



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, November 5, 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

Psalms 24:1

All: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

"Build My Life"
Laney Philley, soloist

Holy Lord, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find Your mind in Your Word, of neglect to seek You in my daily life. My transgressions and short-comings present me with a list of accusations, but I bless You that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Go on to subdue my corruptions, and grant me grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring my spirit into subjection, but rule over me in liberty and power. adapted from The Valley of Vision

Invocation

Gospel Word of Salvation

Receiving of Members

Greeting of Grace & Peace*

Hymn of Ascents*

"Our Great Savior" Hymn 89

The Confession of Truth*

II Corinthians 9:6-8

Leader: *The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*

All: Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Leader: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you,*

All: so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

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

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

Presentation & Consecration of God's Tithe & Our Offerings

Musical Offering of Worship

"At the Name of Jesus"

Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs

"How Great Is the Lord" (Psalm 145)

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me Your statutes! Psalm 119:12

Prayer of Illumination*

Old Testament Reading*†

Esther 4

Exposition of God's Word

Mark Cushman

"For Such a Time as This"

Esther 4

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

And now I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace... Acts 20:32a

Receiving of Pledges

"I Will Offer Up My Life"

Elizabeth Jordan, soloist

Pastoral Benediction*

Congregational Affirmation*

"The Doxology with Alleluias"

Postlude

"There Is Sunshine in My Soul Today"

*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

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”
Briarwood Youth Choir

Welcome

Benny Youngblood

Call to Worship

Psalm 130:7–8

Leader: *O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with Him is plentiful redemption.*

All: And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Prayer of Invocation

Songs of Praise*

“You’re the Word of God the Father (Across the Lands)”
“God of Every Grace”
“Blessed Be Your Name”
Shane Davis, Worship Associate

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

“Nothing But the Blood”
Luke Hollis, soloist

Scripture & Sermon

V. Philippians
Rejoicing in the Advancement of the Gospel
“Knowing Christ”
Philippians 3:1–11

Saeyoung Park

Benediction*

Doxology*

John Haines

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

FEATURED EVENTS

EMC Canvass Sunday — Every Member Commitment | November 12

This is the final opportunity for members to submit their pledges during morning worship. Members who have not made a commitment or otherwise contacted the church will be contacted by church officers. To learn more or submit your pledge online, go to briarwood.org/emc.

Christmas at the Caroline House — Women's Ministry | November 14–15 *

Prepare your heart for Christmas with “Portraits of Hope” Tuesday, November 14 and Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Hear the Gospel, see the beauty, and enjoy fellowship. Tickets at briarwood.org/cch. Morning nursery available.

Service of Thanksgiving — Worship Service | November 19 *

Come Sunday, November 19 at 6:00 p.m. for a service of praise and thanksgiving. Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to reflect on their thankfulness to the Lord at the conclusion of the worship service.

Walk Through Nativity — Church Wide | December 6, 7 and 8

December 6, 7 and 8 from 6:45–8:45 p.m. Over 750 volunteer actors, costumers, parking attendants, scene-builders, and greeters are needed for this year's Walk Through. Sign up online at briarwood.org/nativity or call 205-776-5282.

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

PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Praise the Lord! *I will ponder all Your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds. Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?* Psalm 77:11

Briarwood Prayer Focus — Pray as we make our commitments today of what we will give to the Lord for the work of His Church. May each person give faithfully.

Missions Prayer Focus — Pray fervently for our Israel ministry partners, David Zadok and Baruch Maoz, and all those in Israel as war is raging. Pray for peace, de-escalation of fighting, safety on the streets, and the safe and swift release of hostages. Pray that God will be glorified as civilians, soldiers, and the terrorists turn to Him for salvation. (The flag of Israel is featured in today's worship service.)

Hospitalized — Richard Gallo, Charles Gipson, Barbara Shirley, Allison Brown, Bill Beacham, Leigh McCarty, Ann Leopard

We rejoice — with Dexter and Minda McFarlin on the birth of their daughter, Adeline Catherine, on October 20.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meetings — The Session has called Congregational Meetings for Sunday, December 3 for the purpose of selecting officers for the Class of 2026 and on Sunday, December 10 for the purposes of receiving the 2024 General Fund Budget and electing the slate of candidates receiving the highest number of votes on December 3. Both meetings will be from 8:00 a.m. to the conclusion of the 10:55 a.m. service. On December 10, there will be a special order at 10:35 a.m. in the Worship Center to receive the 2024 budget.

Christmas Poinsettias — On sale today through December 3. Dedicate a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone this Advent season. Dedications are \$20 each. Purchase in the Membership Office or online at briarwood.org/poinsettia.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes — Pack a box with small toys, hygiene items, and prayers to touch a needy child's life with the love of Jesus! You can pick up an empty shoebox in the Ministries Lobby or build one online at briarwood.org/occ. Due by November 12.

Angel Tree — Available today and next Sunday, November 12 in the church lobbies. This year's gifts will benefit children in need from the Birmingham area. Gifts are due back at Briarwood by November 19. Email Kari at kescue@briarwood.org with any questions.

YBL Annual Golf Tournament — November 6 from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at Inverness Country Club. Registration and warmup begins at 9:30 a.m. Get details at ybl.org/events.

Trailblazers Operation Christmas Child Packing Party — Tuesday, November 7 in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. Drop donations at the Membership Office or bring them to the Trailblazers party. Email sjohnston@briarwood.org for information.

Become a Briarwood Member — November 8, 11 and 12. All newcomers and prospective members are invited to attend our Briarwood Inquirers Classes. Attending these classes does not obligate you to join. To sign up, email Wendy at wlong@briarwood.org.

Adoption Connection Meeting — Wednesday, November 8 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.

"Without Ceasing" Briarwood Ballet — Thursday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Come worship with Immanuel performing group as we focus on God's way of speaking to us. Information at briarwood.org/ballet.

Persecuted Church Prayer — Sunday, November 12 at 5:00 p.m. in G103. Come join the prayer team to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ. All are invited.

"I Cared Enough" Thanksgiving Meal — Tuesday, 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.

Our Season of Prayer Meetings — Sundays at 5:15 p.m. in A105. Our Church Family gathers weekly to pray together as we seek the Lord to lead us during this intermediate phase. Email pclaud@briarwood.org with any questions.

Candy Donation — The nursery will gladly take your leftover candy (no hard candy please) after you trick/trunk or treat. Bring it by the brown desk on the Nursery Hall.