness are around him;  
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

Pastor: The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord  
of all the earth. The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the  
peoples see his glory.

All: **For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.**

Pastor: Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!  
Come, let us worship.

#### HYMN OF PRAISE: 4 “All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”

#### 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.*

# CONFESSIO

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## SCRIPTURE READING: *Jeremiah 4:1-4*

<sup>1</sup>“If you return, O Israel, declares the Lord, to me you should return. If you remove your detestable things from my presence, and do not waver, <sup>2</sup>and if you swear, ‘As the Lord lives,’ in truth, in justice, and in righteousness, then nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.” <sup>3</sup>For thus says the Lord to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: “Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns. <sup>4</sup>Circumcise yourselves to the Lord; remove the foreskin of your hearts, O men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my wrath go forth like fire, and burn with none to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

## CORPORATE CONFESSIO

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

## SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSIO

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Psalm 103*

Pastor: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

All: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Pastor: By God's grace and through your faith in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HYMN: 164 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

# COMMITMENT

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## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

*How Beautiful*

Paris, arr. L. Larsen

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”

## MISSIONS MOMENT

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 335 “Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me”

# PREACHING OF THE WORD

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**SCRIPTURE:** *Luke 8:1-3*

<sup>1</sup>Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, <sup>2</sup>and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, <sup>3</sup>and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

**SERMON:**

“Road Scholars”

Rev. Jeff Pate

## SERMON NOTES

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# COMMUNION

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**HYMN:** 498 “Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!” st. 1,2

**Pastor:** O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**All:** **Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”**

**Pastor:** Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

## **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:** 498 “Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!” st. 3-5

## **BENEDICTION**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

# TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

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Covenant Kids Club meets tonight at 4:30pm. Youth groups also meet this evening (see detailed announcements on the following page). Everyone is invited to return to the sanctuary tonight at 5:00pm for a time of evening worship.

## SUNDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

- Oct. 1 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group / Evening Worship
- Oct. 8 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group / Choir Rehearsal
- Oct. 15 Covenant Kids Club / Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group / Evening Worship

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

October 6 Shanna Holland

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH

Calling all Junior Highs (grades 6-8) - Come and join us in the Barn this afternoon from 4:30 to 6:10 as we play POOR LITTLE KITTEN, sing some songs - including "Pharaoh, Pharaoh", and continue our Sunday Sermon Shakedown Series entitled "I Don't Get It?!" {Make sure to take notes on the sermon during the morning service today and then bring those notes to youth group!}

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

All Senior Highs (grades 9-12) are invited to come to the Barn tonight from 5:40 pm to 7:45 pm for our weekly youth group get together - food, games, singing, fellowship, and the Word of God - What more could you ask for?! Hope to see YOU there!

## TABLE TALK

The latest edition of *Table Talk* magazine is available this morning on the Book Table. This month's issue is dedicated to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

## RCS JAZZ AND TAP DANCE CLASSES

Riverwood Classical School's Ballet Program has been expanded to add Tap 1 and 2 and Jazz 1 and 2 classes. 1 level classes are for students 5-9 years old, and 2 level classes are for students 10 and older. All classes are on Monday afternoons between 3:30 and 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. For the exact schedule and tuition, please see <http://sites.google.com/a/riverwoodclassical.org/ballet/home>. For additional information, please email Valerie Robertson at [ballet@riverwoodclassical.org](mailto:ballet@riverwoodclassical.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, October 22: Crawford-Vander Wal Fold Lunch

Saturday, October 28: RCS Holiday Bazaar

Sunday, October 29: Reformation Celebration

# 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: Debbie Jones

**MEETING UPSTAIRS:**

Grades 1-3: Monica Urban  
Grades 4-6: Ginny Nippert

**MEETING IN THE BARN:**

Youth Class – led by Jeff Pate

**MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:**

Adult Class

**MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:**

Benevolence Committee – led by the Diaconate

## MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

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**NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:**

October 1: Denell Skaar / Ginny Nippert / Katharine Bedsole & Savannah Cook / Hannah Urban  
October 8: Aaron Powers / Debbie Jones / Elena Arnold & Ceilidh Crawford / Kaitlin Jones

**OCTOBER DEACON SCHEDULE:**

Head Deacons: Tom Arnold & Steve Patridge  
Clean Up: Dusty Sheppard & Chris Locklear

## FINANCIAL REPORT

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**OPERATIONS:**

Operating Income: \$313,020.01  
Operating Expense\*: \$311,886.01  
Net Income: \$1,134.00  
Designated gifts: \$46,777.00

*\*Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*

**BUILDING FUND:**

Total pledges received: \$792,904.09  
Received 2017 to-date: \$84,155.23  
Building account balance: \$43,232.59  
Monthly payment: \$8,127.35  
Loan balance: \$1,020,297.78