



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, September 10, 2023

Worship Leaders

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 & Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 136:1

All: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Briarwood Orchestra

Lord God! Eternal and Almighty Father, I acknowledge and confess before You that I am a sinner. I am prone to do evil and unable of myself to do any good. In myself, I deserve Your just sentence of condemnation. But, oh Lord, with heartfelt repentance, I deplore and confess my sins, and I commit myself afresh and anew to serve You with a glad heart. Receive my worship, as I, by faith, receive Your pardon through the grace and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Invocation

Gospel Word of Salvation

Greeting of Grace & Peace*

Hymn of Ascents*

"Love Divine, All Love's Excelling" Hymn 92

The Confession of Truth*

1 Peter 4:12–13

Leader: *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.*

All: But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed.

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

Ministry Opportunities for Prayer

Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

*...addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart... Ephesians 5:19*

Presentation & Consecration of God's Tithe & Our Offerings

Musical Offering of Worship

"And Can It Be?"

Briarwood Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra

Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

"Great Are You, Lord"

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof,
for correction, and for training in righteousness... II Timothy 3:16*

Prayer of Illumination*

New Testament Reading*†

Hebrews 12:5-7

Exposition of God's Word

Dr. Tom Hawkes

Lead Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church
Fernandina Beach, Florida

"Knowing God's Love Through Suffering"

Hebrews 12:5-7

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7*

Pastoral Benediction*

Congregational Affirmation*

"The Doxology with Alleluias"

Postlude

"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord"

*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 Ordination and Installation – 6:00 p.m.

Prelude	Daniel Cason
Welcome	Benny Parks
Call to Worship	Psalm 145:4
All: One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.	
Prayer of Invocation	
Hymn of Adoration*	<i>“Give Me Jesus” • “Worthy of It All” “Psalm 23 (I Am Not Alone)”</i> Hannah Brennan, Worship Assistant
Announcements	
Introduction of Our Briarwood Fellows	Chad Escue
Offertory Prayer	
Offertory	<i>“Christ Be Magnified”</i> Hannah Brennan, Soloist
Scripture & Sermon	Bobby Parks “Leaders and Followers” Hebrews 13:7
Ordination and Installation of Chad Escue	
Benediction*	
Doxology*	John Haines
Postlude	

WELCOME TO BRIARWOOD

We're delighted you are worshipping 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. We 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.

– The Briarwood Church Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Persecuted Church Prayer — Tonight at 5:00 p.m. in G-103. All are welcome to join for this time of prayer for our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ.

Children's Choirs — Begins tonight. Our Children's Choirs (preschool and elementary age children) meet each Lord's Day evening during the worship hour at 6:15. For more information, please contact Shanna Phillips at 205-222-1062.

Men's Fall Studies — Beginning September 11. Mondays at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays at 11:45 a.m. at Cajun Seafood House, and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. See class topics, teachers, and information at briarwood.org/men.

Adoption Connection Meeting — Wednesday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bride's 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.

DivorceCare MidWeek Class — Beginning September 13 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W203. Join our 10-week video/small group program that offers comfort and encouragement. For additional information, call 205-776-5281.

Trailblazers Lunch with Congressman Gary Palmer — September 24 at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come for lunch and hear Gary Palmer speak. Purchase tickets in the Bookstore or online at briarwood.org/trailblazers. Contact sjohnston@briarwood.org.

Trailblazers Coffee and Learn — October 17 at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come hear registered dietitian Amanda Brunner share about "Heart Healthy Eating." Contact sjohnston@briarwood.org with questions.

Our Season of Prayer Meetings — Sundays at 5:15 p.m. in A-105. Our Church Family gathers weekly to pray together as we seek the Lord to lead us during this intermediate phase we are in. Email pclaud@briarwood.org with any questions.

Women's Fall Studies — Women, pick from eight available classes meeting Monday–Thursday. See class topics, teachers, and additional information at briarwood.org/women. Nursery is available upon reservation at briarwood.org/nursery.

BTS Fall Semester — Birmingham Theological Seminary is offering online and in-person classes. View the class schedule at bts.education or call 205-776-5650.

MidWeek at Briarwood — Wednesday night dinners, classes and activities for the entire family. Dinner is from 5:15–6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Classes and activities start at 6:30 p.m. Register for dinners and nursery at briarwood.org/midweek.

GriefShare Class — Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W202. Begin your journey from mourning to joy. Join our 13-week video/small group program that offers comfort and encouragement. Workbook \$20. Call 205-776-5227 for more info.

Preschool Sunday School Teacher Needed — The young 2's class is in need of a teacher. All materials provided, just bring your love of toddlers and the teaching of God's Word. Contact Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org.

FEATURED EVENTS

YBL Breakfast with Jeff Struecker — Young Business Leaders | September 29

Join us for a 6:30 a.m. breakfast at Vestavia Country Club and hear from army ranger Jeff Struecker who became widely known for his part in the Battle of Mogadishu, Somalia from the movie, Blackhawk Down. Register at ybl.org/events.

“In His Presence” — Briarwood Ballet | October 1 *

Come October 1 as Briarwood Ballet leads us in worship during the evening service at 6:00 p.m. For additional information, go to briarwood.org/ballet.

WBL Fall Luncheon — Women Business Leaders | October 5

Thursday, October 5 from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at the Vestavia Country Club. Hear Julie Sparkman share about “The Impact of Personal Transformation” in your workplace and the world. For information and tickets, go to wblbirmingham.org.

Disaster Response Training — Church Mobilization | October 7

Learn how you can be a part of building a Disaster Response Team at Briarwood. Mike Kennamer, from Mission to North America, will be here to discuss the many ways we can get involved in providing comfort to those who are impacted by disaster. Get additional information and register at briarwood.org/disastertraining.

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

PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Briarwood and Missions Prayer Focus — Pray for Wednesday Night studies and our Women’s and Men’s Bible Studies that are beginning for the fall. Pray for our teachers as the Lord leads them each week. Pray for new Briarwood ministry partner The Wellhouse, as it brings God’s grace in providing opportunities for restoration to female victims of human trafficking through its emergency, short and long-term care programs. The Wellhouse will be one of our featured ministry partners in the 2023 National Ministries Conference October 22 and 23. (The flag of Birmingham is featured in today’s worship service.)

Hospitalized — Linda Askins, Wayne Curles, Rosine Feist, Leigh McCarty, Jon Newman, Chuck Morgan, Anne Stowe

We Rejoice — with Kyle and Holly Roberson on the birth of their son, Rory Luke, on August 29; and with Josiah and Christian-Emilee Van Puffelen on the birth of their son, Callaway Samuel, on August 31.

Our Love and Sympathy — to Katherine Monroe, Buck Witt, Jan Witt and family on the death of their brother, uncle and brother-in-law, Percy ‘Mr. Pete’ Witt, on August 30.

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