

# REFLECTIONS

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In opposition...to all the suggestions of the devil, the sole, simple, and sufficient answer is the word of God. This puts to flight all the powers of darkness. The Christian finds this to be true in his individual experience. It dissipates his doubts; it drives away his fears; it delivers him from the power of Satan.

Charles Hodge

As secret worship is better the more secret it is, so public worship is better the more public it is.

Matthew Henry

The church is not a building made with stone. It is a building made with living flesh. We believers are living stones in God's temple (1 Pet. 2:5), and when we come together we constitute a place of worship where God manifests Himself in ways that He cannot manifest Himself when we are alone. Believers become the living temple of God, offering to Him spiritual sacrifices not possible anywhere other than in the assembly of the redeemed church.

John MacArthur

Truth is an inevitable expression of our concern with God – God who is the measure of all things, who reveals to us His mind. He reveals His mind to us in the words of sacred Scripture so that we might hear and understand the mind of God.

John Armstrong

# RIVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

September 26, 2021 • 10:30 Worship Service • Rev. Jeff Pate, Pastor

### **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Leader In Worship: Assisting Elder Allen Powers

Ginny Coleman, 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:** *based on Psalm 59*

Leader: We gather to worship the Lord God of hosts who delivers his people.

**All: I will sing of his strength;**

**I will sing aloud of his steadfast love in the morning.**

Pastor: For he has been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

**All: O my Strength, I will sing praise to you,**

**for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship!

HYMN: 165 “Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
and publish abroad his wonderful name;  
the name, all victorious, of Jesus extol;  
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;  
and still he is nigh – his presence we have.  
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right,  
all glory and pow’r, and wisdom and might,  
all honor and blessing, with angels above,  
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

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: *Matthew 5:38-42*

<sup>38</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup>But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup>And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup>And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup>Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

All: Heavenly Father, we have heard the words of your Son who came full of grace and truth. While he commands us to be generous, even with people we consider undeserving, we confess that we cling to what you have given us. Please forgive us for withholding our financial resources, our gifts and abilities, for withholding words that could benefit others, and even withholding ourselves from relationships with people made in your image. You have given us so much and we share so little. Please forgive us. In your mercy do not hold our sins against us, and in your grace change our hearts and lives to be more like Jesus, our Savior and Lord. We ask this in his name, amen.

## SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

# CONFESSION

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## WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PEACE OF GOD: *from 2 Corinthians 5*

Pastor: Having recognized your need of God's mercy, now hear the good news of God's abundant provision of mercy and grace. *If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself. That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them...For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.* In Jesus Christ you are forgiven! In him you are reconciled to God! The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

## HYMN: "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied -  
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine - bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Words and music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  
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## 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: *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: “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: 692 “To You, O Lord, I Fly”

To you, O Lord, I fly and on your help depend;  
you are my Lord and King Most High; great God, my soul defend.  
A heritage for me Jehovah will remain  
my portion rich and full is he, my right he will maintain.

The lot to me that fell is beautiful and fair;  
the heritage in which I dwell is good beyond compare.  
I praise the Lord above whose counsel guides aright;  
my heart instructs me in his love in seasons of the night.

I keep before me still the Lord whom I have proved;  
at my right hand he guards from ill, and I shall not be moved.  
Life’s pathway you will show, to your right hand will guide,  
where streams of pleasure ever flow, and boundless joys abide.

# PREACHING OF THE WORD

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SCRIPTURE: *Psalm 119:169-176*

<sup>169</sup>Let my cry come before you, O Lord;  
give me understanding according to your word!  
<sup>170</sup>Let my plea come before you;  
deliver me according to your word.  
<sup>171</sup>My lips will pour forth praise,  
for you teach me your statutes.  
<sup>172</sup>My tongue will sing of your word,  
for all your commandments are right.  
<sup>173</sup>Let your hand be ready to help me,  
for I have chosen your precepts.  
<sup>174</sup>I long for your salvation, O Lord,  
and your law is my delight.  
<sup>175</sup>Let my soul live and praise you,  
and let your rules help me.  
<sup>176</sup>I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,  
for I do not forget your commandments.

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

SERMON:                   “The Word Provides and We Respond”

Rev. Jeff Pate



# COMMUNION

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**HYMN:** “Jesus, Strong and Kind”

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him.  
No one else can satisfy, I should come to Him.

Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my strength, I should come to Him.

*Chorus:*

For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.  
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him.  
No one else can be my shield. I should come to Him.

Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me.  
And He showed me on that cross. He will come to me.

Words and music by Colin Buchanan, Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, & Rich Thompson  
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## **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

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HYMN: 57 “Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul”

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.  
Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;  
he shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel’s God to be his aid;  
he is blessed whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed.  
Heav’n and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain;  
he delivers from oppression, righteousness he will maintain.

Food he daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning pris’ner free,  
raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eye to see.  
Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger he befriends,  
helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.  
Over all God reigns forever, through all ages he is King;  
unto him, your God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

## 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

September 26 Asher Henry  
September 27 Tristan Drinkard  
September 27 Ava Grace Odom

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

## YOUTH GROUP & COVENANT KIDS CLUB

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

## BABY SHOWER FOR APRIL HENRY

You are invited to an adults only baby shower for April Henry and baby Saoirse this Saturday, October 2, at 2pm at Ginny Nippert's house (749 Union Chapel Rd, Northport 35473). The shower will be outdoors on the deck. April and Michael need clothes and toys for their baby girl, and disposable diapers are welcome as well. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with food, please contact Bonnie Martin (336-260-5679) or Ginny Nippert (205-454-9113).

## 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.

## 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*