



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.

December 31, 2023
8:45 AM Prayer Gathering
9:30 AM Worship Service

Worship Service

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

MEDITATION

“Because God has already laid the only foundation of our fellowship, because God has bound us together in one body with other Christians in Jesus Christ, long before we entered into common life with them, we enter into that common life not as demanders but as thankful recipients. We thank God for what He has done for us. We thank God for giving us brethren who live by His call, by His forgiveness, and His promise.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

PEOPLE: Know that the Lord, he is God; It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

LEADER: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

PEOPLE: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalms 100

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

SONGS

“Doxology”
“Praise to the Lord, The Almighty”
“Rejoice”

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- **Bill Harritt** Associate Pastor
- **Elisabeth Enchelmayer** Announcements
- **DJ Baptiste** Director, Music Ministry
- **Newt Johnson** Piano
- **Nick Walker** Bass Guitar
- **Ron Poteat** Electric Guitar
- **Michael Athey** Drums
- **Angela Baptiste** Vocals
- **Kristin Symon** Vocals
- **Jim Williams** Vocals
- **Jarrett Kaempfer** Audio
- **Lance Cooper** Livestream
- **Amanda Tatum** Slides

Worship Service

We talk to God about his worth and our needs, as Jesus taught us to pray.

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.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

SONG

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

We talk honestly with our Father about our weakness, brokenness, 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

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

Psalms 103:8-13

SONG

"In Christ Alone"

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Worship Service

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

PREACHING OF THE WORD

Hebrew 10:19-25
"A Family of Faith"

SONG OF RESPONSE

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

God sends us on his mission with his blessing.

BENEDICTION

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6



Following the Worship Service

Pastor Bill will greet and pray with people at the front of the sanctuary.

No Connect Hour today. Connect Hour resumes next Sunday, January 7.

Adults: Gather in the Sanctuary for vision casting

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

A Family (vs. 19)

....Changed by Christ (19-22)

....Confident in Christ(19-22)

....Anchored in Christ(23)

....Points each other to Christ (24-25)

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

1. Do you consider the Church the same way the Bible speaks about it as a family? Why or Why not?

2. It can be easy to trust Jesus when things are easy. How does confidence in Christ help you in crisis moments?

3. What is positive about helping brothers and Sister in Christ by exhorting them or calling out their sin? What is scary about exhorting others or calling out sin?

Announcements

Connect Hour

No Connect Hour today. Connect Hour (all ages) resumes next Sunday, January 7. Adults will gather in the Sanctuary for a discussion and questions and answers surrounding our mission and priorities as a church.

2024 Churchwide Bible Reading Plan

Next year we will continue our two-year journey through the Bible together as a church family. What a great blessing to learn more of God and his heart for us together! The new year is a great time to jump in even if you didn't participate in 2023. Grab a pew card for directions to the Bible app or to the PDF on our website (southwood.org). If you prefer, grab a printed copy of the plan in the Narthex today. If you would enjoy a daily devotional written for this plan, order *For the Love of God, Volume 2* by D.A. Carson.

Express Grace Conference 2024

Save the Date! Our annual Express Grace Conference is January 27-28.

This Week @ Southwood Sunday, December 31

8:45am – Prayer Gathering

9:30am – Worship Service

11:00am – No Connect Hour (all ages)

Monday, January 1

Office Closed

Bible Reading Plan Year 2 Begins

Join us in pursuing God's mission together by becoming part of a smaller community through Grace Groups. Sign up anytime at southwood.org/grace-groups.

Deacon/Finance Update 2023 Budget

\$2,555,912

Weekly Budget Need

\$49,152

Giving through December 17

\$2,090,718

Year-End Giving Info

Year-end gifts postmarked or received by Dec. 31 will be accounted toward 2023. There is a fixed and secure drop box outside the office entrance for tithe and donation drop-off purposes when the office is closed.



Scan this QR code to give electronically.

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

Prayer Guide

Core Commitment

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

Ask for God's protection on the homeless of our community during these cold winter days.

Pray for Huntsville to know the rest offered by Jesus after a particularly busy season in a high-achieving culture.

Ask God to renew our passion for sharing his good news with the people we regularly see Monday through Saturday.

Specific Needs

Pray for safety, refreshment, and gospel opportunities for those traveling during the holiday season.

Pray for God's generous provision in our end-of-year giving, that we may have plenty to share with many others.

Pray for the powerful work of God's Spirit in our hearts as we begin year 2 of our Bible Reading Plan together.

Missions Partner Requests

The Cornerstone Initiative

Debbi and Tony Akers

The CornerStone Initiative supports and equips individuals as they navigate a path through the unique challenges of poverty to a place of lasting transformation. You can support CornerStone by praying for these requests.

Pray along with the staff and leaders of CornerStone that we would faithfully pursue God's vision for this ministry and not our own.

Ask God to provide additional partner churches to join us in ministry.

Please pray that disciples of Jesus are being made in and through Jobs for Life and Faith and Finances classes.

Senior Member

Sharron Hunter

10 Cedar Holly Lane SE
Brownsboro, AL 35741

Expectant Mothers

Libby Potts — December 2023

Beth Patton — February 2024

Lauren Taylor — May 2024

Sarah Nell Compton — May 2024

Shealy Holliday — May 2024

Sarah Collins — June 2024

Elizabeth Fancher — June 2024

**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.

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(256) 882-3085

southwood.org



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to let us know you're
here.

Experience & Express
Grace