

THE BRIARWOOD WEEKLY

• JULY 24, 2020 •

*Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor,
especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.*

1 Timothy 5:17

The Psalmist embraces the Providence of our Lord and declares in the 16th Psalm that *the lines have fallen for me in pleasant places*. Significant blessings and fruit of His Providence in our lives are revealed in the shepherd that He places over us to *labor in preaching and teaching*. We are blessed and grateful to our Lord to have a Pastor who labors in prayer, labors in the Scriptures, labors in preparation and labors in faithful preaching and teaching of God's Word.

May we in our gratefulness and desire to be good stewards of the preaching of the Word in our lives labor with equal diligence in preparation to receive God's Word, in prayer for our Pastor Teacher and in intentional application of the Word preached to us. For we labor to *be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1)*

Let's specifically labor in prayer in the coming weeks for our Pastor while he is on his annual three-week study sabbatical preparing for the fall preaching schedule and planning for the coming year. While he is away the next two Sundays we will have the opportunity to benefit from the preaching of six from our staff. Each of the next two Sundays, July 26 and August 2 a different staff person will preach in each of the three services. May God bless their preparation and use their labor in our lives for His Glory!

The Briarwood Staff Team



Briarwood
Presbyterian Church, PCA

2200 Briarwood Way
Birmingham, AL 35243
205.776.5200 • info@briarwood.org
briarwood.org

CONVERSATIONS

WITH HARRY AND BRUCE

Pastor Reeder and Bruce Stallings
answer questions submitted to
askthepastor@briarwood.org
this Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.

Available on briarwood.org, Facebook,
Roku, AppleTV and the Briarwood App.



“He Descended Into Hell” was the title of the Sunday, July 19 morning message, the ninth in our series on *The Apostles' Creed in Biblical Perspective*. The inclusion of this phrase in the Creed is critical, not only in understanding what our Lord experienced on His way to the Father's Throne, but in what we as believers can look forward to in our own passing. This is not only comforting to us personally, but allows us to help others understand what their loved ones are experiencing when they've passed away. Quite simply, this message is fundamental to anyone who trusts Christ as their Lord and Savior. You can hear it now online at briarwood.org/sermons, and on the BriarwoodPCA App. You can watch it now at briarwood.org/sermonvideo as well as on the Briarwood YouTube channel.

DESIGNATED GIFTS POLICY

Briarwood Presbyterian Church has established a mercy fund to assist people in financial need. From time to time, the Mercy Committee may set aside certain amounts out of the general mercy fund to meet a particular mercy need. While Briarwood welcomes contributions to the general mercy fund, it has established certain policies regarding contributions in order to assure that donations are made for the tax exempt purposes—that is, to assure that the gifts are to or for the benefit of a charitable organization and not a specified individual. We appreciate your respecting the policies below:

1. Directions regarding donations to a specific individual are advisory rather than mandatory. That is, the administration and disbursement of all mercy funds are subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Mercy Committee and specific designations may not be followed. Donations should not be made if you do not agree that they will be subject to the discretion of the church officers designated above.
2. Amounts set aside for a particular mercy need by the Mercy Committee have a limited duration. Any budget remaining at the end of the year will revert to the general mercy fund.



Celebration of Worship

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – July 26, 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

For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. Acts 11:26

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 143:8

[All:] Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust.
Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Prayer Medley” (arr. Cason)

O God of grace, You have imputed my sin to my substitute, and have imputed His righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, decking me with jewels of holiness. But in my Christian walk I am still in rags; my best prayers are stained with sin; my penitential tears are so much impurity; my confessions of wrong are so many aggravations of sin; my receiving the Spirit is tainted with selfishness. I am always going into the far country, and always returning home as a prodigal, always saying, Father, forgive me, and You are always bringing forth the best robe. Grant me to never lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace.

adapted from The Valley of Vision

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents

“God of Grace and God of Glory” Hymn 292

God of grace and God of glory, On thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient Church's story, Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage, For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us, Scorn Thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness; Bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places, Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces In the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage, That we fail not man nor Thee,
That we fail not man nor Thee.

***The Confession of Truth**

Ephesians 2:4-9

[Leader:] *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—*

[All:] **by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,**

[Leader:] *so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

[All:] **For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**

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

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

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

...I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for all people... I Timothy 2:1

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation! Psalm 95:1

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

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:7

The Musical Offering of Worship

"Jesus, Only Jesus"

Who has the power to raise the dead? Who can save us from our sin?

He is our hope, our righteousness: Jesus, only Jesus.

Who can make the blind to see? Who holds the keys that set us free?

He paid it all to bring us peace: Jesus, only Jesus.

[Refrain:]

Holy King, Almighty Lord. Saints and angels all adore;

I join with them and bow before Jesus, only Jesus.

Who can command the highest praise? Who has the Name above all names?

You stand alone, I stand amazed: Jesus, only Jesus. (Refrain)

You will command the highest praise. Yours is the name above all names.

You stand alone, I stand amazed: Jesus, only Jesus; Jesus, only Jesus.

Jesus, only Jesus; Jesus, only Jesus.

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

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now I'm found, Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

[Chorus:]

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood His mercy reigns; Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures. (Chorus)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine;
will be forever mine, You are forever mine.

Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within,
Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin!

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**

Titus 2:11-14; Galatians 2:15-21

The Exposition of God's Word

“The Grace of God”

Titus 2:11-14; Galatians 2:15-21

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:3

***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**

“*Rondeau*” (Mouret)

* 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.

Texts used with permission granted through CCLI License agreement 124545.

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

EVENING SERVICE – 6:00 P.M.

“*Conversations with Harry and Bruce*”

available online at briarwood.org/livetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App