

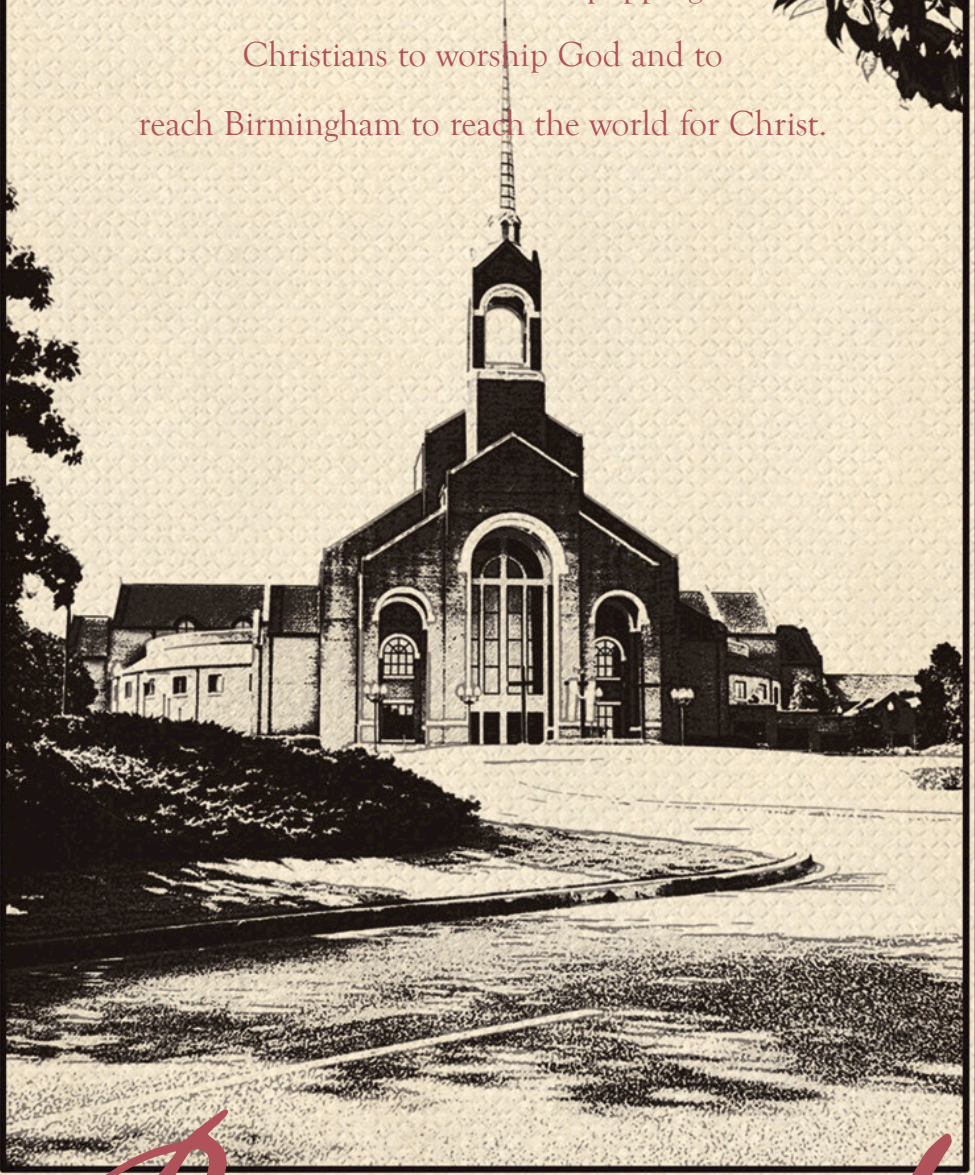


*For God's glory,*

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

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MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – November 14, 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 145:4

**[All:] One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare  
Your mighty acts.**

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

*“Simple Gifts/Amazing Grace” (Shaker Tune)*

*Life-giving God, quicken me to call upon Your Name, for my mind is ignorant, my thoughts  
vagrant, my affections earthly, my heart unbelieving and only Your Spirit can help my  
infirmities. I approach You as Father and Friend, my portion forever, my exceeding joy, my  
strength of heart. I believe in You as the God of nature, the ordainer of providence, the sender  
of Jesus my Savior. My guilty fears discourage an approach to You, but I praise You for the  
blessed news that Jesus reconciles me to You.* adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

The Sacrament of Baptism

\*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

\*The Hymns of Ascents

*“How Firm a Foundation” (arr. Haines)*

*[Choir:]*

*How firm a Foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!*

*[All:]*

How firm a Foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

*[Women:]*

“Fear not, I am with Thee; O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;

*[Men:]*

I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

*[Choir:]*

*“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply:  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.*

[All:]

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no, never, No, never forsake!”

**\*The Confession of Truth**

Various Texts

[Leader:] *For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

[All:] **Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

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

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

**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**

*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**

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:7*

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

“His Mercy Is More” • “He Will Hold Me Fast”

[Solo:]

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done;  
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum.  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore;  
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.*

[Praise Team:] [Chorus:]

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn;  
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.*

[All:]

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam;  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;  
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more. (Chorus)*

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us;  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;  
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more. (Chorus x2)*

*Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.*

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[Solo:]

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

[All:] [Chorus:]

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. (Chorus)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast.  
Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last! (Chorus)

[Solo:]

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

...and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God... Ephesians 6:17

### \*The Prayer of Illumination

### \*†The New Testament Reading

Romans 5:1-5

### The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

XXVIX. Romans in Biblical Perspective

*The Gospel of God*

“Five Legacy Gospel Blessings, Part 4—Rejoice in Suffering”

Romans 5:1-5

## THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

...to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations,  
forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:21

### \*The Pastoral Benediction

### \*The Congregational Affirmation

“It Is Well with My Soul” Hymn 493 v. 4

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
“Even so”— it is well with my soul.  
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

### The Postlude

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” (Newton)

\*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/livetyv](http://briarwood.org/livetyv).



