

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 – July 4, 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

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 145:13

[All:] Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

(During the Prelude all are invited to come to the Choir Loft for Summer Choir.)

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

"Faith of Our Fathers" (Faber)

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father, I confess and acknowledge that I am a sinner and guilty of treason against Your Holy Law, that I was conceived in sin and prone to do evil and that I have both offended You and rebelled against You. I have left undone those things I ought to have done, and have done those things which I ought not to have done. I am unable to save myself, O Lord, and acknowledge that salvation is of Your grace and mercy, so may you receive all the praise as is due Your holy name. For from You and unto You are all things; so unto You be glory forevermore. Amen.

The Choral Introit

"America the Beautiful" (arr. Berg)

The Briarwood Ten Minute Summer Choir

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain!

America, America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America, America! May God they gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America, America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Ascents "God of Our Fathers" Hymn 573

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor thru the skies, Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past, In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide, and Stay, Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, Be Thy strong arm our ever-sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase, Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way, Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine! Amen.

*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

Call to Me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things
that you have not known. Jeremiah 33:3

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing! Psalm 100:1-2

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

"Even So, Come" • "The Church's One Foundation" • "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"
[Solo:]

All of creation, all of the earth Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord;
Jesus is coming soon. Call back the sinner, wake up the saint,
Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame; Jesus is coming soon.

{All:] [Chorus:]

Like a bride waiting for her groom, We'll be a Church ready for You.

Ev'ry heart longing for our King, We sing:

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come."

There will be justice, all will be new.

Your name forever, faithful and true; Jesus is coming soon. (Chorus)

So we wait, We wait for You. God we wait, You're coming soon. (Repeat) (Chorus)

Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.

[Solo:]

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.

[All:]

'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.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

I love Thy kingdom, Lord, The house of Thine abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.

For her my tears shall fall; For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be giv'n, Till toils and cares shall end.

Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heav'n.

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 Old Testament Reading

I Chronicles 12:32

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

I. The Church in Biblical Perspective

The Presbyterian Church in America

"Biblical Challenges and Opportunities"

I Chronicles 12:32

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 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" Hymn 276 vv. 1, 4

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Zion's help forever, And her confidence alone.

Laud and honor to the Father, Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory While unending ages run. Amen.

The Postlude

"On Eagles Wings" (Joncas)

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

† K4-3rd grade dismiss to the Children's Auditorium for Children's Worship. Following the 8:00 service, Children's Worship participants will be escorted to their Sunday School rooms. Following the 10:50 service, please pick up K4-3rd grade children in the Children's Auditorium.

A Prayer Team is available following both morning services just to the right of the pulpit platform. The 8:00 a.m. service is also "signed" each week in the Worship Center. Both Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM, and available online at briarwood.org/livetv.

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Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *The LORD is high above all nations, and His glory above the heavens!* Psalm 113:4

Please be in prayer for America as we remember and celebrate Christianity in America this evening on this very special day, July 4th.

Pray for Dr. Tom Edwards and his staff at Hope Health Center. Praise the Lord that they are able to provide excellent, whole-person healthcare to a medically underserved community. Pray that they will continue to strengthen relationships with their patients and continue to point them to Christ. (*The flag of Birmingham is featured in today's worship service.*)

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

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Invite family and friends, especially active and inactive servicemen and women, to the Christianity in America Celebration tonight at 6:00 p.m. We will join together to honor our veterans, sing songs of faith and patriotism, and share fellowship! The Briarwood Sanctuary Choir and Festival Orchestra will lead us, and Pastor Reeder will deliver a special message for the 4th of July. Livestream will also be offered.

You can help endow the new Frank Barker Chair of Missions and Evangelism at Westminster Theological Seminary. Donations can be made at wts.edu/give or by calling 215-572-3830. See the full version of the video shown in the June 20 morning worship services online at briarwood.org/barkerchair.

Are your kids looking for summer fun? There are many activities throughout the summer for children and youth—K5 through 12th grade. (All grades are rising in the fall.) Go to briarwood.org/summerkids to see a listing of opportunities for children and youth.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Peggy Devane, Steve Hall, Scott Hannah, Jenny Marlow, Bill Moulton, Louie Reese, Daniel Robinson, Fred Yancey

We rejoice with Matt and Lauren Carrick on the birth of their son, Wells Allen, on June 19.

Our love and sympathy to Beverly Nevins and family on the death of her brother, Frederick Benson, on Apr. 30; to the family of member Dick Scott on his death on June 26; to Rhonda Pierce and family on the death of her father, Ronald L. Pierce, on June 26, to Karla Whitcomb and family on the death of her father, Karl Smith, on June 27; and to Jim Alexander and family on the death of his mother, Mildred Ann Alexander, on June 28.

Announcements

Briarwood Ballet presents “From Darkness to Light” on Fri., July 16 and Sat., July 17 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held at the Barbara B. Barker Auditorium at Briarwood High School. For tickets and more information, go to briarwood.org/ballevents.

Friendship Partners is just around the corner! If you love people, the nations, and cross cultural friendships, we would love to invite you to be a friendship partner this Fall. You would be matched with an international student, scholar, or family member to build bridges of friendship through sharing culture and experiences. For more information, email cbrown@briarwood.org.

Recent Conferences—Watch both the *O Church, Arise* conference from May and June’s *One Voice* conference in Pensacola now, at briarwood.org/conferences.

The Briarwood Fellows is looking for host homes for the incoming class of fellows. If this something you would prayerfully consider, please contact Seth Richardson at seth@briarwoodfellows.org or call 205.527. 2411.

The Korean Congregation is seeking an English-speaking Sunday School teacher for children on Sunday mornings from 11:20 a.m.–12:40 p.m. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pastor Seongmin Im at sim@briarwood.org or 205-776-5414 for details.

The Post COVID Church Podcast—Pastor Reeder recently gave an interview with Stuart Kellogg regarding church health post-COVID. Hear it now at briarwood.org/askthepastor.

New Direction Ministry—We’re now open Wed.–Sat., 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at 305 Crawford St. in Fairfield. Help replace items lost in a recent fire at Ramsay High School by purchasing elephant ear plants at the store. Email awatson@briarwood.org to order.

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 10:55 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.

New Job openings—

Facilities Scheduling Coordinator. Full-time position with benefits. Those interested should contact Steve Goebel at 205-776-5230 or sgoebel@briarwood.org.

Nursery Administrative Supervisor. Part-time position that supports the Nursery Director in managing the Nursery. Contact Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org or 205-776-5214.

Briarwood Christian Bookstore Sales Associate. Part-time/hourly/as-needed position available. Candidate must have good computer, internet, and people skills and be available to work at least one Sunday per month and some Wednesday evenings. A basic understanding of Christian books as well as previous inventory experience is helpful. Contact Debbie Little at dlittle@briarwood.org if interested.

Single’s Ministry Women’s Coordinator. Full-time position. The ability to shepherd and disciple single adult women is required. For more information please submit resumes to Page Dollar at pdollar@briarwood.org.

See all the current job opportunities for Briarwood ministries and ministry partners at briarwood.org/employment to find details on open positions as well as how to apply.