

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 – July 5, 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

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation... Psalm 40:9

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 147:1

**[All:] Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Be Thou My Vision” (arr. Hull)

Chris Neugent, clarinet

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father, I confess and acknowledge that I am a sinner and guilty of treason against Your Holy Law, that I was conceived in sin and prone to do evil and that I have both offended You and rebelled against You. I have left undone those things I ought to have done, and have done those things which I ought not to have done. I am unable to save myself, O Lord, and acknowledge that salvation is of Your grace and mercy, so may you receive all the praise as is due Your holy name. For from You and unto You are all things; so unto You be glory forevermore. Amen.

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents

“God of Our Fathers” Hymn 573

God of our fathers, Whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past,
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide, and Stay,
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever-sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine!

***The Confession of Truth**

Psalm 2:7–8, 10–11

[Leader:] *I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten you.*

[All:] **Ask of Me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.**

[Leader:] *Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.*

[All:] **Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.**

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

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

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

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. Proverbs 3:9–10

The Musical Offering of Worship

"My Country, 'tis of Thee" (Smith)

Ben Lashley, soloist

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, thy name I love:
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song:
Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, to Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, great God, our King!

***The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs**

"America, the Beautiful" (Bates/Ward)

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

...but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:2

***The Prayer of Illumination**

***The Old Testament Reading**

Proverbs 14:34

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

Christianity in America in Biblical Perspective
"God's Word to the Nation"
Proverbs 14:34

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The LORD bless you and keep you... Numbers 6:24

***The Pastoral Benediction**

***The Congregational Affirmation**

"God Bless America" (Berlin)

God bless America, land that I love.

Stand beside her and guide her Through the night with the light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies, To the oceans white with foam,

God bless America, my home sweet home; God bless America, my home sweet home!

***The Postlude**

"Fanfare for the Common Man" (Copland)

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The 8:00 and 10:55 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.

"Christianity in America"

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

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

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the LORD! *If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* II Chronicles 7:14

Please be in prayer and thank God for our United States of America. Pray for her people to be united through the power of the Holy Spirit for this generation and those to come.

Please pray for the city of Fairfield and other cities that are similar across America this upcoming weekend. There is usually an increase in violence over the summer months and Independence Day always seems to ignite disruption and violence. Also, please continue to pray for racial healing across our country. There are many people who are hurting. Pray for peace and the Lord to draw people to Himself during this time. *(The flag of the City of Birmingham is displayed in today's worship service.)*

“Continue steadfastly in prayer...” Colossians 4:2a

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Briarwood continues to provide streaming online of our Sunday morning worship at 8:00 and 10:55 a.m. Both morning worship services are available on WLJR-FM 88.5, and you can watch live services at briarwood.org/livety, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook, Roku, and AppleTV. Recorded services may be seen online at briarwood.org/archivety, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

Submit your questions for *Conversations with Harry and Bruce* by email to askthepastor@briarwood.org. Then watch Sunday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m. when the program resumes online at briarwood.org/livety, on Facebook, Roku, AppleTV and the BriarwoodPCA App. This Sunday's program is replaced with a special presentation of the *Christianity in America Service of Celebration and Consecration*. See the next panel for details on this video event and ways to watch.

The Briarwood Fellows Ministry is looking for host homes for the incoming class of fellows. If this something you would prayerfully consider, please contact Seth Richardson at seth@briarwoodfellows.org or call 205.527. 2411.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Betty Hull, Joseph Key, Barbara Kent, Roz Merrell, Brian O'Brien, Anne Stowe

We rejoice with Mark and Abby Jessup on the birth of their son, William Granger, on June 26 and with grandparents John and Wendy Jessup and Kelly and Debbie Little.

Our love and sympathy to Carol Hendrickson and family on the death of her father, Claude Hendrickson, on June 27.



CHRISTIANITY
in
AMERICA
2020

Join us online this Sunday, July 5 at 6:00 p.m. for the *Christianity in America Service of Celebration and Consecration*—a professionally-produced video presentation you won’t want to miss. It features music from soloists, our Choir and Orchestra, recognition of and personal testimonies from our own veterans, and a message from Pastor Reeder. Watch this live on the website at briarwood.org/livetelevision, and on Facebook, Roku, AppleTV or the BriarwoodPCA App. If you miss the live event, you can watch it anytime after the fact at briarwood.org/archivetelevision or on Vimeo, Facebook, or the app.

See below the order for the program. And be sure to share it with your friends and family!

Christianity in America Service of Celebration and Consecration

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Pastor Reeder

“God of Our Fathers” – Sanctuary Choir and Festival Orchestra

“The Star Spangled Banner” – Haley Houston and Festival Orchestra

“My Country, ‘tis of Thee” – Vocal Ensemble and Festival Orchestra
Presentation of the Flags

“The Armed Forces Medley” – U.S. Marine Band

With recognition of Briarwood Veterans and Active Duty Military

Pastoral Prayer – Pastor Reeder

Personal Testimonies – Briarwood Veterans

“America, the Beautiful” – Sanctuary Choir and Festival Orchestra

Biblical Exposition from Psalm 16 – Pastor Reeder

“God Bless America” – Ben Lashley and Festival Orchestra

Benediction – Pastor Reeder