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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 30, 2025**  
**8:45 AM** Prayer Gathering  
**9:30 AM** Worship Service  
**11:00 AM** No 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.

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

## MEDITATION

“The power of the gospel creates something altogether different in the world today. It creates churches that, to borrow from John Piper, are God-exalting, Christ-admiring, Spirit-filled, Bible-enjoying, grace-preaching, convenience-defying, cross-embracing, risk-taking, selfishness-crucifying, gossip-silencing, prayer-saturated, future-thinking, outward-reaching, and beautifully human congregations where the undeserving can thrive. Only God can build this new kind of community. But when he does, it cannot be ignored.”

Ray Ortlund, *The Gospel*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**LEADER:** When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

**PEOPLE:** *And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.*

**LEADER:** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**ALL:** *O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

-from Luke 2

## Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- **Will Spink** Senior Pastor
- **Derrick Harris** Associate Pastor
- **Luke and Anna Nichols** Advent Reading
- **Kelli Johnson** Announcements
- **DJ Baptiste** Director, Music Ministry
- **Newt Johnson** Piano
- **Nick Walker** Bass Guitar
- **Ron Poteat** Electric Guitar
- **Chandler McCoy** Drums
- **Andrea Balogun** Vocals
- **Angela Baptiste** Vocals
- **Jarrett Kaempfer** Audio
- **Leslie Ellis** Livestream
- **Jonathan Ellis** Slides

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# Worship Service

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

## SONGS

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

## PRAYER OF PRAISE

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

## OLD TESTAMENT ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

Micah 5:2-5

## 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

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:10-11

## SONG

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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# Worship Service

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

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERTORY SONG

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

### PREACHING OF THE WORD

Matthew 1:1-17

"Written Off or Written In?"

### SONG OF RESPONSE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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 next Sunday, December 7.

**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

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## Sermon Notes

1. God's Christmas Story features \_\_\_\_\_.

2. God's Christmas Story includes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

3. God's Christmas Story focuses on \_\_\_\_\_.

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

1. When in your life have you felt that perhaps you had been written off by God (forgotten in your pain or condemned in your failure)?
2. Which person in the genealogy of Jesus do you most relate to and why? What hope does it give to your story if you are written into God's great story?
3. Who may be feeling written off by God or by you that you could reach out to this Christmas season in word or deed to write in to your story?

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# Announcements

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## Upcoming Connect Hour Schedule

Today: No Connect Hour

Sun, Dec 7: Christmas Class & Grace Group Leader Training

Sun, Dec 14: Christmas Discussion

Sun, Dec 21: Christmas Party

Sun, Dec 28: No Connect Hour

## Christmas Carols and Cookies

Join us at 6pm next Sunday, Dec 7, for this musical Christmas celebration for the whole family. Invite friends!

## Global Christmas Greetings

This Christmas, bless our international mission partners with global greetings, a card or note of encouragement. Names and addresses are available 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 next Sunday, December 7. Let's share the joy of Christ across the globe!

## Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Families with young children (nursery to PreK4) are invited to our Happy Birthday Jesus party Saturday, December 6, 10am to 12pm, near the big tree in the Connecting Spaces. We'll enjoy a very special storytime, kid-friendly crafts, festive songs, and light snacks. Friends and older siblings welcome! RSVP by Dec 2 to [kids@southwood.org](mailto:kids@southwood.org).

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

Join us on Christmas Eve at 6pm for our traditional candlelight service with the Lord's Supper. Nursery provided (ages 0-3).

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## This Week @ Southwood

### Sunday, November 30

8:45am – Prayer Gathering

9:30am – Worship Service

11:00am – No Connect Hour (all ages)

7:00pm – Sr. High-Life

### Wednesday, December 3

6:00pm – Kids Club

6:00pm – Jr. High-Life

### Thursday, December 4

10:00am – Women's Grace Groups

### Saturday, December 6

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](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 Goal: \$1,182,675

Oct-Dec Giving to Date: \$352,885

## Last Week's Giving

\$85,015



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 Commitment

We strive to love the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out. Pray that we will be bold and gracious with opportunities to speak of Jesus to unbelieving family and friends during the upcoming holidays.

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

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

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## Specific Needs

Praise God for the birth of Rafael Scott Duarte to Steven and Myra last week.

Pray for Vicki Richardson as she recovers at home from hip replacement surgery.

Pray for hearts of thanksgiving to God for who He is and all He has done for us, as well as for opportunities to share of our thanks to God during this season.

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## Missions Partner Requests

### Downtown Rescue Mission

The Downtown Rescue Mission serves the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out, meeting people where they are. More than a homeless shelter, DRM provides meals, emergency services, medical care, and hope through faith-based programs. Men and women receive practical help and encouragement as they rebuild their lives, discover God's love, restore relationships, and reconnect with society. Through Christ-centered programs, DRM helps individuals overcome hunger, homelessness, addiction, and abuse, pointing them to the hope found in Jesus Christ.

Please join us in praying for the Mission. Pray for volunteers and meals for those in need this holiday season. Pray that the lost and left-out would find comfort in our Savior and that the peace and hope of Jesus Christ would be clearly seen and received by those searching.

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## Senior Member

### Marie Hill

1314 Clinton Ave  
Huntsville, AL 35801

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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

**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 Presbyterian Church  
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Huntsville, Alabama 35802

(256) 882-3085

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



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

Experience & Express  
*Grace*