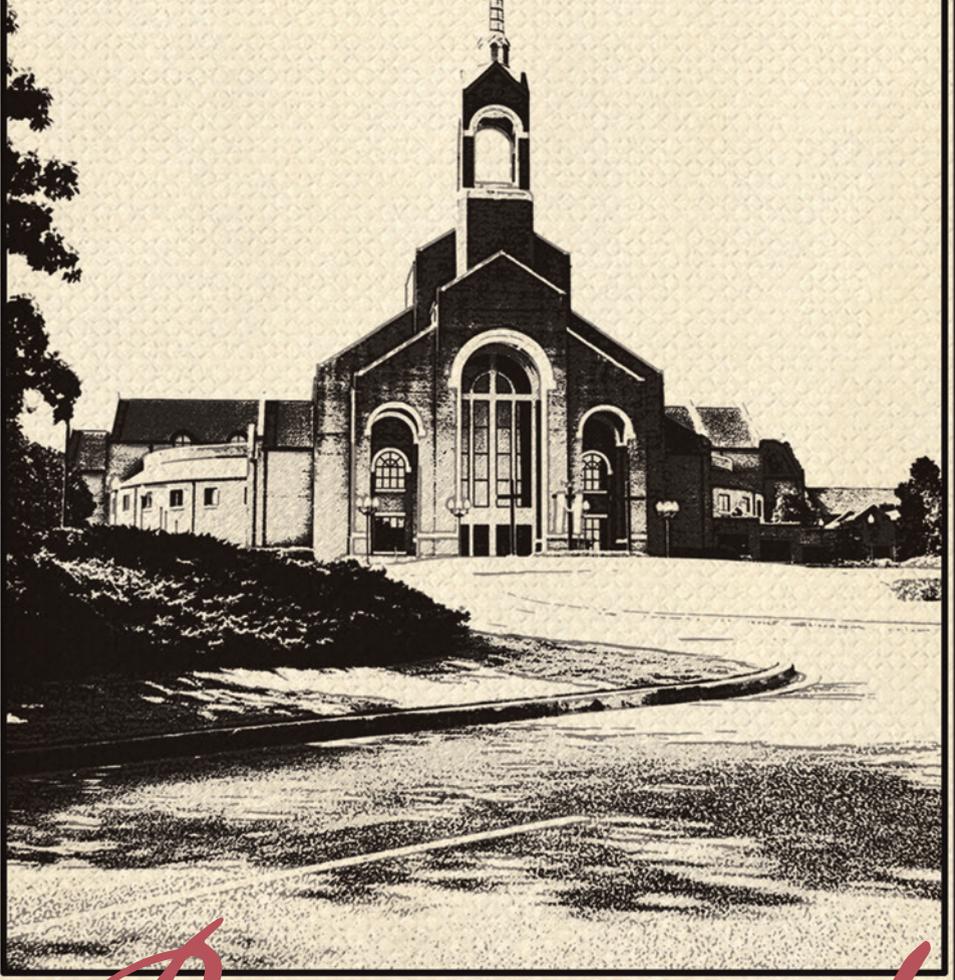




For God's glory,
we are committed to equipping
Christians to worship God and to
reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.



Briarwood
Presbyterian Church, PCA



Celebration of Worship

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – September 27, 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 118: 22-24

[All:] The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day
that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

Life-giving God, quicken me to call upon Your Name, for my mind is ignorant, my thoughts vagrant, my affections earthly, my heart unbelieving and only Your Spirit can help my infirmities. I approach You as Father and Friend, my portion forever, my exceeding joy, my strength of heart. I believe in You as the God of nature, the ordainer of providence, the sender of Jesus my Savior. My guilty fears discourage an approach to You, but I praise You for the blessed news that Jesus reconciles me to You.

adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

The Presentation of New Members

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents

"Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken" Hymn 278

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal Love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver, Never fails from age to age!

Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near!
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which He gives them when they pray.

*The Confession of Truth

Westminster Confession of Faith, 25:1

[ALL:] The catholic or universal church is invisible and consists of all the elect who have been, are, or ever will be gathered into one under Christ, the head. The church is his body and spouse, the fullness of God, who fills all in all.

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

O LORD, in the morning You hear my voice... Psalm 5:3

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Praise the LORD! It is good to sing praises to our God... Psalm 147:1a

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

"The Church's One Foundation"

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

'Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

*The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

"How Sweet and Awe-full is the Place"

[Praise Team:]

*How sweet and awe-full is the place with Christ within the doors,
while everlasting love displays the choicest of her stores.*

*While all our hearts and all our songs join to admire the feast,
each of us cries, with thankful tongue,*

"Lord, why was I a guest?"

