

Deborah sang concerning the overthrow of Israel's enemies, and the deliverance vouchsafed to the tribes: we have a far richer theme for music; we have been delivered from worse enemies, and saved by a greater salvation. Let our gratitude be deeper; let our song be more jubilant. Glory be unto God, we can say that our sins, which were like mighty hosts, have been swept away, not by that ancient river, the river Kishon, but by streams which flowed from Jesus' side. Our great enemy has been overcome, and his head is broken. Not Sisera, but Satan has been overthrown: the "seed of the woman has bruised his head" for ever. We are now ransomed from the galling yoke; we walk at liberty through the power of the great Liberator, the Lord Jesus.

Charles Spurgeon
from a sermon based on Judges 5:11

O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams.

Augustine (354-430)

All good which could be thought or desired is to be found in Jesus Christ alone. For He was humbled to exalt us, He became a slave to free us, He became poor to enrich us, He was sold to redeem us, made captive for our deliverance, condemned for our absolution; He was made a curse for our blessings, an offering for sin for our righteousness, He was marred that we might be restored, He died for our life.

John Calvin
from *Preface to the French Bible, 1539*

RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

September 12, 2021 • 10:30 Worship Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Jimmy Hopper
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

CALL TO WORSHIP: *from Psalm 40*

Pastor: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

**All: I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the
great congregation.**

Pastor: As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me;
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

**All: May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"**

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: 101 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Come, thou Almighty King,
help us thy name to sing,
help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword,
our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy Word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three
eternal praises be,
hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore.

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: *Matthew 5:27-30*

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

All: Lord Jesus, as you teach us about the holiness that God requires, we confess that we are full of sin. We have not only failed to keep the commandments of God in our actions, but we have failed to be righteous in our thoughts and in the affections of our hearts. Please have mercy on us. Forgive us for our lustful intentions and our adulterous hearts. We confess that we deserve to be cut off from you. Our only hope for salvation is through your sinless life and sacrificial death in our place. Please forgive us when we make light of the sin that you bore the weight of on the cross. We ask this humbly in your name, amen.

SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from Psalm 32 & Ephesians 1*

Pastor: Hear the good news of our deliverance! Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered...I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Those who have faith in Jesus Christ have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of your trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. Therefore, you are forgiven! The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HYMN: 254 "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die!
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I!

Was it for crimes that I had done he groaned upon the tree!
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut his glories in,
when Christ, the mighty Maker, died for man the creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears;
dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes in tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;
here, Lord, I give myself away, 'tis all that I can do.

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 Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions and Answers 86, 87, 89, & 90

Leader: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

People: Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Leader: What is repentance unto life?

People: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

Leader: How is the word made effectual to salvation?

People: The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching, of the word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation.

Leader: How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

People: That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend to it with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

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: 148 “How Shall the Young Direct Their Way?”

How shall the young direct their way?
What light shall be their perfect guide?
Your Word, O Lord, will safely lead,
if in its wisdom they confide.
Sincerely I have sought you, Lord,
O let me not from you depart;
to know your will and keep from sin
your Word I cherish in my heart.

O blessed Lord, teach me your law,
your righteous judgments I declare;
your testimonies make me glad,
for they are wealth beyond compare.
Upon your precepts and your ways
my heart will meditate with awe;
your Word shall be my chief delight,
and I will not forget your law.

PREACHING OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: *Psalms 119:41-48*

⁴¹Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord,
your salvation according to your promise;
⁴²then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.
⁴³And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your rules.
⁴⁴I will keep your law continually,
forever and ever,
⁴⁵and I shall walk in a wide place,
for I have sought your precepts.
⁴⁶I will also speak of your testimonies before kings
and shall not be put to shame,
⁴⁷for I find my delight in your commandments,
which I love.
⁴⁸I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love,
and I will meditate on your statutes.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,
All: **but the word of our God will stand forever.**

SERMON: “The Word that Provides: Deliverance”

Rev. Jeff Pate

COMMUNION

HYMN: 455 “And Can It Be That I Should Gain” st. 1-3

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Chorus:

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies; who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

RESPONSIVE READING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to 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:

People: **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 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.

BENEDICTION

HYMN: 455 “And Can It Be That I Should Gain” st. 4, 5

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature’s night;
thine eye diffused a quick’ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

Chorus:

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th’eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

September 13 Sandra Hanson
September 14 Kaitlin Jones
September 17 Dusty Sheppard

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

YOUTH GROUP & COVENANT KIDS CLUB

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

SPECIAL GUEST NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, Zac and Kaley Martin will be worshipping with us. The session is currently interviewing Zac to possibly come on staff as Director of Student Ministry. Zac will also be preaching next Sunday.

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR CLAIRE BELSON

Please join us for a bridal shower for Claire Belson next Sunday, September 19 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Claire is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond, Target, and Williams Sonoma.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: SNACKS & DRINKS NEEDED

We are serving approximately 45 children each week. We need individually wrapped snacks (no nuts please) and individual drink pouches. A box is in the narthex of the sanctuary to collect donations. You can also drop off at the office. Thank you!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Through August 2021

Operating Income:	\$282,750.98
Operating Expense*:	\$311,716.56
Net Income:	(\$28,965.58)
Designated gifts:	\$57,661.15
Building loan balance:	\$665,982.01

**Includes the minimum monthly building loan payment*