

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 – August 23, 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

*Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him
in the assembly of the elders. Psalm 107:32*

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 47:5-7

[All:] **Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!"**

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

"Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (Weissel)

Gracious Heavenly Father, we acknowledge this day that You are the Giver of every good and perfect gift, and the Sustainer of our lives. We humbly come before You, recognizing the presence of sin in our hearts, and knowing that You have graciously given Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to pay the price and bear the penalty for our sin. We confess our sin before You now, and gratefully accept Your full and complete pardon. Free us to worship You now in Spirit and Truth, with joy and celebration, and tune our hearts and fit our lives to live to the praise of Your glory and the advancement of Your Kingdom.

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

***The Greeting of Grace and Peace**

***The Hymn of Ascents**

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" Hymn 233

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne;

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone;

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood;

"Jesus, out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us, Faith believes, nor questions how:

Though the clouds from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er,

Shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore?"

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, You on earth our food and stay!

Alleluia! here the sinful Flee to You from day to day;

Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea. Amen.

[Leader:] *In what does Christ's exaltation consist?*

[All:] Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day; in ascending into heaven; in sitting at the right hand of God the Father; and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. James 5:16b

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

...addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart... Ephesians 5:19

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

"Arise, My Soul, Arise"

Arise, my soul, arise. Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice on my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands,
Before the throne my Surety stands;
My name is written on His hands.

[Chorus:]

[Men:] Arise, Arise, Arise, [Women:] Arise, Arise,
[All:] Arise, my soul, arise.

[Men:] Arise, Arise, Arise, [Women:] Arise, Arise,
[All:] Arise, my soul, arise; Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

He ever lives above for me to intercede,
His all redeeming love, His precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. (Chorus)

Five bleeding wounds He bears, Received on Calvary.
They pour effectual prayers; They strongly plead for me.
"Forgive him, oh, forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, oh, forgive," they cry,
"Don't let that ransomed sinner die!" (Chorus)

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear.
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh, With confidence I now draw nigh,
And, "Father, Abba, Father!" cry. (Chorus)

*The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

"Be Unto Your Name" • "Behold Our God"

We are a moment, You are forever, Lord of the ages, God before time;
We are a vapor, You are eternal, Love everlasting, reigning on high.

[Refrain:] Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain;
Highest praises, honor and glory Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the Healer, Jesus, Redeemer, mighty to save;
You are the love song We'll sing forever, Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

(Refrain x2)

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)

[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 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 x2)

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

...for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Acts 20:27

***The Prayer of Illumination**

***The New Testament Reading**

Ephesians 4:7-10

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

XII. The Apostles' Creed in Biblical Perspective

"I Believe..."

"And Sits at the Right Hand of God, the Father Almighty"

Ephesians 4:7-10

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**

"Jesus Shall Reign" Hymn 231 vv.1, 4

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does His successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring His grateful honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

The Postlude

"Psalm 19" (Marcello)

* 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.

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! My son, do not forget My teaching, but let your hearts keep My commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.
Proverbs 3:1

Please be in prayer that God's people will, trust in the Lord with all their hearts and lean not unto their own understanding, in all their ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight their paths.

Pray for Briarwood supported missionaries serving in college campus ministry through CO SERVE in Brazil: Pedro and Priscilla Albuquerque; Wellington Alves, Demps and Kristy Dempsey; Jon and Tati Elam; Grace Hanson; James and Grace Pineda; Melanie Rogers; Nathalia Santos; and Fabiana and Diego Silva. Pray also for Ed and Silvia Emsheimer who are tribal church planters. Brazil has been impacted significantly with the COVID-19 virus experiencing over three million cases and 100,000 deaths. (*The flag of Brazil is featured 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/livetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook, Roku, and AppleTV. Recorded services may be seen online at briarwood.org/archivetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

Here's an important message! We are resuming Infant Baptisms in the three morning services beginning mid-September. Contact Marie Gathings for available dates at 205-776-5204 or by email at mgathings@briarwood.org. Also if you are interested in a "New Believer" baptism, contact Wendy Long in the Membership Office at 205-776-5208.

Several Briarwood ministries currently have job opportunities, both full and part-time, available. See the listing with details on the positions as well as how to apply at briarwood.org/employment.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Hadden Smith, Ed Travis

Our love and sympathy to Pam Alexander and family on the death of her mother, Nina Stinson, on Aug. 12; to Martha Burris and family on the death of her son-in-law, Trip Malouf, on Aug. 16; and to Mike, John Paul and James Michael Tedesco and family on the death of their brother and uncle, Victor Emmanuel Tedesco III, on Aug. 17.

Announcements

Forgiven and Set Free—Free, confidential, and caring small group Bible study for post-abortive women will begin in early Sept. with social distancing practiced. Contact Heather Payne at 205-578-2022.

Ladies let's gather in person for our Women's Fall Kick-Off on Fri., Aug. 28 at 6:30–8:30 p.m. in the Worship Center. For more details and to register your attendance go to briarwood.org/women. No nursery available.

Financial Peace University—Planning for the future is hard when you're still paying for the past. There's a better way! Join the Financial Peace University class, and learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future...together! The Zoom class begins September 8. Contact dmatthews@briarwood.org.

BTS Fall Semester—Beginning this fall, BTS is ready to offer the opportunity to learn together—in person, as well as remotely for those who would prefer. Classes will be offered on the Westminster Confession of Faith, New Testament Covenant Theology, Apologetics, Systematic Theology, Counseling in the Local Church (by video conference), and more! To see the details and to look into enrollment, go to bts.education.

Community Food Drive—The Briarwood Community Food Drive continues, and the Mercy Ministry and Christian Service Mission is most grateful for your support since last spring. The need still exists, so please continue to bring non-perishable foods to the marked trailer now located in Parking Lot B during these hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., and Sundays 7:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Friendship Partners is a wonderful way to welcome the international students and scholars in Birmingham! Please consider becoming a friend to our Internationals this Fall! Orientation will be in September. For more information, email Caroline Brown at cbrown@briarwood.org.

Nursery reopens this Sun., Aug. 23 for classes assigned to the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services by reservation only, at least 24 hours before your assigned service. Visit our website at briarwood.org/nursery for all necessary information on registration, our Nursery Protocols, and Sunday morning arrival.

Children's Worship—We have added a third Children's Worship for the 8:00 a.m. service. Please visit our website at briarwood.org/children for more information. And please continue to help us on Sunday mornings during drop-off and pick-up, being extra diligent to practice social distancing in the Children's area.

Raiders/BYG Wednesday Nights will begin meeting Aug. 26 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. In order for students to participate, parents/guardians of all 7th–12th graders must sign fall waiver at briarwood.org/youth.

Raiders/BYG D-groups—Our small group Bible studies for 7th–12th graders start Sun., Sept. 13. All students must register online to be in a D-group at briarwood.org/youth.

Be sure to submit your questions for *Conversations with Harry and Bruce* by email to askthepastor@briarwood.org. Then watch the program online Sundays at 6:00 p.m. at briarwood.org/livetyv, on Facebook, Roku, AppleTV and the BriarwoodPCA App. See program archives anytime at briarwood.org/conversations, the Briarwood PCA App, on Facebook, Vimeo, Roku and AppleTV. Read Pastor Reeder's latest Pastoral Letter at briarwood.org/pastorsblog.