

Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession, absolution with personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ—living and incarnate.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

To sum up: the gospel is what God has done for us in Christ for our salvation. And as the two natures of this Christ must be distinguished, so also we must distinguish what God does *for us* and what God does *in us*. Likewise, as we must not separate the two natures of Christ, neither must we separate the gospel from the fruit of the gospel. It is by the gospel that we are born again (1 Peter 1:23-25), it is the gospel that evokes true faith (Romans 10:17), and it is the gospel which produces the sanctified or Spirit-filled life (Colossians 1:28).

Graeme Goldsworthy

We know in our deepest places how hard it is to keep our eyes open to the complexity of the broken world around us, to keep feeling the pains of a world that is not the way it is supposed to be and, knowing the difficulty, choosing to engage it rather than being numbed by it.

Steven Garber

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

October 20, 2019 • 10:30 Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Steven Crawford
Joann Williams, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 148*

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

All: **Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!**
Praise him you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Pastor: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and maidens together, and old men and children!

All: **Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;**
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Come, let us worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE: 110 “Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah”

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: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Eternal Father, you are good beyond all imagining, worthy of all our praise and obedience. You set life and death before us. You provide your word to guide us and yourself for us. We often choose to pursue the cravings of our sinful flesh that lead to broken relationships and broken lives. Please forgive us for running from your love. Help us to follow you, cling to you and love you. You are our life. In Christ's name, amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD:

Pastor: God declared through Isaiah, “I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.” In Jesus Christ, God has cancelled the record of debt that stood against you, nailing it to the cross. In Christ, you are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

HYMN: “He Will Hold Me Fast”

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

1. 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.

2. 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.
3. 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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OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Presentation of tithes & offerings

DOXOLOGY (Hymnal, page 731)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Colossians 1:15-20*

Leader: What do you believe concerning Jesus Christ?

All: I believe that: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

RESPONSE: 735 “Gloria Patri”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

HYMN: 334 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Colossians 1:24-29*

²⁴Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, ²⁵of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

All: but the word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON: “A Mission of Maturity”

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION

HYMN: 535 “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!”

RESPONSIVE READING:

Pastor: Hear the words of our Savior: “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, 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.” Come, then, for all is ready.

All: **We come at our Savior's invitation, not because we are self-righteous, but because we are penitent, not because we are strong, but because we are weak, not because we are whole, but because we are broken.**

Pastor: Come, then, for all is ready. Christ was raised to life, death is swallowed up, victory is won. Alleluia!

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

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: 518 “Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground”

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

TODAY AT RIVERWOOD

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

COVENANT KIDS CLUB

Covenant Kids Club meets tonight in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-7:00pm.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group meets tonight in the Barn from 5:30-7:30pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

October 20 Eli Bell
October 20 Daniel Zheng
October 21 Bob DeWitt

MEETING THIS WEEK

Wednesday, October 23, 10:00am: Women's Bible Study
Wednesday, October 23, 3:30pm: Catechism

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Next Sunday, October 27, the discussion Sunday School class will begin a study of work from a Biblical perspective. Our guide will be a book by Tim Keller entitled "Every Good Endeavor" and subtitled "connecting your work to God's work." Certainly a topic applicable to everyone. The book is about \$13 through Amazon. We will order a few and get more based on interest.

REFORMATION CELEBRATION - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

This is a wonderful time to celebrate and learn about our reformed heritage as well as enjoy a time of fellowship. The schedule for the evening is...

- 4:30-5:30: Games - Everyone is invited to wear a costume (nothing macabre or scary)
- 5:45-7:30: Chili Dinner - Chili judging will occur shortly before dinner starts
- 6:30-7:30: Weindorf (adults only)
- 6:30-7:30: Marshmallow Roast

Game attendants, food, candy, etc. are needed to make this evening happen. You may sign up using the link in your email announcements or on the sign-up sheet in the foyer of the sanctuary.

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: Lisa Kidder
Grades 4-6: Ginny Nippert

MEETING IN THE BARN:

Youth Class: Ben & Meg Sigmon

MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Adult Class - *The Providence of God* by R. C. Sproul - led by elders

MEETING IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING:

Adult Class - *The Legacy Journey* by Dave Ramsey - led by Gene Martin

MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

October 20: Bruce & Mickey DeHaan / Darla Cook / Katharine Bedsole & David Barnes / Aaron Powers
October 27: Lynn Tootle / Meg Sigmon / Janalie Graham & Olivia Patridge / Meredith Patridge

OCTOBER DEACON SCHEDULE:

Head Deacon: Greg Vander Wal
Clean Up: Tom Arnold

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through September 2019:

Operating Income:	\$318,675.38
Operating Expense*:	\$320,371.37
Net Income:	(\$1,695.99)
Designated gifts:	\$67,338.55
Building loan balance:	\$814,863.35

**Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*