[All:]

"Why was I made to hear your voice, and enter while there's room,
when thousands make a wretched choice, and rather starve than come?"

'Twas the same love that spread the feast that sweetly drew us in;
else we had still refused to taste, and perished in our sin.

Pity the nations, O our God, constrain the earth to come;
send Your victorious Word abroad, and bring the strangers home.

We long to see Your churches full, that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul, sing Your redeeming grace;
sing Your redeeming grace.

[Solo:]

We'll sing of Your great grace.

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 2:19-22

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

XV. The Apostles' Creed in Biblical Perspective

“The Holy catholic Church and the Communion of the Saints”

Ephesians 2:19-22

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

***The Pastoral Benediction**

***The Congregational Affirmation** “*I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*” Hymn 280 vv. 2, 4

I love Thy Church, O God!
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heav'nly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise. Amen.

The Postlude

* 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.

“*Conversations with Harry and Bruce*”

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

Watch all services anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv and on Facebook and Vimeo.
Sermons can be seen on the Briarwood YouTube channel, and sermon transcriptions
may be found at briarwood.org/sermons.

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *Search me O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!* Psalm 139:23,24

Pray that our Briarwood Family would use these *70 Days of Fervent Prayer* to draw closer to our Lord and more faithful in bringing our petitions before Him. May our prayer lives be forever changed by our participation in this focused time of prayer.

Please be in prayer for our National Ministries Team as preparations are being made for this year's National Ministries Conference, October 18. Pray the Team is able to present our partner's stories in a compelling way that will give honor to our Lord amid the present pandemic challenges.

"Continue steadfastly in prayer..." Colossians 4:2a

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

It's not too late to join a Bible study this fall! Men and Women of the Covenant studies are underway, both in-person and via Zoom. Go online to briarwood.org/men and briarwood.org/women to see the class listings and to register.

Continue to engage in persistent and protractive prayer along with periods of fasting during our *70 Days of Fervent Prayer* through Sun., Nov. 22. If you do not receive your prayer postcard, you can find the daily prayer focuses online at briarwood.org/prayer and as daily push notifications on the BriarwoodPCA App.

Submit your questions for *Conversations with Harry and Bruce* by email to askthepastor@briarwood.org. Then watch the program at 6:00 p.m. online Sundays at briarwood.org/livetv, on Facebook, AppleTV and the BriarwoodPCA App. The program archives are available to watch anytime at briarwood.org/conversations, the Briarwood PCA App, on Facebook, Vimeo, and AppleTV. Go to briarwood.org/pastorsblog to read Pastor Reeder's latest Pastoral Letter.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: John Graham, Jerry Satterwhite, Steve Willing, JoAnn Weston

We rejoice with Nathan and Jessica Ivey on the birth of their son, Josiah Nathan, on Sept. 15.

Our love and sympathy to Dale Sitton, Anna Bardin and family on the death of their wife and mother, member Linda Sitton, on Sept. 22.

Announcements

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, and AppleTV. Recorded services may be seen online at briarwood.org/archivetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

Worship Center Roof Replacement—We have begun the process of replacing the Worship Center Roofing System. Join us in prayer for the safety of the workers and the quality of workmanship. For your protection please do not enter the fenced areas, and your patience during this season of renovation to our Worship Center is appreciated.

GriefShare—If you or someone you know is adjusting to the death of a loved one, come to this 13-session Zoom class. Call 205-776-5227.

Divorced or separated? Come find help, discover hope, and experience healing in this weekly DivorceCare support group. The new group has started but it's not too late to join. Contact 205-776-5281 or altadena@briarwood.org for information.

Counseling in the Local Church I—This Zoom class on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. is still open to join. Dr. Stephen Cloud is teach how to conduct more effective personal ministry. Contact 205-776-5281 or altadena@briarwood.org.

We are resuming Infant Baptisms in the three Sunday morning services. Contact Marie Gathings at 205-776-5204 or mgathings@briarwood.org for future available dates. Also if you are interested in a “New Believer” baptism, contact Wendy Long in the Membership Office at 205-776-5208.

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 meets each week 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—7th–12th grader small group Bible studies meet Sunday nights. All students must register online at briarwood.org/youth to be in a D-group.

Community Food Drive—The Briarwood Community Food Drive continues, and the Mercy Ministry/Christian Service Mission are 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.

Register to vote! Go to vote.gov/register/al for details on ways to register. Registration deadline is Oct. 19.

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