Well, “by George, we did it” and as Lee Greenwood would sing, “I’m proud to be an American.” A few months ago, our leaders asked us to stay at home in order to flatten a curve on an IHME data chart to get ahead of something called the coronavirus. Most of us had never heard of an IHME chart and most of the medical community was not familiar with nor still fully understands the coronavirus. But our country trusted, stayed at home, and successfully flattened the line on the graph. Because of our cooperation many lives were saved.

At Briarwood, from March 15th to the end of May, 2,796 scheduled room activities have been impacted yet you have patiently continued to trust and cooperate prudently and faithfully. Praise the Lord that after eight weeks of “scattered” worship He allowed us to begin “gathered” worship this past Sunday! Our re-opening began with three in-person worship services and two children’s worship gatherings for approximately 900 adults and children.

Thank you for your cooperation. It was evident that you had prepared your children and they did a fantastic job of social distancing in Children’s Worship. On behalf of our children’s ministry team, thank you very much. Also, your efficiency in exiting allowed us to clean the Worship Center after each of the first two services prior to the next group arriving.

For this Sunday, we have evaluated our plan and made a few minor adjustments and look forward to worshipping together again. Please remember that If you are high risk or living with someone high risk, we miss you but support your decision to stay away from large gatherings at this time.

Grateful for His Sovereignty,
Matt Moore, Church Administrator
Pastor Reeder and Bruce Stallings answer questions submitted to askthepastor@briarwood.org

Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.

Available on briarwood.org, Facebook, Roku, AppleTV and the Briarwood App.
The month of May is the time during which nominations are accepted for officer candidates (deacons and elders) for the class of 2023. It is a very important duty that we have as members and leaders to nominate quality men for these offices. The Bible calls the members of the church to “select from among themselves” those leaders whom God has called, gifted, and affirmed. Therefore, each year the Briarwood membership and existing leadership engages in this process of nomination, training, examination, election, ordination and installation.

We would ask that you pray diligently and thoughtfully in consideration of names of men that you know who meet the criteria for officers laid out in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1. The primary qualification for Elders and Deacons is to be “above reproach.” Being “above reproach” obviously does not require sinless perfection, but a demonstrated obedience in all areas of life.

Please read the brochure posted on the Briarwood website at briarwood.org/nominations and then submit qualified names using the online form at briarwood.org/nominations or by sending email to lreese@briarwood.org. We must have your nominations by May 31.
MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP - May 24, 2020

Worship Leaders
Dr. Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacher
Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor
Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor
Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist
Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE
“I will tell of Your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation
I will sing Your praise.” Hebrews 2:12

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms
Psalm 46:11
[All:] The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession
“Let Us with a Gladsome Mind” (arr. Travis)
Eternal God, in Whom we live and move and have our being, Whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and Whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults, confiding in Your grace, and finding in You our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ Your Son. from The Book of Common Worship

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents
“By Faith” (Getty/Townend)
By faith we see the hand of God In the light of creation’s grand design,
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth With the power of His promise in their hearts,
Of a holy city built by God’s own hand A place where peace and justice reign.

(Chorus)
We will stand as children of the promise;
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul’s reward;
Till the race is finished And the work is done,
We’ll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day When the longed-for Messiah would appear.
With the power to break the chains of sin and death,
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go In the power of the Spirit to the lost;
To deliver captives and to preach good news in every corner of the earth. (Chorus)
By faith this mountain shall be moved And the power of the Gospel shall prevail,
For we know in Christ all things are possible — For all who call upon His name.
(Chorus x 2)

For I believe in the name of Jesus, For I believe in the name of Jesus.

I will sing Your praise.” Hebrews 2:12

The PeTiTioning of god’s Providence

I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son.
Our Judge and our Defender, Suffered and crucified.
I believe in the resurrection, That we will rise again.
Our God is three in one.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the saints’ communion, And in Your holy Church.
I believe in the resurrection When Jesus comes again.
I believe in life eternal, I believe in the virgin birth.
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord.
I believe in the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

*universal

Proverbs 3:9–10
(Proverbs 3:9–10)

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
God eternal, humbled to the grave Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign. (Chorus)

The Exposition of God’s Word

The Doxology with Alleluias
(Chorus x 2)

Worship Leaders

The Presenting and Consecration of God’s Tithe 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.

The Congregational Affirmation

*The Pastoral Benediction

The Postlude

THE LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

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

Facebook, Roku and AppleTV

Evening Service – 6:00 p.M.

Conversations with Harry and Bruce”

Both Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM, and are also available online at briarwood.org/livetv and on
The Petitioning of God's Providence
They will call upon My name, and I will answer them. Zechariah 13:9

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

The Adoration of God's Glory
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. Isaiah 12:6

The Presentation and Consecration of God’s Tithe 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. Proverbs 3:9–10

The Musical Offering of Worship
“This I Believe (The Creed)” (Fielding/Crocker)
Our Father everlasting, The all creating One, God Almighty.
Through Your Holy Spirit, Conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

[Chorus:]
I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son. I believe in the Holy Spirit. Our God is three in one. I believe in the resurrection, That we will rise again. For I believe in the name of Jesus.

Our Judge and our Defender, Suffered and crucified. Forgiveness is in You. Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life. Forever seated high. (Chorus)

I believe in You. I believe You rose again. I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord. I believe in life eternal, I believe in the virgin birth. I believe in the saints’ communion, And in Your holy Church. I believe in the resurrection When Jesus comes again. For I believe in the name of Jesus, For I believe in the name of Jesus.

The Trinitarian Apostles’ Creed

[Leader:] Christian, what do you believe concerning God the Father?
[All:] I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

[Leader:] Christian, what do you believe concerning Christ the Son?
[All:] I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

[Leader:] Christian, what do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?
[All:] I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” Hymn 410 v. 1 • “Behold Our God”
My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away, O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!
Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice All creation rises to rejoice.

[Chorus:]
Behold our God, seated on His throne Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King—nothing can compare Come, let us adore Him.

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? (Chorus)

Who has felt the nails upon His hands? Bearing all the guilt of sinful man;
God eternal, humbled to the grave Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign. (Chorus)

[Men:] You will reign forever.
[Women:] Let Your glory fill the earth. (x 4) (Chorus x 2)

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16

*The Prayer of Illumination

*The New Testament Reading Ephesians 2:1–10

The Exposition of God’s Word Pastor Reeder
II. The Apostles’ Creed in Biblical Perspective
“I Believe...”
“Saving Faith”
Ephesians 2:1–10

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD’S PEOPLE

And now I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace... Acts 20:32a

*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 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” (Dykes)

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

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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EVENING SERVICE – 6:00 P.M.

“Conversations with Harry and Bruce”
available online at briarwood.org/livetv and on Facebook, Roku and AppleTV

Watch all services anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv and on Facebook and Vimeo.