



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 – Sunday, March 26, 2023

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

*Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people,
and praise Him in the assembly of the elders. Psalm 107:32*

Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 130:5

All: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His Word I hope.

Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Psalm 100”

Briarwood Women's Ensemble

Gracious Heavenly Father, on this day we acknowledge that You are the Giver of every good and perfect gift, and the Sustainer of our lives. We humbly come before You, recognizing the presence of sin in our hearts, and knowing that You have graciously given Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to pay the price and bear the penalty for our sin. We confess our sin before You now and gratefully accept Your full and complete pardon. Free us to worship You now in Spirit and Truth, with joy and celebration, and tune our hearts and fit our lives to live to the praise of Your glory and the advancement of Your Kingdom.

Invocation

Gospel Word of Salvation

Greeting of Grace and Peace*

Hymns of Ascents*

“God of Grace and God of Glory” Hymn 292

The Confession of Truth*

Lamentations 3:21–25

Leader: *But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:*

All: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Leader: *“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.”*

All: The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: Thanks be to God!

THE PETITIONING OF GOD’S PROVIDENCE
O LORD, in the morning You hear my voice... Psalm 5:3

Ministry Opportunities for Prayer

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 Tithe and Our Offerings

Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”
 “I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)”
 “*It Is Well with My Soul*” Hymn 493 (vv. 1, 4)

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD
But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

Prayer of Illumination*

New Testament Reading*† Matthew 12:18–21

Exposition of God’s Word Pastor Benny Parks

“Bruised, Battered and Broken-Hearted”
 Matthew 12:18–21

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD’S PEOPLE
For the love of Christ controls us... II Corinthians 5:14a

Song of Prayer “Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted”
 Shane Davis, Soloist

Benediction*

Congregational Response* “*The Doxology with Alleluias*”

Postlude “*Lift Up Your Heads to the Coming King*”

*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 10:55 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.
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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.

Prelude

Welcome

Joel Richards

Call to Worship

Psalm 124:8

All: Our help is in the Name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Prayer of Invocation

Songs of Praise*

“There Is One Gospel”

“Jesus Messiah”

Shane Davis, Worship Leader

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Daniel Cason

Scripture and Sermon

Bobby Parks

“The ‘Right’ Way to do Evangelism”

Mark 4:2–8, 14–20

Benediction*

Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Postlude

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

Easter Lily Dedication — Today is the last day to order a lily to be placed in the Worship Center in memory or honor of someone special for Easter Sunday. Order now online at briarwood.org/lily or drop by the Membership Office (A101).

Palm Sunday Children's Triumphal Entry — Next Sunday all K4–6th grade are invited to take part in the Palm Branch Entry in the morning worship services. Children will line up at the ramp, between the Worship Center Lobby and Chapel, 15 minutes before each service. After the processional, they will go to Children's Worship.

"The Doors of the Bible" Art Exhibit — Created by Briarwood Christian High School Advanced Artists, this art exhibit on the person and work of Jesus Christ will be on display in the Worship Center Lobby for the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services.

Communion — The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on April 6 for the Maundy Thursday service. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Faith Promise Pledges — Turn in your Faith Promise card during a worship service, mail your card to Briarwood, email faithpromise@briarwood.org with your commitment, or fill out the form at briarwood.org/faithpromise.

Kingdom Come — March 31–April 1. Join Pastor Reeder as he speaks at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for their annual World View Conference. Other speakers include Sinclair Ferguson, Tim Sansbury, Michael Kruger, and Erwin Lutzer. Register at crpc.org/kingdomcome.

Couples Retreat — April 21–23. Come invest in your marriage and enjoy a weekend away together in Chattanooga! We will have three sessions, a married panel discussion, and Sunday morning worship. This event is for young couples and couples with school-aged children. For additional information and registration go to briarwood.org/events.

Leadership Lessons from the Battlefields — July 10–14. Travel with Pastor Reeder as we visit Lexington, Winchester, Antietam, Gettysburg, Manassas, and Appomattox, to learn leadership lessons highlighted in the context of battlefield combat during the Civil War. Space is limited! Contact Leigh Anne Reese at 205-776-5301 or lreese@briarwood.org.

Worship Center Flowers — The flowers in the Worship Center Lobby are given to the glory of God from the wedding of Rachel Conry and Rob Palmer on March 25.

EMPLOYMENT & JOB OPENINGS

Children's and Graduate & Career's Administrative Assistant — Part time position for a Briarwood member requiring basic computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and Publisher) plus graphic design abilities, organization, and coordinating events for the two ministries. For additional information go to briarwood.org/employment.

See all employment and job openings at briarwood.org/employment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Palm Sunday, Fernando Ortega in Concert — Holy Week 2023 | April 2

Our Holy Week celebration begins with Palm Sunday as we remember Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Children ages K4–6th grade will have the opportunity to begin our morning worship services with a palm branch procession. Join us again on Sunday evening as Fernando Ortega leads us in a worship concert for Holy Week preparation. This event will be free and open to the public. See additional details at briarwood.org/easter.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service — Holy Week 2023 | April 6

Maundy Thursday is the night that the Passover was transformed and translated from the Old Covenant Meal to the New Covenant Lord's Supper. Join us at 7:00 p.m. for a service of remembrance and celebration with Communion at the Tables.

Good Friday — Holy Week 2023 | April 7

Join us at noon on Good Friday as we assemble in the Worship Center for a Service of Reflection on the Cross with Bible readings and the singing of the great Atonement hymns.

Easter Sunday — Holy Week 2023 | April 9

Resurrection Lord's Day we celebrate our risen Savior with a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. and worship services at 8:00 and 10:55 a.m. What a great privilege to declare on that day that "He is Risen!" We conclude Holy Week with Voice of the Martyrs artists, Gary and Amy (Shreve) Wixtrom, in concert for an Easter evening celebration at 6:00 p.m.

Working Women's Fellowship Dinner — Women's Ministry | April 20

Join us Thursday, April 20 in Fellowship Hall E&F at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, fellowship and encouragement. Cost is \$7 at the door. Register at briarwood.org/women.

Make nursery reservations for events at briarwood.org/nursery.

PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Local and Missions Prayer — Pray for Urban Hope Community Church and the leadership team as they prepare for the upcoming Easter season. Pray that as the message of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is shared that visitors will see the hope found in Christ alone. (The flag of Birmingham is featured in today's worship service.)

Hospitalized — Frank Barker III, Nancy Bourne, Terry Chase, Bill Feist, Jack Tester, Mary Sue McClurkin, Sharon Henderson, Mike Mungenast, Sheridan Shirley, Mal Brown

We rejoice with — Westby and Mallory Anderson on the birth of their daughter, Mary Taylor, on March 7, and with grandparents Phil and Lisa Anderson.

Our love and sympathy — to Mitzi Lafferty and family on the death of her brother, Mike Daniels, on March 16; and to Becky, Katy and John Richburg, Monica Futral and family on the death of their mother and grandmother, Elaine Hornberger, on March 20.

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