Southwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



To all who are weary and need rest ...
To all who mourn and long for comfort ...
To all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares ...
To all who struggle and desire strength ...
To all who sin and need a Savior ...
We do, too.

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our great Hope and Joy, the reason we gather to celebrate and worship. Southwood opens wide our doors, our hearts, and our lives as our God has done for us.

November 29, 2026
8:45 AM Prayer Gathering
9:30 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM No Connect Hour

Worship Service

We contemplate who God is and who we are as we gather to worship.

MEDITATION
"Let no sinner in the universe despair. But let every one see in this prophecy (Genesis 3:15) how abundant and inconceivable is the grace of God." Charles Simeon

God reminds us from his Word of his promises to his waiting people centuries ago.

ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING
Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel ... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-7

God welcomes us into his presence and reorients our hearts to Him and each other.

CALL TO WORSHIP
LEADER: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

PEOPLE: Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

ALL: For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

from John 8:12,
Psalm 115:5, Romans 11:36

Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- **Will Spink** Senior Pastor
- **Derrick Harris** Associate Pastor
- **Sam and Maggie Ratliff** Advent Reading
- **DJ Baptiste** Director, Music Ministry
- **Newt Johnson** Piano
- **Nick Walker** Bass Guitar
- **Ron Poteat** Electric Guitar
- **Marcus Pope** Drums
- **Lyndsay Abel** Vocals
- **Kathryn Jones** Vocals
- **Jarrett Kaempfer** Audio/Slides
- **Leslie Ellis** Livestream

Worship Service

We express the worth of our God and the emotions of our hearts to Him.

SONGS
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

PRAYER OF PRAISE

We affirm together what we believe.

PROFESSION OF FAITH
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick* and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

The Apostles' Creed

* The word "quick" here means "living."
** The word "catholic" here means "universal."

SONG
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

We talk honestly with our Father about our weakness, idolatry, and need for Him.

CONFESSION OF SIN
Silent Confession

God reminds us of his grace and forgiveness as the foundation of our relationship.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

SONG
"Joy to the World"

Worship Service

We celebrate how God's grace flows through us in our relationships and community.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG
"Light of the World"

God speaks to us from the Bible explained and applied to our lives.

PREACHING OF THE WORD
Genesis 3:7-19
"The Seed of the Woman"

SONG OF RESPONSE
"Joy to the World"

God sends us on his mission with his blessing.

BENEDICTION
The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Romans 16:20

Following the Worship Service
Pastor Will will greet and pray with people at the front of the sanctuary.

No Connect Hour today! Join us next Sunday, December 6, for Connect Hour, relating with God & each other around his Word.

Adults: Gather in Connecting Spaces for joint Adult Connect Hour.
High-Life Connects: Jr./Sr. High classes in the Lodge across the street
Kids Connect: Birth-5th grade classes in Nursery and upstairs

Sermon Notes

Introduction: The Struggle of _____

Problem: Satan works to distance people _____ God, resulting in a _____ that impacts key relationships ...

1. Mankind with _____

2. Mankind with Other _____

3. Mankind with _____

4. Mankind with _____

Promise: Jesus works to bring people _____ God, resulting in a _____ that reverses the curse.

Conclusion: The Child Changes Everything

Grace Group Questions (*for fuller discussion guide, visit southwood.org)*

1. How do you handle waiting for something you're looking forward to? How is our waiting for Jesus to return similar to or different from people waiting for his first advent?

2. What is an area you struggle with the curse or brokenness in your life to this day? What do you long for that to be like when Jesus brings blessing to make all things new?

3. What is your favorite aspect of Jesus' work to destroy the works of the Devil? How can you especially celebrate that hope this Christmas season?

Announcements

Hark the Herald Southwood Sings!
You don't want to miss Southwood's musical Christmas celebration! Invite friends and join us on Sunday, December 13, at 6pm for this special time for the whole family.

Christmas Eve Worship Service
Join us on Christmas Eve at 5pm for our traditional candlelight service with the Lord's Supper. Nursery provided (ages 0-3).

