



*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, October 8, 2023

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## 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 8:9

All: O LORD, our LORD, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!

## Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

*"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

Briarwood Orchestra

*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, the rest of ceaseless praise. adapted from The Valley of Vision*

## Invocation

## Gospel Word of Salvation

## Sacrament of Baptism (10:55)

## Greeting of Grace & Peace\*

## Hymn of Ascents\*

*"How Firm a Foundation"* Hymn 275

## The Confession of Truth\*

I 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

*...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6*

**Ministry Opportunities for Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer of Intercession**

THE ADORATION OF GOD’S GLORY  
*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness!  
Come into His presence with singing! Psalm 100:1–2*

**Presentation & Consecration of God’s Tithe & Our Offerings**

**Musical Offering of Worship** *“It Is Well” (arr. Berg)*  
Briarwood Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra

**Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs** *“We Will Feast in the House of Zion”*  
Hannah Brennan, Worship Associate

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\*†** James 1:1–12

**Exposition of God’s Word** Dr. Daniel Doriani  
Covenant Theological Seminary, Professor of Theology and Vice President  
*“Life As Trial”*  
James 1:1–12

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** *“More About Jesus”*



\*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](http://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.

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**Prelude** Daniel Cason

**Welcome** Max Bunn

**Call to Worship** Psalm 9:1

All: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all  
of Your wonderful deeds.

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Songs of Praise\*** “Nothing But The Blood”  
“All My Boast Is In Jesus”  
“All I Have Is Christ”  
Shane Davis, Worship Associate

**Announcements**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Offertory** “Goodness, Love and Mercy”  
Denise Wichlan

**Scripture & Sermon** Jay Shaw

III. Philippians  
*Rejoicing in the Advancement of the Gospel*  
“Unity for the Sake of the Gospel”  
Philippians 2:1–11

**Benediction\***

**Doxology\*** John Haines

**Postlude**

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## 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

**Pathway to Preparation Training** — October 13–14. Join us for a hands-on workshop for women who are interested in growing their skills as Bible teachers, small group leaders and/or individuals just interested in enhancing their understanding of how to rightly understand the Word of God in their personal study. Register at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women).

**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](mailto:sjohnston@briarwood.org) to sign up or for questions.

**Working Women’s Dinner** — October 17 from 6:00–7:30 p.m. You are invited to join us for dinner and an evening of fellowship, engagement and encouragement from those with shared experiences. Register at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women).

**Operation Christmas Child Boxes** — Start collecting your items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Pack a shoe box with small toys, hygiene items, and prayers to touch a needy child’s life with the love of Jesus! Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes will be available in the ministries lobby beginning October 29.

**Trailblazer OCC Packing Party** — Tuesday, November 7 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You can drop donations at the Membership Office or bring them with you to the Trailblazer Packing Party. Email [sjohnston@briarwood.org](mailto:sjohnston@briarwood.org) for information.

**Christmas at the Caroline House “Portraits of Hope”**— Tuesday, November 14 and Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Come prepare your heart for Christmas as you hear the gospel, see beauty, and fellowship. Tickets at [briarwood.org/cch](http://briarwood.org/cch).

**“I Cared Enough” Thanksgiving Meal** — November 21. Donate and help distribute food to the needy in downtown Birmingham with Daniel Cason KIDS Ministry. For information contact Daniel Cason at 205-365-1800 or go to [danielcason.org](http://danielcason.org).

**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.

**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](mailto: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](http://briarwood.org/women). Nursery is available upon reservation at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://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](http://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](http://briarwood.org/midweek).



## FEATURED EVENTS

### **IMPACT Birmingham — Church Mobilization | October 21 \***

Saturday, October 21 we kick-off our 2023 National Ministries Conference with IMPACT Birmingham. We are trusting the Lord that over 500 Briarwood members will volunteer to be mobilized in the Birmingham area. Sign up at [briarwood.org/impactbirmingham](http://briarwood.org/impactbirmingham).

### **National Ministries Conference 2023 — Briarwood Missions | October 21–23 \***

Join us Sunday, October 22 and Monday, October 23 to hear our guest speaker Dr. Eric Watkins from San Marcos, California, and from various ministry partners during the Sunday School hour and breakout sessions on Sunday and Monday night. For details on the conference, go to [briarwood.org/nmc](http://briarwood.org/nmc).

### **Reformation Sunday — Worship Services | October 29**

Celebrate the tradition that grounds our Presbyterian faith on Reformation Sunday. This last Sunday in October marks when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517.

### **EMC Convocation Sunday — Every Member Commitment | October 29**

Join us Sunday, October 29 at 9:30 a.m. for a joint Sunday School for all adults. The Every Member Commitment is an annual event that allows church members to declare their support for the work of the Lord. For details, go to [briarwood.org/emc](http://briarwood.org/emc).

\* Nursery is available upon reservation at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery).  
Stay up-to-date with upcoming events on the Briarwood App.

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## PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

*For God alone my soul waits in silence, from Him comes my salvation. Psalm 62:1*

**Briarwood Prayer Focus** — Pray for many to come to Jesus as our teams share the Gospel throughout the community.

**Missions Prayer Focus** — Pray for the National Ministries Conference on October 21–23. May the Lord guide all the details in preparing for the conference. Pray for Dr. Eric Watkins as he travels to serve as the keynote speaker, as well as all the missionaries who have committed to attend the conference to share their ministry.

**Hospitalized** — Bill Moulton, Ken Wilson, Leigh McCarty, Mary Jane McAskile, Albert Smith

**Our love and sympathy** — to the family of member Diana Faulkner on her death on September 29; to the family of member Carol Lowe on her death on October 2; and to Lacey Silvey and family on the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Burford, on October 2.

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