

Briarwood

Presbyterian Church, PCA



For God's glory

We are committed to equipping
Christians to worship God
and to reach Birmingham
to reach the world for Christ



Celebration of Worship

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP - May 3, 2020

Worship Leaders

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacher

Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor

Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. Acts 2:44

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 44:8

[All:] In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to
Your name forever.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

Creator and Redeemer God, Author of all existence, Source of all blessedness, I adore You for making me capable of knowing You, for giving me reason and conscience, for leading me to desire You; I praise You for the revelation of Yourself in the gospel, for Your heart as a dwelling place of pity, for Your thoughts of peace towards me, for Your patience and Your graciousness, for the vastness of Your mercy. You have moved my conscience to know how the guilty can be pardoned, the unholy sanctified, the poor enriched. May I be always among those who not only hear but know You, who walk with and rejoice in You, who take You at Your Word and find life there.

adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

The Greeting of Grace and Peace

The Hymn of Ascents

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Hymn 2

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise His name—I'm fixed upon it—Name of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me; Thou hast brought me to this place;
And I know Thy hand will bring me Safely home by Thy good grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts above.

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

I call upon the LORD, Who is worthy to be praised... Psalm 18:3

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD! Psalm 150:6

The Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. II Corinthians 9:7

The Musical Offering of Worship

"Is He Worthy?" (Peterson)

*Do you feel the world is broken? (We do.) Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do.)
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? (We do.)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do.)*

*Is all creation groaning? (It is.) Is a new creation coming? (It is.)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is.)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is.)*

[Chorus]:

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is!*

*Does the Father truly love us? (He does.) Does the Spirit move among us? (He does.)
And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (He does.)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does.)*

(Chorus)

*From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God To reign with the Son.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!*

The Confession of Truth

Isaiah 43:1-2

[Leader:] *But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you,
O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine.*

[All:] **When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.**

[Leader:] *The Word of the Lord.*

[All:] **Thanks be to God!**

The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

"Blessed Assurance" Hymn 345 • "Great Are You, Lord"

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine; Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

[Chorus]:

*This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Chorus)*

*Perfect submission—all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.
(Chorus x 2)*

[Solo]:

You give life, You are love; You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope; You restore Every heart that is broken.

Great are You, Lord.

[All:]

You give life, You are love. You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope; You restore Every heart that is broken.

Great are You, Lord.

[Chorus]:

It's Your breath in our lungs, So we pour out our praise,

We pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs,

So we pour out our praise to You only.

And all the earth will shout Your praise;

Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,

Great are You, Lord! (Repeat) (Chorus)

Great are You, Lord!

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me Your statutes! Psalm 119:12

The Prayer of Illumination

The Old Testament Reading

Daniel 3

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

VI. Crisis and the Christian in Biblical Perspective

“The Answer to Crisis is in the Fiery Furnace”

Daniel 3

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*...that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:6*

The Pastoral Benediction

The Congregational Affirmation

“The Doxology with Alleluias”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Postlude

Both Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM, and are also available online at briarwood.org/livetv. Watch the recording anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv.

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Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version.

EVENING SERVICE – 6:00 P.M.

“Conversations on this Present Distress with Harry & Bruce”

available online at briarwood.org/livetv and on Facebook, Roku and AppleTV.

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! Psalm 47:6,7*

Pray for God to open our eyes to those we can serve in His Name during this time. Please also pray the virus will stop its spread throughout the world very soon and that God would be glorified. Pray that all peoples will hear His Word and receive His son, Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Please be in prayer for our ministries with outreach to Native Americans, specifically Chris and Mary Granberry serving with Sacred Road Ministries in WA, Todd and Cindy Sproull serving the Lummi Nation in WA through MTW, and Norman and Julie Beck serving the Cherokee Nation through MTW in NC. Native Americans are at a higher risk of contracting the coronavirus due to limited resources available to the healthcare systems that provide services for them. Please pray for health and for new ministry opportunities for the Granberrys, Sproulls, and Becks as internet access is very limited and summer mission trips have either been cancelled or put on hold.

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Briarwood continues providing online streaming of all our services. This includes our Sunday morning worship at 8:00 and 10:55 a.m. as well as *Conversations on this Present Distress with Harry and Bruce* at 6:00 p.m. Watch live services at briarwood.org/livetv, on the Briarwood App, Facebook, Roku, and AppleTV. Recorded services may be seen at briarwood.org/archivetv, on the Briarwood App, Facebook and Vimeo. As always, both morning worship services are available live on WLJR, 88.5-FM.

There are currently several opportunities available for community outreach. Briarwood's Disaster Relief Fund remains open; our ongoing Food Drive continues; you can volunteer to help feed the needy with Christian Service Mission; you may also make a donation to Christian Service Ministry or Samaritan's Purse. Find details on these and all current outreach opportunities by going to briarwood.org/covid19outreach.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Betty Hull, Brian O'Brien, Jerry Satterwhite, Jo Anne Tyler

We rejoice with Harrison and Catherine Goodwin on the birth of their son, Norman Harrison III, on Apr. 20, and with grandparents Jimmy and Beth Jordan.

Our love and sympathy to Julie, Emily, Lauren Edwards and family on the death of their father and grandfather, John M. Crutcher, on Apr. 23; to Dorel Elliott and family on the death of her sister, Lois Parry, on Apr. 25; and to Sharon Henderson, Lisa Bice, David, Scott, Nathan Myers and family on the death of their husband, father and grandfather, member Louis Henderson, on Apr. 26; and to Ray Bronner and family on the death of his brother, Edward Bronner, on Apr. 28.

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7

Join us for a special prayer service streamed live at noon.



The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7. Under normal circumstances we have a special service in the Chapel, but this year we are streaming a special 40-minute prayer service at 12:00 p.m. This noon prayer service will feature a brief welcome and devotional by Pastor Reeder, followed by several seasons of prayers led by four of our pastors. These seasons of prayer will last approximately two to three minutes each and will be followed by a hymn for personal prayer. The seasons will cover prayers for our National, State, and Local leaders as well as prayers for the Church in America and the Corona virus pandemic. Our National Day of Prayer video stream is tailored to assist the Briarwood family in praying “corporately,” no matter where any of us happen to be—in our homes or over lunch breaks in offices. If you miss the noon live stream, that’s no problem, the service will be simulcast on all our media platforms as well as archived on the Briarwood website.

Listen to Pastor Reeder’s Daily Programs

In Perspective (M–F, Sunday; 30-minute expositional study)

Today In Perspective (M–F; 10-minute look at current news)

Fresh Bread (M–F; 5-minute devotional)

The easiest way to hear these is by downloading the Briarwood App. It’s free and in all App Stores by searching “briarwoodpca.”

They also are on WLJR-FM 88.5. Go to briarwood.org/wljr to see the program schedule.

Hear them online anytime at briarwood.org/inperspective.

Find them on iTunes by searching “In Perspective podcast.”