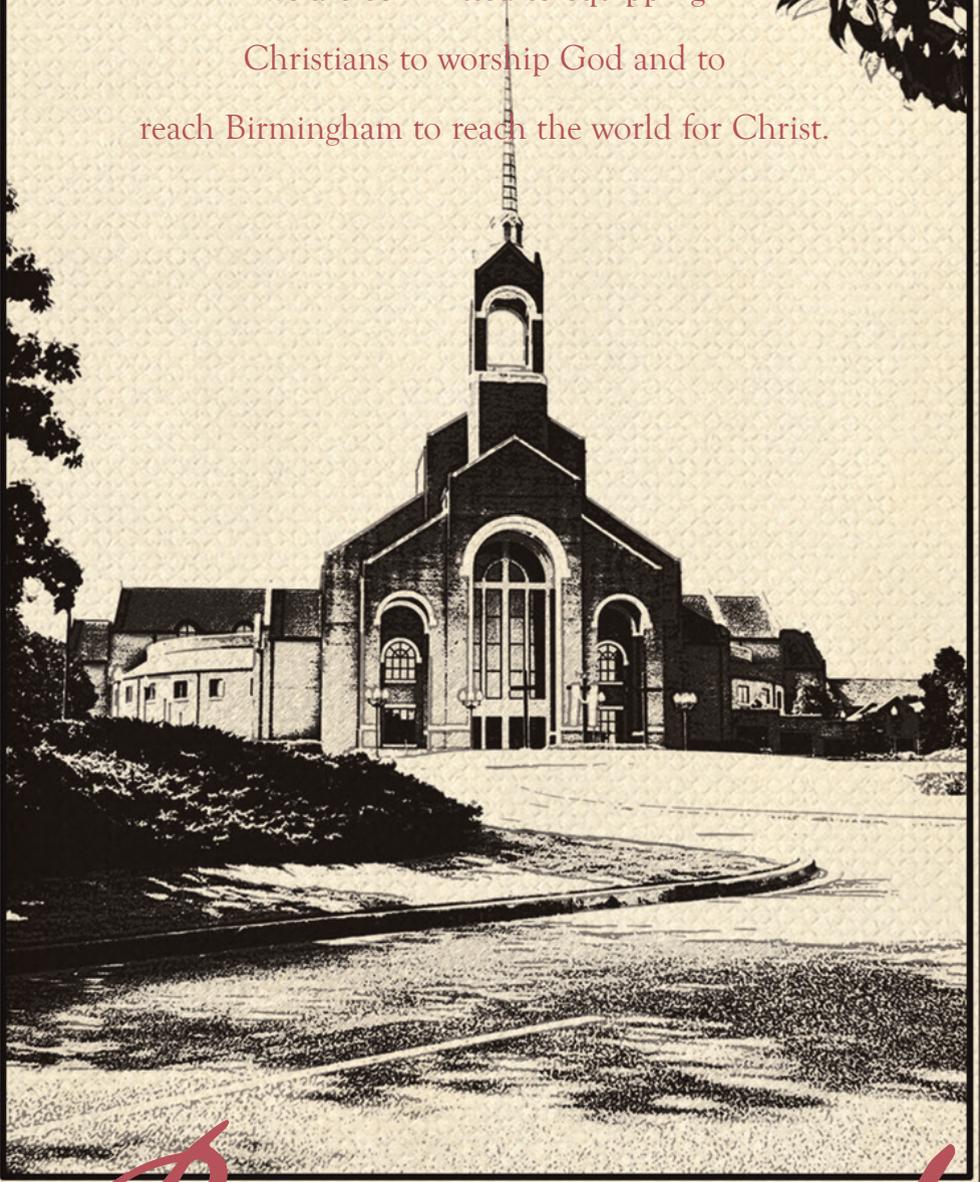




For God's glory,
we are committed to equipping
Christians to worship God and to
reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.



