



*Briarwood*  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*For God's glory, we are committed  
to equipping Christians to worship God  
and to reach Birmingham  
to reach the world  
for Christ.*

BRIARWOOD.ORG

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Morning Services of Divine Worship – January 1, 2023

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## Worship Leaders

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacher

Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*...not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Hebrews 10:25*

## Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 48:10, 14

Leader: *As Your name, O God, so Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.*

All: He will guide us forever.

## Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

*"Come Christians, Join to Sing"*

Hunter Goff

*Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.*

## Invocation

## Gospel Word of Salvation

## Greeting of Grace and Peace\*

## Hymn of Ascents\*

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"* (Trinity Hymnal)

## The Confession of Truth\*

The Apostles' Creed

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  
*O LORD, in the morning You hear my voice... Psalm 5:3*

**Pastoral Prayer of Intercession**

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY  
*Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Psalm 98:1a*

**Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

*Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. Proverbs 3:9-10*

**Musical Offering of Worship**

*"Your Will Be Done"*  
Hannah Brennan, Soloist

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

*"Build My Life"*  
*"Be Thou My Vision"* Hymn 382

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD  
*Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me Your statutes! Psalm 119:12*

**Prayer of Illumination\***

**New Testament Reading\*†**

Romans 5:1-8

**Exposition of God's Word**

*"The Pathway to Hope"*  
Romans 5:1-8

Rev. Mark Cushman

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*

**Pastoral Benediction\***

**Congregational Affirmation\***

*"The Doxology with Alleluias"*

**Postlude**

*"O God, our Help in Ages Past"*

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\*The congregation is requested to stand, if able. \*\*universal  
†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 10:55 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.

Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM.

The 8:00 and 10:55 a.m. services are available online at [briarwood.org/livestream](http://briarwood.org/livestream).

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Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version.

# FELLOWSHIP OF WORSHIP

Evening Service of Praise and Proclamation – 6:00 p.m.

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## Prelude

## Welcome

## Call to Worship

Psalm 125:1–2

Leader: *Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.*

All: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Songs of Praise\*

*“Jesus Only Jesus”*  
*“Be Unto your Name”*  
*“Come Thou Fount”*  
Shane Davis, soloist

## Offertory Prayer

## Offertory

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

## Scripture

Numbers 25:1–13

## Sermon

Pastor Joel Richards

*“One Stood Up”*  
Numbers 25:1–13

## Benediction\*

*“Doxology”*

## Postlude

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## GREETING FROM THE PASTOR

We're delighted you are worshiping with us today. The entire Briarwood family is eager to greet you, answer any questions you may have and minister to you in any way. After the service, please stop by the foyer so that we may offer you a small gift to acknowledge your presence with us. I pray that this morning's worship will be all about Him and not about us, and that it will draw you close to the Lord of the universe.

–Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacher

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

**Church and School Holiday Schedule** — Offices will be closed Monday, January 2 for the New Year's holiday. The gates will close today following the evening service and open on Tuesday, January 3 at 5:30 a.m.

**Ladies' Exercise Classes** — Start back January 4 in M111: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 8:30–9:30 a.m. for all ages and Monday/Friday, 9:30–10:30 a.m. for those needing chair assistance. First class is free. Go to [questrecreation.org/fitness-classes.html](http://questrecreation.org/fitness-classes.html) for information.

**Communion** — The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Sunday, January 8 in the morning services. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

**International Friendship Partner** — Submit your application to take part in this opportunity to welcome international students and families. If you are interested, email Caroline at [cbrown@briarwood.org](mailto:cbrown@briarwood.org). Orientation is January 5; makeup session available.

**BTS Political Theology Class** — January 5–7, 2023. Birmingham Theological Seminary is offering Briarwood members a condensed course on political theology. This course is a survey of exegetical and historical approaches to political theology. The cost is \$80 to audit (attend) or \$200 for class credit. To register email [emily@bts.education](mailto:emily@bts.education).

