



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

Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 9, 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 16:10–11

All: For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”

Youth Choir

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

Invocation

Gospel Word of Salvation

Greeting of Grace and Peace*

Hymns of Resurrection*

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

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
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
Praise the LORD! It is good to sing praises to our God... Psalm 147:1a

Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Musical Offering of Worship *"Joy in the Morning!"*
Sanctuary Choir and Briarwood Orchestra

Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs *"Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed"*

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

Prayer of Illumination*

New Testament Reading*† John 20:1–18

Exposition of God's Word Pastor Reeder

Holy Week in Biblical Perspective
Resurrection Lord's Day
"He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!"
John 20:1–18

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE
And now I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace... Acts 20:32a

Pastoral Benediction*

Congregational Response* *"The Day of Resurrection"* Hymn 226 (v. 1)

Postlude *"Easter Song"*

*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

Easter Sunday Worship Concert • 6:00 p.m.



Voice of the Martyrs artists, Gary and Amy (Shreve) Wixtrom in Concert

We conclude Holy Week with artists from Voice of the Martyrs, Gary and Amy (Shreve) Wixtrom, in concert for an Easter evening celebration at 6:00 p.m.

Amy, a singer, songwriter, and harpist, will be joined by her husband and producer, Gary Wixtrom, backing her with guitars and mandolin. Amy has performed on stage with the ukulele, guitar, and piano since she was five years old. At eleven she began mastering the harp, and graduating with a music degree from Wheaton College, Illinois. She later moved Nashville to pursue a music career. After signing her first record contract with Sparrow she was immediately hired as a staff writer at Birdwing music where she honed her skill as a writer.

In 2015 Amy and her family found themselves in the middle of a tragic situation that God used to test their faith and trust in Him. Through it all there was no doubt that He is a good God. Amy's message through the music of God's perfect peace in the midst of difficulty will comfort you, encourage you, and challenge you to fall in love with a God who cares deeply for you.

**Nursery Reservations are required at briarwood.org/nursery.*

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

Bookstore Closing Early — The Briarwood Bookstore will close today at 11:30 a.m. May your Easter Sunday be filled with reflections of Christ's love and the blessings of others.

Adoption Connection Meeting — Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brides Room. This group for adoption/foster families or others who want to support them, exists to ask, share and support. Contact Carter Ralph at w.carter.ralph@gmail.com.

Graduate Information Needed — All BYG and College Graduating Seniors, to effectively minister and recognize you, it is critically important that you take a moment to visit the website and fill out the information form by Monday, April 17. High school seniors go to briarwood.org/seniors. College seniors go to briarwood.org/college-ministry.

Become a Briarwood Member — Our Pastor's Inquirers' Class for newcomers and prospective members begins May 3. It includes one Wednesday night class (May 3), one Saturday morning class (May 8), one Sunday morning class (May 9) and a luncheon on May 21 for those who are joining. By attending, you are not obligated to join. For more information or to sign up for the class, email wlong@briarwood.org.

Volunteer for Nursery VBS — June 5–9. We need you to grab a friend and sign up to work VBS in the Nursery! We need storytellers, craft people and shepherds. Spend a week getting to bond with your child at VBS! If you are interested in volunteering, email Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org.

Sacrament of Baptism — Infant Baptism is offered in our Sunday morning services. Contact Marie Gathings at 205-776-5204 or mgathings@briarwood.org for available dates. If you're interested in a "New Believer" baptism, contact Wendy Long at 205-776-5208.

CMMA Mission Trip Needs — Christian Medical Ministry is collecting donations of ibuprofen (adult, children and infant) and acetaminophen for its mission trips to the Dominican Republic this spring. Contact CMMA with questions at 205-776-5470.

The Ark and Creation Museum — July 3–5. Travel to Kentucky with Trailblazers and Pastor Reeder to tour the Ark and Creation Museum. For more information, contact Sharon at 205-776-5320 or sjohnston@briarwood.org.

EMPLOYMENT & JOB OPENINGS

CMMA Ministry Assistant — Christian Medical Ministry of Alabama is seeking a full-time administrative and ministry assistant for support of its operational and ministerial programs. Contact Molly McLain at mmclain@briarwood.org if interested.

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Project Andrew Training — Briarwood Evangelism | April 12, 19 & 26 *

Join us this April for three evangelism training sessions in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30–7:30 p.m. This training will be focused on “Bringing Them to Him” as a part of this year’s theme of Project Andrew and personal evangelism. Register for dinner and nursery by April 10 at briarwood.org/midweek.

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.

Handel’s Messiah — Briarwood Music Concert | May 7 *

Handel’s Messiah will be presented by over 120 musicians from the Briarwood Sanctuary Choir, soloists, ensemble, and full orchestra on Sunday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. This worship concert is free of charge and will last approximately 90 minutes.

Vacation Bible School 2023 — Children’s Ministry | June 5–9 *

Registration is now open! VBS will be June 5–9 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. each day. VBS is free and open to Briarwood members and visitors. T-shirts will be available the week of VBS for \$10. Email Raleigh Macoy at rmacoy@briarwood.org if you are interested in volunteering. Register your child for VBS at briarwood.org/vbs.

* Nursery is available upon reservation at briarwood.org/nursery.
Stay up-to-date with upcoming events on the Briarwood App.

PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Local and Missions Prayer — Pray for God’s people and His churches as the challenges to remain strong in Him continue to come. Pray for the Church Revitalization Ministry and the continued expansion of the Lampstand, formerly known as Embers to a Flame, as the CRM Team engages new team members and develops its strategy for helping grow healthy churches both inside and outside of the PCA.

Hospitalized — Bill Feist, Wales Goebel, Larry Kerr, Drew Ricketts, Sheridan Shirley, Anne Stowe

Our love and sympathy — to Courtney McGregor and family on the death of her grandmother, Ora Jane Sawyer, on March 24; to Mary Jo Hand and family on the death of her brother, Hugh McClendon, on March 31; to Maggi Armbruster and family on the death of her sister, Caroline Connally, on March 31; to Wakeeda Patton and family on the death of her sister, Annie Peoples, on April 1; to Joan Foreman and family on the death of her mother, Annabelle Chabert, on April 2; to Larry, Anne and Ben Gazzini and family on the death of their mother and grandmother, Betty Gazzini, on April 2; and to the family of member Pat Putman on her death on April 3.

email: info@briarwood.org — website: briarwood.org
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