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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.

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**January 18, 2026**

**8:45 AM** Prayer Gathering

**9:30 AM** Worship Service

**11:00 AM** Express Grace Connect Hour

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# Worship Service

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

## MEDITATION

“Jesus is the God whom we can approach without pride and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair.”

Blaise Pascal

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*ALL: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

2 Corinthians 5:21; Psalm 95

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

## SONGS

“How Great Thou Art”  
“Holy Is The Lord”

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

### Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- **Will Spink** Senior Pastor
- **Derrick Harris** Associate Pastor
- **Alex & Suzanne Sarran** Story of Grace
- **Jeremy McCoy** Announcements
- **DJ Baptiste** Director, Music Ministry
- **Newt Johnson** Piano
- **Tim Adcock** Organ
- **Nick Walker** Bass Guitar
- **Marcus Pope** Drums
- **Lyndsay Abel** Vocals
- **Michael Babin** Vocals
- **Jarrett Kaempfer** Audio
- **Leslie Ellis** Livestream
- **Caitlyn Spink** Slides

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# Worship Service

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We affirm together what we believe from God's Word about Jesus, the Living Word.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

LEADER: Does God speak to us today?

*ALL: Yes! Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets. In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*

LEADER: What do we believe about Jesus, God's Son?

*ALL: He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.*

LEADER: How did Jesus suffer for us?

*ALL: We see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.*

From Hebrews 1 and 2

## SONG

"Before the Throne of God Above"

We share with one another of God's work in our lives.

## STORY OF GRACE

## SONG

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

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

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFERTORY SONG

"To Christ the Lord"

*Parents may escort K-1st graders upstairs during offertory.*

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# Worship Service

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

## PREACHING OF THE WORD

Hebrews 2:5-13  
"The Way Up Is Down"

## SONG OF RESPONSE

"To Christ the Lord"

God sends us on his mission with his blessing.

## BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26



### Following the Worship Service

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

Join us for Connect Hour, relating with God and each other around his Word.

**Adults/HS Youth:** Gather in the sanctuary for "Express Grace Through Gifts"

**High-Life:** Jr. High classes in the Lodge across the street

**Kids Connect:** (Birth-5th grade) classes in the Nursery and upstairs

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## Sermon Notes

1. God's Plan for Mankind: \_\_\_\_\_ (2:5-8)

2. Our Downward Turn: Seeming \_\_\_\_\_ (2:8)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (2:9-13)

A. The \_\_\_\_\_ par excellence

B. Our sacrificing \_\_\_\_\_

C. Our trailblazing \_\_\_\_\_

D. Our sanctifying \_\_\_\_\_

E. Our God-honoring \_\_\_\_\_

4. God's Future for Mankind: \_\_\_\_\_ (2:5, 10)

### **Grace Group Questions** *(for fuller discussion guide, visit [southwood.org](http://southwood.org))*

1. What things most discourage you or make you feel insignificant as an individual Christian or a member of Christ's Church?
2. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is not ashamed of you even when you feel ashamed? How can you help others feeling ashamed to experience this reality?
3. Why do you think looking toward glory is important for people and churches today? What realities about Jesus give us hope while we're on the downward path to glory?

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# Announcements

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## Welcome to Southwood - TODAY!

Are you interested in learning more about the heart of Christianity or Southwood? Join Pastor Will and other leaders for our welcome class starting today immediately following the worship service in Room B.

## Express Grace Through Gifts - TODAY!

This year our focus for how God's grace flows through us to others is on how we use our spiritual gifts as unique and significant parts of Christ's body. During Connect Hour on Sundays (Today - Feb 8), all adults and high school youth gather together for teaching and spiritual gifts assessments led by our deacons and Spiritual Formation Consultant Bill Nash.

## Express Grace Serve Day

Save the date: Saturday, February 7. Practical opportunities for using our spiritual gifts. More details to come.

## Flourish: Women Rooted in Christ

New women's gatherings to aid our relationships with God and one another begin next Sunday, January 25, from 2:30 - 4pm in the Connecting Spaces. Join us for Scripturally-based topical discussions focused on body, mind, and spirit.

## Into the Wild Podcast

New episodes of this podcast featuring Pastor Derrick and Bill Nash, with Pastor Will as guest, dropped this week. Check out these "honest conversations" at [southwood.org/itw](http://southwood.org/itw).

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## This Week @ Southwood Sunday, January 18

8:45am – Prayer Gathering  
9:30am – Worship Service  
11:00am – Connect Hour (all ages)  
7:00pm – Sr. High-Life

## Monday, January 19

Office Closed

## Tuesday, January 20

6:00pm – Deacons Meeting

## Wednesday, January 21

6:00pm – Jr. High-Life  
6:30pm – Women's Grace Groups

## Thursday, January 22

10:00am – Women's Grace Groups

*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](http://southwood.org/grace-groups).*

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## Deacon/Finance Update

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

Jan-Mar Budget Goal: \$722,092

## Last Week's Giving

\$30,994



Scan this QR code to give electronically.

**Learn more, see full event calendars, and give electronically at [southwood.org](http://southwood.org).**

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## Prayer Guide

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### **Mission: 3 Key Relationships Relationship with One Another**

Ask that our Grace Groups would increasingly spur one another on to love and good deeds as we pay close attention to Jesus together.

Pray for humility and forgiveness to mark our relationships because we embrace the centrality of Jesus' love for us.

Ask that Holy Spirit would unite our hearts in both weeping and rejoicing together through life's ups and downs.

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### **Specific Needs**

Pray for Greg Ray, who has been hospitalized this week due to infection in his foot while receiving radiation treatment for prostate cancer.

Pray for Eileen Sessions as she continues to struggle with headaches even while she's able to get out more recently.

Pray for mission partners Alex and Suzanne Sarran to be encouraged and refreshed during their time with us and in the States.

Pray for the Welcome to Southwood class starting Sunday to be a helpful time of connection to Jesus, Southwood, and each other.

Pray for clarity and excitement around our spiritual gifts during the upcoming Express Grace focus beginning Sunday.

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### **Mission Partner Prayer Focus**

Alex and Suzanne Sarran have served in full-time ministry in Lyon, France since 2001. Alex leads a growing church plant near the center of the city, and together they seek to glorify God by faithfully proclaiming the Gospel. Their prayer is that many would come to saving faith in Jesus Christ, that the church would continue to grow, and that God would establish additional churches in time. They also long to see the Gospel bring visible renewal to Lyon, France's second-largest city.

*Meeting Space:* Pray that a long-term lease would be secured or that God would provide a new, larger space as the congregation continues to grow.

*Church Leadership:* Pray for wisdom and discernment for the current elders as they affirm God's call on new officers.

*Future Church Planting:* Pray for clarity, unity, and faith as they seek the Lord's direction.

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### **Senior Member**

**Mark Wolfson**

138 Sarah Jane Drive  
Madison, AL 35757

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### **Expectant Mothers**

**Libby Potts** — January 2026

**Rosemary Spooner** — February 2026

**Krista Fenton** — February 2026

**Ashleigh Lewis** — March 2026

**Amanda Tatum** — March 2026

**Megan Craig** — May 2026

**Email [prayer@southwood.org](mailto:prayer@southwood.org)  
to be included in this Prayer Guide.**

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### **Southwood's Mission**

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

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### **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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1000 Carl T. Jones Drive  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

(256) 882-3085

[southwood.org](http://southwood.org)



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to let us know you're  
here.

Experience & Express  
*Grace*