Briarwood

Presbyterian Church, PCA



Celebration of Worship

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – January 3, 2021

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

*...not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,
and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Hebrews 10:25*

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 105:40

[All:] They asked, and He brought quail, and gave them bread from heaven
in abundance.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Gracious Spirit” (Forbes)

Briarwood Strings

*Our great God, Sovereign of the universe, creator of all that is, we come before You today
humbled that You have deigned to condescend to us, and not only love us with an everlasting
love, but to redeem us from our sin and ourselves through the blood of Your perfect and spotless
Son, Jesus Christ. Hear us now as we confess our sins to You and prepare to worship You with
all our heart, soul, mind and strength.*

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

The Hymn of Ascents

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God” Hymn 59

I sing the mighty pow'r of God, That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad, And built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command, And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, That filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His word, And then pronounced them good.

Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, Where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread, Or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below, But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee Is ever in Thy care,
And ev'rywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there. Amen.

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

*I call upon You, for You will answer me, O God;
incline Your ear to me; hear my words. Psalm 17:6*

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD, Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! Psalm 89:5

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 Choral Offering of Worship "Creation Sings the Father's Song" (Getty/Townend)

[Praise Team:]

*Creation sings the Father's song; He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day Till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow, His breath upon this spinning globe,
He charts the eagle's flight; Commands the newborn baby's cry.*

[Refrain:]

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing, "Hallelujah!"
Fill the earth with songs of worship; Tell the wonders of creation's King.*

*Creation gazed upon His face; The ageless One in time's embrace
Unveiled the Father's plan Of reconciling God and man.
A second Adam walked the earth, Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free To live with Him eternally. (Refrain)*

[All:]

*Creation longs for His return, When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky, All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: The glories of our God and King! (Refrain x2)
Fill the earth with songs of worship; Tell the wonders of creation's King.*

The Confession of Truth

The Apostles' Creed

[Leader:] *Christian, what do you believe?*

[All:] **I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And 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 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. 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

"It Is Well with My Soul" Hymn 493 v. 1 • "Cornerstone"

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot,
Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."*

[Refrain:]

It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul), It is well, it is well with my soul.

[Solo:]

*My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly trust in Jesus' name.*

[All:]

*My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly trust in Jesus' name.*

[Refrain:]

Christ alone, Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord—Lord of all.

When Darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil—My anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain x2)

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless stand before the throne.

It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul), It is well, it is well with my soul.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

*The Prayer of Illumination

*†The New Testament Reading

Mark 4:35-41

The Exposition of God's Word

Rev. Jim Alexander

“The Gracious Providence of God”

Mark 4:35-41

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Do this in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19

*The Hymn of Preparation “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Hymn 185 vv. 1-3

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His Head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

*The Confession of Sin

Almighty God, You who are rich in mercy to all those who call upon You, hear us as we come to You, humbly confessing our sins, and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds and words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before You our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness. Have mercy upon us, and out of Your great goodness, grant that we may hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Receiving of the Elements

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7*

*The Pastoral Benediction

*The Congregational Affirmation “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Hymn 185 v. 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

The Postlude

“O God, Our Help In Ages Past” (Watts)

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my pleas for mercy! In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!* Psalm 143:1

Pray for those traveling during this special time of the year to return home safely. Pray the virus will not spread further and the vaccine will be effective.

Pray for Briarwood supported missionaries serving in college campus ministry through CO SERVE in Khon Kaen and Chaing Mai, Thailand: Gary and Robin Alward, Sano Buasorn, Brian and Terri Firpo, John and Melody Hunt, Dan and Kimi Lewis, Bob and Courtney McGregor, Moe and Git Montenegro, Guy and Ying Sakitkhwa, Nai and Blaa Sathonrat, Rung Thongla, and Aaron Webb. Pray they will see abundant fruit through discipleship and leadership training. (*The flag of Thailand is featured in today's worship service.*)

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

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Men of the Covenant and Women of the Covenant studies for the winter/spring begin the week of Jan. 11. Some studies are virtual and some are in-person, but all require registration in order to participate. Ladies, go to briarwood.org/women, click the link to Spring Studies and read a description for each of the studies being offered. You can also register online while you are there. Watch for the Men's studies and registration to be posted soon to briarwood.org/men. Make 2021 a year of spiritual growth by choosing the study that's right for you!

