



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

Morning Services of Divine Worship – Sunday, April 30, 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

*I will thank You in the great congregation;
in the mighty throng I will praise You. Psalm 35:18*

Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 61:2b

All: Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

"Higher Ground"
Briarwood Orchestra

Gracious Heavenly Father, we acknowledge this day 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

The Sacrament of Baptism (10:55)

Gospel Word of Salvation

Greeting of Grace and Peace*

Hymn of Ascents*

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" Hymn 278 (vv. 1, 3)

The Confession of Truth*

Westminster Shorter Catechism #31

Leader: *What is effective calling?*

All: Effective calling is the work of God's Spirit, Who convinces us that we are sinful and miserable, Who enlightens our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and Who renews our wills. This is how He persuades and makes us able to receive Jesus Christ, Who is freely offered to us in the gospel.

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

Ministry Opportunities for Prayer

Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY
*Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth. Isaiah 12:5*

Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Musical Offering of Worship

"Hallelujah!"

Singing of Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

"In Christ Alone"

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*

Prayer of Illumination*

New Testament Reading*†

Romans 8:1-4

Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

XLIX. Romans in Biblical Perspective
The Gospel of God
"No Condemnation Through Emancipation"
Romans 8:1-4

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE
*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you all. II Corinthians 13:14*

Pastoral Benediction*

Congregational Response*

"The Doxology with Alleluias"

Postlude

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*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.

“Malice in the Palace”

THE STORY OF ESTHER

**“Malice in the Palace”
Children’s Choirs Concert
April 30 • 6:00 p.m.**

The story of Esther has all the ingredients for a great Hollywood thriller: a beautiful and spirited heroine, a dark-haired villain, a twisting plot full of danger and intrigue, and a cliffhanger of a climax. And in the midst of this excitement, we find a powerful message: the smallest person acting bravely can make an enormous difference, for God has placed us where we are for a reason. –Tom Long & Allen Pote

During evening worship, come enjoy music from the Briarwood Children’s Choirs. This service will not be live-streamed or available for online viewing.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Max Lucado's "You Are Special" — Briarwood Ballet | May 6 & 7

Attend May 6 at 2:30 and 7:00 p.m. or May 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the Barbara B. Barker Fine Arts Auditorium at Briarwood High School. Buy tickets at briarwood.org/balletevents.

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

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

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

VBS will be June 5–9 from 9:00 a.m. to noon each day. VBS is free and open to both members and visitors. T-shirts will be available for \$10. Register at briarwood.org/vbs. Volunteers are still needed. Please email rmacoy@briarwood.org if interested.

Super Summer 2023 — Children's Ministry | June 12–August 3

Children age K5 through 6th grade are invited to attend Super Summer at Briarwood. Each weekday select age groups will meet in the gym and then go out to a fun activity. Activities include Let's Play, Defy, McWane Center, Splash Adventure and more! For details, download the Super Summer brochure at briarwood.org/supersummer.

Summer Counseling Conference — Counseling Ministry | June 23–24

Receive Biblical counselor training to lead others to be "More than conquerors through Him who loved us." Keynote speakers will include Dr. Kevin Hurt and Pastor Reeder. Find additional information or register at briarwood.org/counseling.

* 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 — Please be in prayer for strength and endurance as Christians throughout the world face challenges set before them. Pray for God's glory to shine through each moment. Please pray for Restoration Academy's graduating class of 2023, that they would seek the Lord as they begin this next chapter. Also pray for the Lord to provide the necessary resources for Restoration Academy's Eat Play Learn project. (The flag of Birmingham is featured in today's worship service.)

Hospitalized — Bill Feist, Anne Stowe, Scott Graves

Our Love and Sympathy — to Barbara Shirley and family on the death of her husband, member Sheridan Shirley, on April 23; to Maddie Lebeter and family on the death of her mother, Linda Lebeter, on April 24; and to Vicki Cawthorne and family on the death of her husband, member Charles Cawthorne, on April 20.

email: info@briarwood.org — website: briarwood.org
2200 Briarwood Way — Birmingham, Alabama 35243 — 205-776-5200

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Officer Nomination Month — Deacon and Elder nominations for the Class of 2026 will be accepted from the congregation during the month of May. Forms will be available at the church information stations. The deadline for nominations is May 31.

Christianity Explored Training — May 3 & 10 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Interested in learning how to lead a CE small group Bible study? Bring your Bible and come hear from Bobby Parks about how you can become a CE leader. Dinner will not be provided. Nursery is available upon registration.

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 6), one Sunday morning class (May 7) 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.

National Day of Prayer — Thursday, May 4 from 12:00–1:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Rev. Stephen King will share a devotional and there will be times of music and prayer. The Chapel will be open all day for prayer.

Sacrament of Communion — Sunday, May 7 during the morning worship services. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Women's Summer Fellowships — Select dates and times in June and July. Women, gather in a host home in groups of 10 for food, fellowship and to hear from a "Mystery Guest." For additional info or to sign up, go to briarwood.org/women.

Camp Briarwood Lifeguards Needed — June 19–23. Lifeguards must be certified and provide documentation. Contact Quest at 205-776-5237 or quest@briarwood.org.

Host a Briarwood Fellow — Church member families of all sizes and stages are welcome, including empty-nesters! The program runs from September 2023 to May 2024. Contact Chad Escue at cescue@briarwood.org or 803-546-9337 for more information.

EMPLOYMENT & JOB OPENINGS

Music Worship Assistant — The Worship and Music Department has a full-time opening for a Worship Assistant. This position is accountable directly to the Worship Pastor and has significant public worship leadership responsibilities. Interested individuals should contact Pastor Haines directly at 205-612-5199 or jhaines@briarwood.org.

Administrative Assistants & Part-time Staff — There are a number of full and part-time ministry positions open: Board Directed Ministries, Nursery, Special Connections Ministry, Briarwood Christian School and Church Facilities.

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