# Prayers *and* Praises

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Praise the Lord! *I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!* Psalm 34:1-3

Pray for God's direction in each of our lives. Seek Him to bring glory to our Lord throughout this special time of the year.

The next Lampstand Conference will be held at Briarwood January 13-16. Pray the Lord will prepare the heart of each pastor and church leader who will attend. Pray also these churches will be encouraged as Dr. Reeder shares from God's word the strategies for church health and revitalization. (*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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What a wonderful way to start celebrating Christmas by attending the annual women's Christmas at the Caroline House. Kickoff with Sophie Hudson will be tomorrow evening, Mon., Nov. 15, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. The House Tours are Tue., Nov. 16 and Wed., Nov. 17 from 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. both days. For details, go to [briarwood.org/cch](http://briarwood.org/cch). Tickets (\$5) are available in the Bookstore or online. Invite your friends to attend this outreach holiday event.

Members of the congregation are invited to prepare your hearts to receive Communion on Sun., Nov. 24 in the morning services. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper elements are gluten-free.

Dedicate a poinsettia for Christmas in memory or honor of someone special. These will decorate the Worship Center for Christmas. Envelopes are now available in the Membership Office, or purchase online at [briarwood.org/poinsettia](http://briarwood.org/poinsettia). Cost is \$20 per plant/dedication.

## Our Church Family

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Hospitalized: Ruth Brannon, Carol Graves, Bobbie Johnston, Avery Lyle

Our love and sympathy to Ashley West and family on the death of her father, Daniel 'Danny' Colburn, on Nov. 6; to Bill Whitworth and family on the death of his brother, Louis Whitworth, on Nov. 7; and to Louie and Rebecca Haynes on the death of their daughter-in-law, Marcy Haynes, on Nov. 7.

# Announcements

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**The church and school offices will be closed** on Thurs., Nov. 25 and Fri., Nov. 26 for Thanksgiving. Church gates will close at 9:00 p.m. on Wed., Nov. 24 and reopen at 6:00 a.m. on Sat., Nov. 27.

**Select your Angel Tree “Angel” today** from displays in the Chapel and Bookstore area. We can also do the shopping for you if you would like to make a contribution by mailing a check made out to Briarwood (attn: Missions Dept./Angel Tree) OR use the form at [briarwood.org/childrensoutreach](http://briarwood.org/childrensoutreach). Gifts are due Nov. 21. Gift delivery and party helpers are also needed! Contact Jenny Allen at [jallen@briarwood.org](mailto:jallen@briarwood.org) for more information.

**Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes need to be turned in today!** You can also go to [briarwood.org/childrensoutreach](http://briarwood.org/childrensoutreach) to build a box (\$25) online by Mon., Nov. 22.

**Today is Every Member Commitment (EMC) Canvass Sunday.** Please make your commitment plans for 2022 known by turning in your pledge card in one of today’s Sunday’s morning services or online at [briarwood.org/emc](http://briarwood.org/emc). Church officers will reach out to members who have not otherwise contacted the church this Sunday afternoon.

**Service of Thanksgiving**—Sunday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m. You are invited to take part in the time of reflection of thankfulness in next Sunday’s evening service.

**The Walk Through Nativity** is looking for you—actors, costumers, parking attendants, scene builders and more! We need volunteers to serve Dec. 8-10 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. Sign up today—call 205-776-5251; visit [briarwood.org/nativity](http://briarwood.org/nativity); or go to More/Forms on the Briarwood App. There’s a place for everyone.

**I Cared Enough**—Help Daniel Cason Ministries feed families in 25 of Birmingham’s poorest communities. Find out how to donate your time and money to help for this Thanksgiving event at [danielcason.org](http://danielcason.org) or by calling 205-365-1800.

**Opportunity to host a family**—Many international families in our Briarwood ESL program have never been to an American’s home for a meal, and we want to change this. Sign up today to host one of our international families for a Thanksgiving meal sometime this November by emailing Caroline at [cbrown@briarwood.org](mailto:cbrown@briarwood.org).

**The Session has called Congregational Meetings** for Sun., Dec. 5 for the purpose of selecting officers for the Class of 2024 and Sun., Dec. 12 for the purposes of receiving the 2022 General Fund Budget and electing the slate of candidates receiving the highest number of votes on Dec. 5. Both meetings will be from 8:00 a.m. to the conclusion of the 10:50 a.m. service. There will be a special order at 10:35 a.m. in the Worship Center on Dec. 5 to receive the 2022 budget.

**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](mailto:jhaines@briarwood.org).

**Come sing with the Sanctuary Choir!** Help lead worship on Sundays as well as sing in the December Christmas Pageant. Rehearsal is on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room on the second floor behind the Worship Center. Go to [signupforchoir.com](http://signupforchoir.com) for more.

**Nursery needs bags**—We are in desperate need of your Walmart/Publix type plastic bags. Please leave them anytime at/on the brown Nursery desk in the Chapel Lobby.

**27th Annual Meadow Brook Runs**—Sat., Dec. 18 to benefit the Jesus Video Project of Alabama. Start times: 5K at 9:00 a.m. and 1-mile Fun Run at 10:00 a.m. Walkers and pets on leash welcome. Go to [meadowbrookruns.org](http://meadowbrookruns.org).

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