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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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**November 24, 2024**  
**8:45 AM** Prayer Gathering  
**9:30 AM** Thanksgiving Service  
**11:00 AM** Thanksgiving Feast

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# Worship Service

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

God welcomes us into his presence and reorients our hearts to Him and each other as we consider many reasons to give Him thanks.

## MEDITATION

“Thanksgiving is recognition of a debt that cannot be paid. We express thanks, whether or not we are able otherwise to reimburse the giver.”

Billy Graham

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

PEOPLE: *His steadfast love endures forever!*

LEADER: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.

PEOPLE: *His steadfast love endures forever!*

LEADER: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

AGES 65+: *Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!*

LEADER: Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

AGES 40-64: *Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!*

## Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- Will Spink Senior Pastor
- DJ Baptiste Director, Music Ministry
- Newt Johnson Piano
- Tim Adcock Organ
- Nick Walker Bass Guitar
- Ron Poteat Electric Guitar
- Michael Athey Drums
- Lyndsay Abel Vocals
- Michael Babin Vocals
- Andrea Balogun Vocals
- Angela Baptiste Vocals
- Ava Willis-Barksdale Vocals
- Jarrett Kaempfer Audio
- Steve Long Livestream
- Padyne Pearson Slides

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# Worship Service

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LEADER: Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.

*AGES 19-39: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!*

LEADER: Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the great waters; they saw the deeds of the Lord, his wondrous works in the deep. For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

*AGES 0-18: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!*

LEADER: Let them extol him in the congregation of the people. Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things; let them consider the steadfast love of the Lord.

*ALL: His steadfast love endures forever!*

Psalm 107

We express the worth of our God and the emotions of our hearts to Him as we thank Him for his grace in our lives.

## **SONGS**

“Forever”  
“Give Thanks”

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

## **CONGREGATIONAL SHARING OF TESTIMONIES**

Audible (come to one of the microphones down front)  
Brief (so that many others will have opportunity to share)  
Christ-centered (to focus our hearts on Him, not ourselves)

## **RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS**

## **BAPTISM**

## **SONG**

“Thank You, Jesus, for the Blood”

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# Worship Service

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We give to God from all He has blessed us with.

**OFFERTORY SONG**  
"Goodness of God"

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

**THANKSGIVING MESSAGE**  
I Chronicles 16:4-7  
"Why Thanksgiving?"

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**  
"Doxology"

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 our Thanksgiving Feast in the Connecting Spaces following the service. Please know we would love for all of you to stay, whether you brought food or not – there is plenty to share! Remember to pick up nursery kids prior to attending the feast.

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## Passages from 2024 Sermon Series

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22:36-39

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.” John 10:14-15

Jesus wept. John 11:35

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Psalm 19:7-10

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-35

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:4-5

“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” John 17:3

“Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.” John 17:24

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

1. Describe a time in your life when the knowledge or experience of God's presence made you immensely grateful.
2. Read through the song of thanksgiving in I Chronicles 16. What sticks out to you about who God is or what He has done that makes you thankful to Him?
3. What practices help you or could help you maintain an awareness of God's presence when you feel weak, overwhelmed, discouraged, or alone?

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# Announcements

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## Thanksgiving Feast after Service

Whether you came planning to or not, please stay with us following the service for a Thanksgiving meal together. Food will be served in the Connecting Spaces and hallways, and tables are set for you in the adult classrooms. You are also welcome to eat outside, if you prefer!

## Hark the Herald Southwood Sings!

Invite friends and join us at 6pm, Sunday, December 8, for this musical Christmas celebration for the whole family.

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

Join us on Christmas Eve at 6pm for our traditional candlelight service with the Lord's Supper. Nursery provided.

## Connect Hour Schedule (all ages)

Sun, Dec 1: No Connect Hour  
Sun, Dec 8: Connect Hour  
Sun, Dec 15: Connect Hour  
Sun, Dec 22: Christmas Fellowship  
Sun, Dec 29: No Connect Hour

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## This Week @ Southwood Sunday, November 24

8:45am – Prayer Gathering  
9:30am – Worship Service  
11:00am – Thanksgiving Feast  
7:00pm – Jr. High Boys Night  
7:00pm – NO Sr. High-Life

**Wed - Fri, November 27-29**  
Office Closed

**Thursday, November 28**  
Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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## Deacon/Finance Update

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

Oct-Dec Budget Need: \$1,117,132  
Quarterly Giving To Date: \$323,809

**Last Week's Giving**  
\$30,194



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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## Core Commitments

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

Pray that Holy Spirit will make us mindful of our vows to support Southwood's newest covenant children and their families.

Ask for a renewed sense of our own desperate need that would make us more grateful for and eager to extend grace.

Pray that we will be bold and gracious with opportunities to speak of Jesus to unbelieving family and friends during the upcoming holidays.

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## Specific Needs

Pray for Adriana Clark as she recovers from foot surgery earlier this week.

Pray for our new members being received Sunday to connect quickly and deeply in the Southwood Family.

Pray for our Thanksgiving service and feast on Sunday to be a time of encouragement, gratitude, and growing relationships.

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## Missions Partner Requests

### Second Mile Development

*This ministry serves Huntsville's Terry Heights and Hillandale neighbors by providing several programs: The 29:11 Story, Pride for Parents (including the Neighborhood Store and the Baby Thrift Store), Second Mile Preschool, and Parent Initiative. This month, Southwood will collect toys for Santa's Secret Shop. You can support Second Mile by praying for these requests.*

Pray that we would receive funding to help underwrite the Second Mile Preschool.

Ask God to ease the struggles that many of our Second Mile Preschool families face each day.

Please pray for one young lady in The 29:11 Story program who is struggling in her home life.

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## Senior Member

**Sandy Newby**

2816 Briarwood Dr.  
Huntsville, AL 35801

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## Expectant Mothers

**Sarah Riley** — Feb 2025

**Lydia Moore** — Feb 2025

**Amy Dobrowsky** — May 2025

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



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to let us know you're  
here.

Experience & Express  
*Grace*