

# *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

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MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – May 9, 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

*Bless God in the great congregation, the LORD,*

*O You who are of Israel's fountain! Psalm 68:26*

### The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 103:17

[All:] The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children.

### The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

*"Lift High the Cross"* (arr. Hamlin/Nichols)

Briarwood Brass Ensemble

*Holy Father, whose eyes cannot look upon iniquity, and who cannot tolerate wrong, but who also loves me and sent Your Son to save me from my sins, I confess that I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, both by what I have done and by what I have not done. Forgive me; and grant to me the heartfelt knowledge that You have cleansed me of all my sin through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

### The Invocation

### The Gospel Word of Salvation

### \*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

### \*The Hymns of Ascents

*"May Jesus Christ Be Praised"* Hymn 87 vv. 1, 2, 6

*"Fairest Lord Jesus"* Hymn 88 vv. 1, 4 • *"Our Great Savior"* Hymn 89 vv. 1, 2, 5

When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries, May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer To Jesus I repair, May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find, May Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this, May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, My canticle divine, May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this th'eternal song Through all the ages long, May Jesus Christ be praised!

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Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man the son:  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be Thine!

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Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus, Lover of my soul;  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

[Chorus:]

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end

Jesus! what a Strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my Strength, my vict'ry wins. (Chorus)

Jesus! I do now receive You, More than all in You I find,  
You have granted me forgiveness, I am Yours, and You are mine. (Chorus)

**\*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 PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE**

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2*

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

*"The Power of the Cross"*

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then Nailed to a cross of wood.

[Chorus:]

This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us;  
Took the blame, bore the wrath—We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, Bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed Crowning Your bloodstained brow. (Chorus)

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath Quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; "Finished!" the vict'ry cry. (Chorus)

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, For through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live, Won through Your selfless love. (Chorus)

**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 SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Do this in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19*

### \*The Hymn of Preparation

*"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" Hymn 193 vv. 1, 2, 4*

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
'Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Behold shall I stand in Thy great day, For who aught to my charge shall lay?  
Fully absolved through these I am, From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God  
Forever doth for sinners plead, For me, e'en for my soul, was shed.

### \*The Confession of Sin

[All:] Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according  
to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us  
thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin! For we  
know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against You,  
You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that  
You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.  
Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.  
Cast us not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit  
from us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us with a  
willing spirit.

### The Receiving of the Elements

## THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*The LORD bless you and keep you... Numbers 6:24*

### \*The Pastoral Benediction

### \*The Congregational Affirmation

*"There Is a Fountain" Hymn 196 vv. 1, 3, 5*

There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Immanuel's veins;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains:  
Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilty stains;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood Shall never lose its pow'r,  
Till all the ransomed Church of God Be saved, to sin no more:  
Be saved, to sin no more, Be saved, to sin no more;  
Till all the ransomed Church of God Be saved to sin no more.

When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue Lies silent in the grave,  
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing Thy pow'r to save:  
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save;  
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

### The Postlude

*"When in Our Music God is Glorified" (Green)*

# Prayers *and* Praises

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Praise the Lord! *My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being! Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let Your glory be over all the earth!* Psalm 108:1, 5

Pray for our mothers and grandmothers today as we honor them and their gifts to us through our Lord Jesus.

Pray for Restoration Academy as the end of the school year approaches. Pray for the seniors who are graduating that they would transition well to the next chapter of their lives. Pray for the Lord to send the right people to fill the open positions on staff. (*The flag of Birmingham is featured in today's worship service.*)

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

## Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

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VBS 2021 is June 7–11 from 9:30 to noon each day. Briarwood members are encouraged to register their children and a guest now! If you didn't receive the all-member email, email Raleigh Macoy at [rmacoy@briarwood.org](mailto:rmacoy@briarwood.org) for the registration link. If you are interested in volunteering at VBS, contact Raleigh Macoy at [rmacoy@briarwood.org](mailto:rmacoy@briarwood.org). To volunteer in the nursery area, email Alison Craig at [acraig@briarwood.org](mailto:acraig@briarwood.org).

Please continue bringing non-perishable foods for the Community Food Drive by dropping off donations to the marked trailer located in Parking Lot-B, 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.

This month we are accepting nominations 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. Read the brochure on our website at [briarwood.org/nominations](http://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](mailto:lreese@briarwood.org).

## Our Church Family

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Hospitalized: Lois Bush, Rosine Feist, Judy Flannery, Betty Hanson, Allison McCammon, Ashley Ponter

We rejoice with Chad and Ashley Ponter of the birth of their daughter, Selah Rose, on Apr. 29.

Our love and sympathy to Rebecca Mason and family on the death of her husband, Ross Mason, on Apr. 28; to Julie Hollon, Charlton Hollon, Olivia Barfield and family on the death of their sister and aunt, Genie McMillon, on Apr. 28; to Mary Lunsford, Sara, Will, Carlie and Andy Foust and family on the death of their son, brother and uncle, Bruce Thomas, on Apr. 29; and to Jennifer Smith and family on the death of her mother, Sherry Cooper, on May 2.

# Announcements

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**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** will be observed today in all the morning services. Members of the congregation are invited to prepare their hearts to receive Communion. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

**Nursery weekday drop-in** is now open for Briarwood members on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Go to [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery) for information.

**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](mailto:bookstore@briarwood.org), or shopping online by going to [briarwood.org/webstore](http://briarwood.org/webstore). The Bookstore can either mail your orders to you or provide convenient pickup at the church.

**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](http://briarwood.org/livetv), on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. Recorded services are available online anytime at [briarwood.org/archivetv](http://briarwood.org/archivetv), on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## **Job openings:**

**Special Connections Ministry Director.** Full-time position for an experienced and compassionate leader. The candidate should have the education, training and skills to include a biblical reformed framework of disabilities and an understanding of physical, mental and sensory disabilities; as well as a heart for and skills to minister well to those with disabilities and their family. The Director will serve as a member of Briarwood Church and on the Shepherding Team. Interested candidates should send résumé to Patti Claud at [pclaud@briarwood.org](mailto:pclaud@briarwood.org) or call 205-776-5282.

**Other job opportunities** are currently available with several Briarwood ministries. See the listing at [briarwood.org/employment](http://briarwood.org/employment) with details on the positions as well as how to apply.