ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 4 , 2025

9:30 A.M.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

The bells ring three times to represent the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PRELUDE *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* arr. Joel Raney

***HYMN NO. 155** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* DIADEM

WELCOME Daniel deShazo

MEET & GREET Daniel deShazo

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Scarlet Elise Baxter
Daughter of Lauren & Caleb Baxter; granddaughter of Susan Bradshaw

Mia Denise Mahan
Daughter of Megan & Andrew Mahan, granddaughter of Susan Bradshaw

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

People: We do.

Leader: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include *Scarlet and Mia,* now before you in your care?

People: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that *Scarlet and Mia,* surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev Reid Turner

SENIOR RECOGNITION

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev Reid Turner

HYMN NO. 314 *In The Garden* GARDEN

(Please remain seated)

I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear falling on my ear
the Son of God discloses.

(Refrain)
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own;
and the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing. (Refrain)

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Tony Johnson

OFFERTORY *Morning Has Broken* arr. Diane Bish
Please sing as led:

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERMON Not So Fast Rev. Tony Johnson
Things You Thought Were In The Bible
God Helps Those Who Help Themselves
Scripture: 2 Thess 3:10-12
Pew Bible: NT 252

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CONFESSION AND PARDON Rev. John Ray

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

People: Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

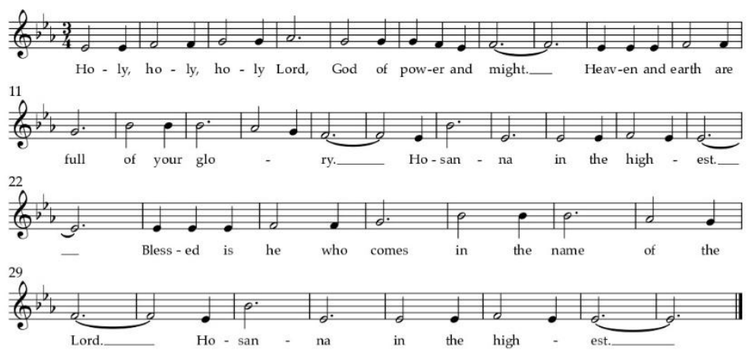
All: Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Nancy Harper

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through the prophets.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives,
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and juice.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

***HYMN NO. 318** *Christ Is Alive* TRURO

During this hymn, we invite you to be in a time of prayer.
If so led, you are welcome to come to the altar rail to pray.

***INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Tony Johnson

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

***POSTLUDE** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* arr. Don Phillps

*Please stand as you are able.

* *

Musicians
Daniel deShazo, Minister of Music and Worship Arts
Walt Rogers, Organ
Kathy Wallace, Piano
Sanctuary Choir

* *

Acolytes & Crucifers
Lane & Rebecca Kaufhold Cathy Henry

* *

ALTAR FLOWERS

In celebration of the baptism of Emerson Anne Coats, daughter of Missy Jones Coats & Doug Coats, given by grandparents Roanne Jones, Chuck Jones, and Helen & Dale Coats.
In honor of our granddaughters, Amanda and Kelly Leach, given by Betty and Ron Summers

DONUT SPONSORS

This week's Lickin' Good Donuts are sponsored by the Faith Class.

SYMPATHY

To Barbara, Tommy, and Andy Sanford on the death of their son, brother, and uncle respectively, Ronald Sanford.

To Michelle, Carlton, Reagan, & Jack Watts on the death of Michelle's father, Jerry Bowman.

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

The Pastors and staff would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who helped to make Holy Week and Easter one of the best we have ever had! Thank you ushers, greeters, flower guild, altar guild, donut brigade, musicians and all of the unsung heroes that work tirelessly to make our Sundays so successful.

WAYS TO GIVE

CASH OR CHECK
You can always give to Riverchase by cash or check. We have a time of giving during each service, you can bring your gift to the church office, or you can mail your gift to:

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Attn: Mary Anne Levet
1953 Old Montgomery Hwy
Birmingham, AL 35244

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RIVERCHASE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 4, 2025

9:30 A.M.

Our mission is to make disciples by Sharing the Joy of Christ!

Riverchase United Methodist Church
1953 Old Montgomery Hwy, Hoover, AL 35244
Telephone: 205-987-4030
www.riverchaseumc.org

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