



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.

March 23, 2025

8:45 AM Prayer Gathering

9:30 AM Worship Service

11:00 AM Connect Hour

Worship Service

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

MEDITATION

“Christ wins our salvation through losing, achieves power through weakness and service, comes to wealth via giving all away. And those who receive his salvation are not the strong and accomplished but those who admit they are weak and lost.”

Tim Keller, *Gospel Christianity*

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness,

ALL: I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

Psalm 7:17

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

SONGS

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

“House of the Lord”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- **Will Spink** Senior Pastor
- **Derrick Harris** Associate Pastor
- **Elisabeth Enchelmayer** Announcements
- **DJ Baptiste** Director, Music Ministry
- **Newt Johnson** Piano
- **Wesley Chambers** Violin
- **Ron Poteat** Electric Guitar
- **Nick Walker** Bass Guitar
- **Julian Newsome** Drums
- **Angela Baptiste** Vocals
- **Kaitlyn Young** Audio
- **Leslie Ellis** Livestream
- **Padyn Pearson** Slides

Worship Service

God speaks to us through the Bible to encourage us to cry out to Him and trust Him.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

Psalm 22:1-5

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16-17

SONGS

"Pass Me Not"

"Near the Cross"

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG

"Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb"

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

Worship Service

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

PREACHING OF THE WORD

John 19:17-27
"The Surprising Cross"

God invites us to taste and see his goodness in the bread and cup that represent the body and blood of Jesus for us.

LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is the family meal of Christians. We invite all those who trust in Jesus and are baptized members in good standing of any church that preaches the good news of Jesus to partake in the meal with us. Children not yet received as communing members or others not partaking today are encouraged to observe and/or ask an elder to pray with you after the service.
** Gluten-free bread is available in center front and back.*
** Grape juice is in clear cups in the outer ring of each tray, while wine is in purple cups in the inner rings.*

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Near the Cross"

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: Gather in rooms on hallway across from the Nursery

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 Centrality of the Cross

1. Could someone so _____ be launching a _____? (19:17-22)

2. Could someone so _____ be removing my _____? (19:23-24)

3. Could someone so _____ be bringing me into _____? (19:25-27)

Conclusion: The Impact of the Centrality of the Cross

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

1. Do you think you contemplate the cross of Jesus too much or not enough? In what ways would you like to see it shape your life more?
2. The cross has relational impacts as Jesus removes our shame and our aloneness. How have you experienced or struggled to experience those realities?
3. How does the cross open pathways of conversation with those who do not yet trust Jesus? With whom might you discuss the cross of Christ during this Easter season?

Announcements

Adult Connect Hour

Join us for classes in our adult communities, connecting with one another around God's Word. These include "Sermon on the Mount: The Good Life" (Under 40 in Room D with Lance Cooper, Thomas & Laura Davison); "Hebrews: Drawing Near to God in a Broken World" (40-60 in Room E with John Foreman and Bill Nash); "Living Life via the Psalms" (60+ in Room A with Mark Baginski and Vinit Mahesh).

Easter Services

Mark your calendars for our Easter services: Maundy Thursday at 6pm, Good Friday at 6pm, Easter Sunrise at 6am, and Easter Worship at 9:30am.

Easter Nursery Volunteers

This Easter, consider volunteering in our sweet nursery to support families during the 9:30am service. To sign up, email kids@southwood.org.

Vacation Bible School

Yee Haw! Save the date for VBS, June 8-11, and hold on to your hat; we've got some fun surprises in store! To register as a ranch-hand (AKA volunteer) or to sign a buckaroo (AKA child) up to participate, visit our website today.

Need Prayer?

We consider it a great privilege to bring one another before the throne of grace. Our elders in particular love to pray with you, so join us Sunday mornings at 8:45am or let us know of a need at prayer@southwood.org.

This Week @ Southwood Sunday, March 23

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

Wednesday, March 26

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

Thursday, March 27

10:00am – Women's Grace Groups

Friday - Sunday, March 28-30

Women's Retreat

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

Deacon/Finance Update

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

Jan-Mar Budget Need: \$558,565
Jan-Mar Giving to Date: \$464,920

Last Week's Giving

\$40,045



Scan this QR code to give electronically.

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

Prayer Guide

Core Commitments

We recognize our deep dependence and need for prayer.

Ask that Holy Spirit would develop a deepening desperation within each of us for revival in our hearts and community that can come only from God.

Pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit in our city that could only be explained as divine power and mercy.

Ask that God would make our dreams so big that we would be driven to ask for his help to see them accomplished.

Specific Needs

Pray for Zack and Carlotta Howard as they process the removal of a tree from their home following recent storms.

Pray for patience and grace for our foster and adoptive parents as they seek to show God's love amidst an often challenging and heartbreaking system.

Pray for our hearts and our neighbors as we prepare to follow Jesus to the cross and celebrate the personal hope of the resurrection in the coming weeks.

Missions Partner Requests

New City West End (St. Louis, MO)

Pastor Thurman and Evie Williams

This member of the New City Network is a multicultural congregation that seeks to serve the West End community of St. Louis City, as they love God and love one another.

You can find more details at newcitywestend.org. Please pray for them as they go through a transition in leadership.

Pray for Pastor Williams as he shifts to an Associate Pastor role to better focus on his calling of teaching at Covenant Seminary.

Ask God to strengthen and guide Assistant Pastor Anthony Johnson, who is being considered for the lead pastor position. The congregation will vote on March 23.

Pray that the ministries of New City West End will continue to flourish throughout this process.

Senior Member

Dorothie Dutcher

2601 Touchmark Dr. Unit 302
Appleton, WI 54914

Expectant Mothers

Amy Dobrowansky — May 2025

Caroline Jewell — June 2025

Lily Hatfield — June 2025

Amelia Daniels — August 2025

**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