



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 17, 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 42:1

All: As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for You, O God.

Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Jeff and Angie Flaniken, Instrumentalists

O my Savior, I thank You from the depths of my being for Your wondrous grace and love in bearing my sin in Your body on the tree. By Your cross crucify my every sin; use it to increase my intimacy with You; make it the ground of all my comfort, the liveliness of all my duties, the sum of all Your gospel promises, the comfort of all my afflictions, the vigor of my love, thankfulness, graces, the very essence of my religion; and by it give me that rest without rest. adapted from The Valley of Vision

Invocation

Gospel Word of Salvation

Sacrament of Baptism (10:55)

Receiving of New Members (10:55)

Greeting of Grace & Peace*

Hymn of Ascents*

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" Hymn 276

The Confession of Truth*

Acts 1:6-8

Leader: *So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority.*

All: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

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
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Psalm 98:1a

Presentation & Consecration of God's Tithe & Our Offerings

Musical Offering of Worship

"As the Hart Pants"

Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs

"O Great God"

"Jesus Messiah"

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD
...for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Acts 20:27

Prayer of Illumination*

New Testament Reading*†

John 21:15-19

Exposition of God's Word

Dr. Murray W. Lee
Mission to North America, Executive Coordinator

"The End of Death: How Jesus Rose to Call You to Follow Him"
John 21:15-19

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

"O God, Beyond All Praising"

*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

Jay Shaw

Call to Worship

Psalm 150:1

All: Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens!

Prayer of Invocation

Songs of Praise*

Daniel Cason, Worship Leader

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Daniel Cason

Scripture & Sermon

Stephen King

Philippians: *Rejoicing in the Advancement of the Gospel*
“Rejoicing in Gospel Partnership”
Philippians 1:1–11

Benediction*

Doxology*

John Haines

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

WELCOME TO BRIARWOOD

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. 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

Trailblazers Sunday 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 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 Bronner share about “Heart Healthy Eating.” Contact sjohnston@briarwood.org with questions.

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.

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.

Men's Fall Studies — 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 additional information at briarwood.org/men.

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.

DivorceCare MidWeek Class — Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W204. Join our 10-week video/small group program that offers comfort and encouragement. For additional information, call 205-776-5281.

GriefShare MidWeek Class — Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W203. 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.

Thrift Store Volunteers Needed — New Direction Thrift Store in Fairfield is open for business and seeking volunteers. Store hours are Tuesday–Friday from 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Call store manager Alan Russell at 205-915-7095 to get involved.

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.

Open Play Pickleball — Tuesdays from 6:00–9:00 p.m. in the Church Gym. Free of charge and church members may bring a guest. For information, call 205-776-5237 or visit questrecreation.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 Sunday, 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

Friday, October 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Vestavia Country Club. Hear Julie Sparkman share about “The Impact of Personal Transformation” in your workplace and the world. Find information and purchase tickets at wblbirmingham.org.

Disaster Response Training — Church Mobilization | October 7

Join us Saturday, October 7 from 8:30–11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to receive training from Mission to North America (MNA) Regional Specialist Mike Kennamer on many ways to 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

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2

Briarwood Prayer Focus— Pray for the families who lost loved ones years ago on September 11. Pray for God’s protection of those in ministry throughout the world.

Missions Prayer Focus — Pray for Tim and Barbie Kusserow who serve with SIM in Niger. A military coup has deposed Niger’s democratic president causing much violence and unrest. Pray for wisdom and protection for SIM staff. Pray for the people of Niger, for God to use the situation for good, for emboldened believers and for many to turn to Jesus. (The flag of Niger is featured in today’s worship service.)

Hospitalized — Linda Askins, Wayne Curles, Jon Newman, Grayson Youngblood, Terry Chase, Bert Mullis

Our Love and Sympathy — to Frank Wright and family on the death of his brother, Tom Wright, on September 6; to Susan Neel and family on the death of her brother, Sidney Stephen Blackburn, on September 8; and to Kelly Hammond and family on the death of her mother, Sue Newton, on September 11.

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