Begin the New Year with daily reading of the Word and calling upon Christ in prayer. Here are some daily devotional recommendations:

1. *One-Year Bible Reading Plan* (a pamphlet with 3 distinct plans for reading through the Bible in a year)
2. *ESV Every Day Bible: 365 Readings through the Whole Bible*
3. *Tabletalk* subscription from Ligonier Ministries
4. *Morning Exercises* by William Jay (Pastor Reeder's personal favorite)
5. *Our Daily Bread* (helpful for those beginning a morning devotional)

Contact the Bookstore at 205-776-5210 or bookstore@briarwood.org for help with these resources.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Bill Cunningham, Walter Leveille, Herbert Osborne, Stephen Steiner, John Haines

Our love and sympathy to Christie, Brock, Tal and Noah Bono and family on the death of their father and grandfather, Ray Veasey, on Dec. 24; to Regina, Olivia, Laura and Olivia Sims and family on the death of their mother and grandmother, Ida Neal, on Dec. 26; and to Jim and Peggy Parrish on the death of their son, Stewart Parrish, on Dec 28.

Announcements

Birmingham Prayer Vigil and Witness For Life—Sat., Jan. 16 at 10:45 a.m. at Planned Parenthood (1019 1st Ave North). Rain or shine; families welcome! Go to birminghammarchforlife.com for more information.

GriefShare • If you or someone you know is adjusting to the death of a loved one, join us for a 13-session Zoom class starting Jan. 13. Call Pastoral Care at 205-776-5227 for more information.

The Men's Saturday morning prayer group is meeting at 7:00 a.m. in the Mountain View Building. Contact Dave Matthews for information at dmatthews@briarwood.org.

Friendship Partner/ESL • Want to live a lifestyle of evangelism and discipleship but don't know where to start? Join us in welcoming local international students, scholars, and families. Partner with a student for a year or join our ESL group in teaching English to build relationships and bridges to the gospel. Email Caroline at cbrown@briarwood.org.

Community Food Drive • Continue bringing non-perishable foods to the marked trailer located in Parking Lot-B on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., and Sundays 7:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m. The Mercy Ministry/Christian Service Mission are grateful for your support.

Briarwood continues to provide streaming online of our Sunday morning worship at 8:00 and 11:00 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 are available online anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

Worship Center Roof Replacement • Pray for the safety of all involved in the replacing of our Worship Center Roofing System. For your protection, please do not enter the fenced areas around the Worship Center. We appreciate your patience during this season of renovation.

If you are interested in infant Baptism in our 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.

Current Job opportunities:

Church Grounds. Full-time, hours are 7:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. Includes benefit package. Contact Robert Clifton at rclifton@briarwood.org or 205-776-5234 for more information or to apply.

Facilities. Full-time, second-shift position. Hours are 2:00–10:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. Saturday night overtime shifts are available. Main duties are classroom setup and breakdown with some minor cleaning. Full benefit package. For more information or to apply, contact Dale Keller at dkeller@briarwood.org or 205-776-5231.

Facilities Scheduling Coordinator. Seeking a person able to communicate effectively, have an attention to details, and a proficient knowledge of Microsoft Office. In addition, multi-tasking and the ability to problem solve is essential. This is a full-time position with benefits. contact Steve Goebel at 205-776-5230 or sgoebel@briarwood.org to apply.

Shepherding Team Administrative Assistant. Seeking a Briarwood member for a full-time position with benefits. Applicant must have proficient knowledge of Microsoft Office, effective organization and excellent communication skills. Please send résumé to Benny Youngblood at byoungblood@briarwood.org or call 205-776-5321.