



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 – August 18, 2024

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## Worship Leaders

Dr. Dan Doriani, Interim Pastor

Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people,  
and praise Him in the assembly of the elders. Psalm 107:32*

## Call to Worship & Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 78:5-7

Leader: *He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children.*

All: So that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.

## Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

*“Living Hope”*

*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. –from The Book of Common Worship*

## Invocation

## Gospel Word of Salvation

## Sacrament of Baptism

## Greeting of Grace & Peace\*

## Hymn of Ascents\*

*“We Come, O Christ, to You” Hymn 117*

## The Confession of Truth\*

Psalm 78:1-4

Leader: *Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.*

All: We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.

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

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

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

**The Offertory**

*"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"*  
Briarwood Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra

**Singing of Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs\***

*"Jesus, Only Jesus"*

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*...but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:2*

**Prayer of Illumination\***

**The New Testament Reading\*†**

Matthew 13:1-9, 13-23, 44-46

**Exposition of God's Word**

Dr. Dan Doriani

*"The Kingdom of God"*

Matthew 13:1-9, 13-23, 44-46

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*The LORD bless you and keep you... Numbers 6:24*

**Congregational Affirmation\***

*"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"* Hymn 280

**Pastoral Benediction\***

**Postlude**

*"We Are God's People"*

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\*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

## Welcome

Ike Reeder

## Call to Worship

Psalm 119:15–16

All: I will meditate on Your precepts and fix my eyes on Your ways. I will delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your Word.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Songs of Praise\*

*“Sovereign Over Us”*

*“Christ Be Magnified”*

Youth Worship Team

Chris Neugent, Orchestral Director

## Recognition of Christian Educators

## Prayer for Christian Educators

Gus Martin

## Offertory Prayer

## Offertory

*“Though You Slay Me”*

Connor Weide, Seminary Worship Intern

## Scripture & Sermon

Dr. Dan Doriani

*“The Challenge of Our Age”*

Matthew 16:13–19

## Doxology\*

## Benediction\*

## 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

## FEATURED EVENTS

### **Special Needs Resource Fair — Special Connections | August 22**

Briarwood is hosting a Resource Fair this Thursday from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come learn about agencies that serve the Special Needs community. Registration is required at no cost at [briarwood.org/specialneedsresourcefair](http://briarwood.org/specialneedsresourcefair).

### **Women's Fall Kickoff — Women's Ministry | August 24 \***

All women invited to our Fall Kickoff on Saturday, August 24 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall. This Olympic-themed event will focus on fellowship, food and fun! Free event but registration needed. Registration at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women).

### **Foster Parent Class Orientation — National Ministries | Tuesday, August 27**

Lifeline Children's Services offers Foster Parent Training Classes (10 weeks at 6:00 p.m. in G101) that teach the state curriculum from a biblical perspective. Orientation is required to attend classes. Email [cade.smith@lifelinechild.org](mailto:cade.smith@lifelinechild.org) with questions.

### **MidWeek at Briarwood — Church Wide | September 4 – November 13 \***

Wednesday night dinners, classes and activities for the entire family. Join us for dinner in the Fellowship Hall from 5:15–6:30 p.m. and classes and activities at 6:30 p.m. Contact Eric Reebals for more information at [ereebals@briarwood.org](mailto:ereebals@briarwood.org).

\* Nursery is available for select events 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

**Briarwood Prayer Focus** — Give thanks for our Special Connections Ministry as they help people with special needs and their families to have many opportunities for worship, learning and building relationships with others at church. Pray for this week's Special Needs Resource Fair that we are hosting and the families who will attend.

**Missions Prayer Focus** — Pray for Brian and Terri Firpo with Campus Outreach Serve in Thailand. Pray for their FISH ministry (Friendship, Interest, Share the Gospel, Help them make a decision) where they meet new students and build relationships that will bear fruit. Pray for supernatural appointments throughout Thailand. (The flag of Thailand is featured in today's worship service.)

**Hospitalized** — Makayla Jennings, Tami Wells

**We rejoice** — with Gary and Ashleigh Durbin on the birth of their daughter, Charleigh Grace, on July 30, and with grandparents Charlie and Tami Cutcliffe; and We rejoice with Cale and Morgan Kreger on the birth of their son, Penn Timothy, on August 12.

**Our Love and Sympathy** — to Ken Austin and family on the death of his father, James Austin, on August 5; to Brooke DeRieux and family on the death of her father, Glenn Bicknell, on August 10; and to Ralph Bidwell and family on the death of his mother, Priscilla Bidwell, on August 11.



# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**Trailblazers Ice Cream Social** — Monday, August 19 from 2:30–4:30 p.m. at Club 55 Clubhouse (8145 Annika Drive). Come enjoy a time of fellowship and the sounds of Jay and The Elders Quartet. Sign up at [briarwood.org/trailblazers](http://briarwood.org/trailblazers).

**Trail Life Open House** — Monday, August 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gym. All boys and their dads are invited to learn about Trail Life. This is a Christ-centered character, leadership, and outdoor adventure ministry for boys ages 5–17 and their dads.

**YBL Summer Study** — Monday from 7:00–8:15 p.m. at the home of Mark Edwards, 2022 Country Ridge Place. Join us for the final YBL Summer Study titled Christian Manhood: Character Studies from 1 Samuel. Register at [bit.ly/YBLChristianManhood](http://bit.ly/YBLChristianManhood).

**Men's Summer Study** — Men, come for our final Wednesday study in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 a.m. We will be over-viewing *Work: Its Purpose, Dignity, and Transformation* by Dan Doriani. See details at [briarwood.org/men](http://briarwood.org/men).

**WBL Summer Series** — Wednesday, August 21 at noon at Grace Church. Join us for our final study on “Jesus Through the Eyes of Women” by Rebecca McLaughlin. Find details at [bit.ly/wbl-summer-series](http://bit.ly/wbl-summer-series).

**Congregational Meeting** — Sunday, August 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In accordance with the Book of Church Order, the Session has called a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing the Pulpit Committee.

**Children's Catechism Sunday School Class** — Beginning August 25. This nine-month class for 4th–6th graders requires outside work for the student and parents. If your child is interested, email Raleigh Macoy at [rmacoy@briarwood.org](mailto:rmacoy@briarwood.org) to register. Space is limited.

**Friendship Partner Program** — Impact the nations by welcoming internationals through Friendship Partners. Share a meal, introduce them to Birmingham, or take them out for coffee. It doesn't take much to begin a friendship that could have an eternal impact. Contact Courtney at [cmcgregor@briarwood.org](mailto:cmcgregor@briarwood.org) for more information.

**Sacrament of Baptism** — Infant Baptism is offered in our Sunday morning services. Contact Leigh Ann Reese at 205-776-5301 or [lreese@briarwood.org](mailto:lreese@briarwood.org) for available dates.

**Job Opening: Senior Staff Administrative Assistant** — Seeking a full-time administrative assistant for Briarwood's senior staff. Applicants need excellent communication and organizational skills, proficiency with Microsoft Office and previous experience as an executive assistant is preferred. Send résumés to Matt Moore at [mmoore@briarwood.org](mailto:mmoore@briarwood.org).

**Job Openings: Full-time & Part-time Staff** — There are a number of ministry positions open. See all employment and job openings at [briarwood.org/employment](http://briarwood.org/employment).

**Worship Flowers** — The flowers in the Worship Center are given to the glory of God in memory of Wanda Bennett from Jim Bennett and Benny and Brenda Parks.