**Foster Parenting** — Foster Parenting Class begins on January 12. If you are interested, contact Lori McCullough at 205-669-3016 or Irene Hayes at 205-612-1016.

**Prayer Vigil and Witness For Life** — Saturday, January 14 at 10:45 a.m. at Planned Parenthood (1019 1st Ave. North, Birmingham). Rain or shine, all are welcome! For more information, go to [birminghammarchforlife.com](http://birminghammarchforlife.com).

**Women's Winter/Spring Studies** — Pick from seven studies on a variety of topics Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Register at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women).

**Men's Winter/Spring Studies** — Join us Mondays at 6:30 a.m., Tuesdays at 11:45 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. for learning and fellowship. Topics include a study of Galatians, "Full Contact Discipleship," *Men's Purity Study*, and *The Bruised Reed* by Richard Sibbes. No registration required. See details at [briarwood.org/men](http://briarwood.org/men).

**Worship Center Flowers** — The flowers in the Worship Center are given to the glory of God in memory of Melinda Blackmon.

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## EMPLOYMENT & JOB OPENINGS

**Director of Counseling Ministry** — Director needs to be an experienced counselor with experience in leading a counseling ministry and a commitment to counsel and train others in Biblical Counseling. He must be ordained or ordainable in the PCA. Send resume to Patti Claud at [pclaud@briarwood.org](mailto:pclaud@briarwood.org) or call at 205-776-5282 for more information.

See all employment and job openings at [briarwood.org/employment](http://briarwood.org/employment).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Evangelism Training Dinner — Briarwood Evangelism | January 4**

Join us for a free Informational Dinner on January 4 to learn about our exciting evangelism training and how you can share God's gift of love. For dinner reservations and details, go to [briarwood.org/evangelism](http://briarwood.org/evangelism) or contact Leigh Ann Reese at 205-776-5301 or [lreese@briarwood.org](mailto:lreese@briarwood.org).

### **Men's and Women's Studies — January 9–April 28**

Men of the Covenant and Women's studies begin the week of January 9. There are morning and evening classes available for both men and women this quarter. View men's classes at [briarwood.org/men](http://briarwood.org/men) and women's studies at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women).

### **Midweek at Briarwood — Church Wide | January 11–April 26**

Join us for dinner in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday evening from 5:15–6:30 p.m. Classes and activities for the entire family start at 6:30 p.m. Find a list of classes and opportunities at [briarwood.org/midweek](http://briarwood.org/midweek).

### **The Lampstand Conference — Church Revitalization | January 12–15**

How do you effectively pursue church health in these tumultuous times? Plan on attending this Church Revitalization conference January 12–15, 2023 at Briarwood. Find information and register for The Lampstand Conference at [briarwood.org/lampstand](http://briarwood.org/lampstand).

Stay up-to-date with upcoming events on the Briarwood App.  
Make nursery reservations for events at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery).

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## PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Praise the Lord! *The LORD is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise Your great and awesome Name! Holy is He!* Psalm 99:2

**Local and Missions Prayer** — Pray for revival and for hearts to be open to the Gospel. Pray for Fabiano and Suzana Fernandez with Avant Ministries in Portugal. Fabiano is the Director of the Portuguese Bible College and they mentor young leaders to plant churches and promote church multiplication. Pray for the need of a formal partnership with a legally established Portuguese evangelical church to be approved so they can plant more churches. (The flag of Portugal is featured in today's worship service.)

**Hospitalized:** Kent Bailey, Terry Chase, Banks Farris, Hal Clark, Jim Dewberry, Jeff Dunn, Bob Hand, Isabel Lara, Jerry Stofel, Jennie Stone

**Our love and sympathy** — to Grey, Crawford, AhMai, Jordan, Mike, Os Nakayama on the death of their mother and grandmother, Margaret Jordan, on December 19; and to Loring and Claire Muir on the death of their stepson and son, Jason Travis, on December 24.

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