Happy Birthday, Jesus!
Families with young children (nursery to PreK4) are invited to our Happy Birthday Jesus party Saturday, December 5, 10am-12pm, in the Connecting Spaces. We'll enjoy a special storytime, kid-friendly crafts, festive songs, and light snacks. Friends and older siblings welcome! RSVP by Dec 2: kids@southwood.org.

Global Christmas Greetings
This Christmas, bless international mission partners with global greetings, a card or encouraging note. Names and addresses are on the Missions Counter in the Connecting Spaces. You can mail your card with three stamps or drop it off in the Missions Mail Drop at the church by Sunday, December 7.

Upcoming Connect Hour Schedule
Today: No Connect Hour
Dec 6: Joint Adult Connect Hour
Dec 13: Adult Christmas Party
Dec 20: No Connect Hour
Dec 27: No Connect Hour
Jan 3: No Connect Hour
Jan 10: Annual Congregational Mtg

This Week @ Southwood

Sunday, November 29
8:45am – Prayer Gathering
9:30am – Worship Service
11:00am – No Connect Hour (all ages)
7:00pm – Sr. High-Life

Wednesday, December 2
11:45am – Lunch, Life & Scripture
6:00pm – Jr. High-Life
6:30pm – Women's Grace Groups

Thursday, December 3
10:00am – Women's Grace Groups

Saturday, December 5
10:00am – Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Join us on God's mission together by becoming part of a smaller community through Grace Groups. Women's groups, men's groups, and coed groups meet throughout the week. Sign up to get connected at southwood.org/grace-groups.

Deacon/Finance Update

Quarterly Budget Need is based on Southwood's historical giving patterns.

Oct-Dec Budget Goal: $1,174,628
Oct-Dec Giving to Date: $337,160

Last Week's Giving
$29,105

Scan this QR code to give electronically.

Learn more, see full event calendars, and give electronically at southwood.org.

Prayer Guide

Core Commitment

We strive to love the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out.
Ask for a renewed sense of our own desperate need that would make us more grateful for and eager to extend God's abundant grace.

Pray for perseverance for our brothers and sisters around the world whose lives are in danger each day for the sake of the Gospel.

Ask God to change your heart to see your own weakness as the doorway to his unfathomable strength in your life.

Specific Needs

Praise God for the birth of Jeffrey Raines Welch to Cole and Katelyn last weekend.

Pray for genuinely grateful hearts, true spiritual refreshment, and renewed family relationships as a result of this Thanksgiving season.

Pray that God will use our upcoming Advent Sermon Series to show us more of the wonder of Jesus and to help our hearts as we wait for Him day by day.

Pray for God to bring revival and renewal to our world as we join with other churches in our Presbytery Sunday to pray for God's Spirit to revive hearts.

Praise God that Stephanie Phillips is now home and pray for her ongoing recovery after surgery.

Missions Partner Requests

The Village Church
Planted in 2011 as a daughter church of Southwood, The Village Church has remained faithful to its calling: a church of Beautiful and Broken People Connected in Jesus, Extending His Love. Their mission is simple and powerful: to Know, Enjoy, and Glorify Jesus. Led by a dedicated team of leaders and staff, TVC seeks to be a light in its community by building authentic relationships and sharing the hope of Christ. Through worship, Bible study, outreach, and discipleship, their heart is to see lives transformed, personally, within the church, and throughout Huntsville.

Pray for wisdom, unity, and perseverance for Pastor Alex Shipman, the staff, and officers.

Pray for continued growth in God's Word and deeper relationships within the church, and a shared desire to know, enjoy and glorify Jesus.

Pray for opportunities to serve neighbors and share the love of Christ.

Senior Member

Mark Wolfson
105 Imogene Way
Huntsville, AL 35758

Expectant Mothers

Riley Brechin — December 2026
Jessica Sheppard — March 2027

Email prayer@southwood.org to be included in this Prayer Guide.

Southwood's Mission
Southwood exists to experience and express grace in relationships that impact eternity.

Southwood's Core Commitments
We are committed to being Christ-centered.

We recognize our deep dependence and need for prayer.

We are driven by relationships.

We strive to love the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out.

We seek the restoration of all creation in Huntsville and beyond.

Southwood Presbyterian Church
1000 Carl T. Jones Drive
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

(256) 882-3085

southwood.org

Scan this QR code to let us know you're here.

Experience & Express Grace