

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 – April 25, 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

I will thank You in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise You. Psalm 35:18

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 8:1

[All:] O LORD, our LORD, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

You have set Your glory above the heavens.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Fairest Lord Jesus” (arr. Anderson)

Instrumental Ensemble

Lord God! Eternal and Almighty Father, I acknowledge and confess before You that I am a sinner. I am prone to do evil and unable of myself to do any good. In myself I deserve Your just sentence of condemnation. But, O Lord, with heart-felt repentance I deplore and confess my sins, and I commit myself afresh and anew to serve You with a glad heart. Receive my worship, as I by faith receive Your pardon through the grace and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents

“At Calvary” Hymn 338

Years I spent in vanity and pride,
Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me He died on Calvary.

[Chorus:]

Mercy there was great and grace was free,
Pardon there was multiplied to me,
There my burdened soul found liberty—at Calvary.

By God's Word at last my sin I learned,
Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned,
Till my guilty soul imploring turned to Calvary. (Chorus)

Now I've giv'n to Jesus everything,
Now I gladly own Him as my King,
Now my raptured soul can only sing of Calvary. (Chorus)

O the love that drew salvation's plan!
O the grace that brought it down to man!
O the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary. (Chorus)

*The Confession of Truth

Ephesians 5:3–6; 2:4–6

[Leader:] *But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.*

[All:] **For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.**

[Leader:] *Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.*

[All:] **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—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:] *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 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

"Lion and the Lamb" (Brown/Johnson)

[Solo:]

He's coming on the clouds, Kings and kingdoms will bow down.

Every chain will break, As broken hearts declare His praise. For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

[Chorus/All:]

Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah;
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles.
And every knee will bow before Him.

Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world; His blood breaks the chains.
Every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb,
Every knee will bow before Him.

Open up the gates, Make way before the King of kings.
The God who comes to save Is here to set the captives free.
For who can stop the Lord Almighty? (Chorus)

For who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord?! (Chorus)

*The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

"In Christ Alone" (Townend/Getty)

In Christ alone, my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, What depths of peace, When fears are stilled, When strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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

Romans 1:18–32

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

IX. Romans in Biblical Perspective

The Gospel of God

“Three Divine Judgments and the Death Spiral
in a Cultural Celebration of Idolatry—Part III”

Romans 1:18–32

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 “All Creatures of Our God and King” Hymn 64 v. 5

Let all things their Creator bless, And worship Him in humbleness,
Oh praise Him, Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One, O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Postlude

“Redeemed” (Crosby/Kirkpatrick)

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The 8:00 and 11:00 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.

XII. Eternity in Biblical Perspective

If I Should Die Before I Wake...

“Satan Loosed for a Season”

Revelation 20

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *Our soul waits for the LORD, He is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His Holy Name. Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.* Psalm 33:20-23

Pray for family and friends who do not know Jesus as Lord and Savior and that God would provide opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

Pray for international families as school is coming to an end and summer plans begin. Pray that God would bless the interactions this summer between these families and the believers serving them and that the plans being made to welcome and love internationals among us would produce fruit and stir their hearts to know God through Christ. (*The flag of Brazil is featured in today's worship service.*)

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

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Come to “O Church, Arise: A Passionate Plea for Biblical and Confessional Integrity” May 5-6 here at Briarwood. Join Pastor Reeder and seven other speakers for this conference to encourage biblical and confessional reform in the PCA. Briarwood members may register now to attend in-person or via livestream at a special \$10 rate. Go to briarwood.org/conferences for details and registration.

VBS 2021 is coming June 7-11! Briarwood members will be able to register their children and a guest through a link that will be sent on Mon., Apr. 26. Interested in volunteering at VBS? Email Raleigh Macoy at rmacoy@briarwood.org and check out briarwood.org/vbs for updated details as they become available. To volunteer in the nursery area, email Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org.

The month of May is the time during which nominations are accepted for officer candidates (deacons and elders) for the class of 2024. It is a very important duty that we have as members and leaders to nominate quality men for these offices. Each year, the Briarwood membership and existing leadership engages in this process of nomination, training, examination, election, ordination and installation. We would ask that you pray diligently and thoughtfully in consideration of names of men that you know who meet the criteria for officers laid out in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Please read the brochure on our website at briarwood.org/nominations and then submit qualified names by using the online form found at the bottom of that page or by sending an email to lreese@briarwood.org.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Bob Crowe, Betty Hanson, Liz Pate, Barbara Pierce, Barbara Robinson

We rejoice with Andrew and Katie Russell on the birth of their son, Ford Caleb, Apr. 12, and with his grandparents Leon and Kelly Chadwick and Mike and Catherine Russell.

Our love and sympathy to Brian, Stephen and Amy Walker and family on the death of their wife and mother, member Donna Walker, on Apr. 15; and to John Brennecke and family on the death of his sister, Marie Rogers, on Apr. 17.

Announcements

Deadline tomorrow for BYG and College Graduating Seniors! To effectively minister and recognize your senior it is critically important that you take a moment to visit the website and fill out the information form by Mon., Apr. 26. High school seniors go to briarwood.org/seniors. College seniors go to briarwood.org/college.

To God be the Glory for the largest recorded Faith Promise in Briarwood's history—\$2,821,344.86! Pray that many will be brought into the Kingdom as these funds are utilized around the world.

A reminder that the Briarwood Christian Bookstore and Church Library are both open on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Or you may make purchases by calling 205-776-5210, emailing bookstore@briarwood.org, or shopping online by going to briarwood.org/webstore. The Bookstore can either mail your orders to you or provide convenient pickup at the church.

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. and the evening service at 6:00 p.m. Both morning worship services are available on WLJR-FM 88.5, and you can watch all 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.

College Monday Night Gatherings at the Barn—Join us at 8:00 p.m. as we look at Gospel Living taught by various teachers.

College Small Group Bible Studies are available. For more information, email Max Bunn at mbunn@briarwood.org or Jenna Viets at jviets@briarwood.org.

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.

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.

Job openings:

Church Revitalization, National and Urban Ministries Admin. A talented and detailed leader is needed to manage the administration responsibilities of these important Briarwood Missions Ministries. The candidate for this 29-hour per week position must be a Briarwood church member. Abilities needed include proficient knowledge of Microsoft Office, strong communication skills, event planning, financial record keeping, database management and pastoral support. Send resume or email inquiries to Heather McDougall at hmcdougall@briarwood.org.

Nursery Night Supervisor. Please contact acraig@briarwood.org for more information.

Other job opportunities are currently available with several Briarwood ministries. See the listing at briarwood.org/employment with details on the positions as well as how to apply.