

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 – August 29, 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 44:8

[All:] In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to Your name forever.

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

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

"The Lord Is in His Holy Temple" (Root)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I 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 me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." from Psalm 51

Ten Minute Summer Choir

"Blessed Assurance" (Crosby/Knapp)

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

***The Greeting of Grace and Peace**

***The Hymn of Ascents**

"And Can It Be?" Trinity Hymnal

And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?

[Chorus:]

Amazing love! How can it be That
Thou, my God shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace!
Humbled Himself, so great His love, And bled for all His chosen race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free! For, O my God, it found out me! (Chorus)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray: I woke the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. (Chorus)

No condemnation now I dread: Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne, And claim the crown,
through Christ my own. (Chorus)

***The Confession of Truth**

I Corinthians 1:26-31

[Leader:] *For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.*

[All:] **But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.**

[Leader:] *And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,*

[All:] **so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."**

[Leader:] *The Word of the Lord.*

[All:] **Thanks be to God!**

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near... Isaiah 55:6

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

My tongue will sing of Your Word, for all Your commandments are right. Psalm 119:172

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**

"Living Hope" • "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

How great the chasm that lay between us;
How high the mountain I could not climb.

In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your Name into the night.
Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written;
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken: I am forgiven,
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever;
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.

[Chorus:]

Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain, There's salvation in Your Name;
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.
Your buried body began to breathe. Out of the silence, the roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me. Jesus, Yours is the victory! (Chorus x2)

Jesus Christ, my Living Hope; God, You are my Living Hope.

How deep the Father's love for us? how vast beyond all measure?
That He would give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One, bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there, until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.

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THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

And they taught in Judah, having the Book of the Law of the LORD with them. II Chronicles 17:9a

***The Prayer of Illumination**

***†The New Testament Reading**

Romans 4:1-2

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

XXII. Romans in Biblical Perspective

The Gospel of God

“Boasting Excluded, Now Expounded and Illustrated”

Romans 4:1-2

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power
of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13*

***The Pastoral Benediction**

***The Congregational Affirmation**

“All for Jesus” Trinity Hymnal

All for Jesus! All for Jesus! All my being's ransomed pow'r,
All my thoughts and words and doings, all my days and all my hours.
O what wonder! How amazing! Jesus, glorious King of kings,
Deigns to call me His beloved, lets me rest beneath His wings.

The Postlude

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” (Wesley)

*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.

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *Come, bless the LORD all you servants of the LORD, who stand by night in the house of the LORD! Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD! May the LORD bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth!* Psalm 134

Pray for God's people throughout the world that are in dangerous areas. Pray for their safety and deliverance.

Pray for the many international students arriving in Birmingham this month as they would connect with believers through Friendship Partners and other Briarwood International Outreach welcome events. We long to be a part of God's story of people from every nation worshipping Him forever and ever. Pray that God would use our members in this way this year! (*The flag of Birmingham is featured in today's worship service.*)

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

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Join us this fall for a middle of the week time with your church family at MidWeek on Wednesdays. Take advantage of these opportunities and activities available for all ages—Choir, Seminary, Evangelism Training, Bible Studies, Children and Youth Group activities, and more. Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. and most end at 7:30 p.m. Children and Youth opportunities for learning and socializing include: CONNECT (K4–3rd grades) meeting in the Children's Auditorium; IGNITE (4th–6th grades) in the Gym; RAIDERS (7th and 8th grade) and BYG (9th–12 grade) at The Barn. No reservations are required for Children's or Youth activities. Dinners (5:30 p.m.) will resume when COVID protocols allow. View all the opportunities at briarwood.org/midweek and make nursery reservations on the Briarwood App or at briarwood.org/nursery.

Don't miss the 2021 Birmingham Conference of Theology and Life: Marriage and Sexuality next Sunday, September 5 in the morning and evening services. Dr. Jonathan Gibson, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Westminster Theological Seminary will be the guest speaker. Dr. Gibson will speak on "A Marriage Made on Earth" (Genesis 2:18–25) in the morning and "Shameless Sexuality" (Genesis 2:24–25) in the evening. It will be a beneficial time in the Word as he looks at sexuality and marriage from a biblical perspective.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Lois Bush, Vicki Cawthorne, Carol Graves, Margaret Hedrick, Crawford Nevins, Jamie Smith, Jerry Minor, Louie Reese, Cathy Ware

Our love and sympathy to Dave Lewis and family on the death of his brother, Bob Lewis, on Aug. 21; and to Esther Brown and family on the death of her sister, Mary Kathryn Bostic, on Aug. 22.

Announcements

GRIEFSHARE—Your journey from mourning to joy. If you are adjusting to the death of a loved one, join our 13-week, video/small group program designed to offer comfort and encouragement to those with a hurting heart. We will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W202. Workbook is \$15. For more information, call 205-776-5227.

Friendship Partner Orientation is Tues., Aug. 31 at 5:30 p.m. with a make up session in September. Email Caroline at cbrown@briarwood.org if you are interested in applying for this opportunity to welcome international students and families.

Praise Team Band and Singers. The Briarwood Worship and Music Ministry has openings for singers and band members. If you are a Briarwood member and would like to schedule an audition, contact John Haines at 205-612-5199 or jhaines@briarwood.org.

BYG/Raiders Wednesday Nights at The Barn has started. Raiders meet 6:30–8:00 p.m. and BYG meets 7:00–8:30 p.m. Go to briarwood.org/youth.

One more host home needed for the incoming class of Briarwood Fellows! Prayerfully consider helping this ministry. Contact Seth at seth@briarwoodfellows.org or 205-527-2411.

Financial Peace—Relieve money stress and kick debt once and for all! Learn how to develop a solid financial plan of having an emergency fund, paying off debt, and building savings. Registration is important. Email Dave Matthews at dmatthews@briarwood.org.

Grandparenting Matters—This MidWeek seminar will help Christian grandparents find purpose and have a greater spiritual impact on their grandchildren’s lives. Please register with Dave Matthews at dmatthews@briarwood.org. Workbook cost \$12.

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.

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.

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

New Job openings—

CMMA Executive Director. Full-time position providing spiritual direction to healthcare students on campus and practitioners in the community through individual discipleship and small group studies, prioritizing missions through conference/guest speakers, coordinating various trips each year, raising needed support for the ministry to function effectively, providing training and oversight to staff associates, and serving on the Briarwood Staff Leadership Team. Interested individuals should contact Georgia Holdefer at gholdefer@briarwood.org.

Music Worship Assistant. Full-time position accountable directly to the Worship Pastor and has significant public worship leadership responsibilities. Contact Pastor Haines if interested at 205-612-5199 or jhaines@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.