

BRIARWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ADVENT

SEED · SON · SERVANT · SAVIOR

WULF

JESUS, THE SON

*Then you shall say to
Pharaoh, 'Thus says the
Lord, Israel is my firstborn son,
and I say to you, "Let my son go
that he may serve me."*

Exodus 4:22-23

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent – December 7, 2025

Worship Leaders

Dr. Scott Redd, 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 85:7

All: Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

"Christmas Joy and Glory"

Briarwood Orchestra

Our glorious Savior and Redeemer, when the angels split open the skies over Bethlehem on that night long ago, their message was that of "Peace on earth!" Yet today, we are prone to wander from the very One who came to fulfill this promise to give us everlasting peace. Remind us anew, Lord, that the message the angels brought that night is one that can only be fulfilled as we yield our lives completely to You. As we prepare to celebrate Your birth, O Lord, may we be given a foretaste of the eternal peace that is yet to come.

Choral Introit

"Drop Down Ye Heavens from Above"

Tommy Horner, Jr., Cantor; Youth & Sanctuary Choirs

Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Ed & Abigail Corcoran & family (8:00)

Jordan & Julie Freeman & family (11:00)

Greeting of Grace & Peace*

Processional Carol*

"The First Noel"

The Confession of Truth*

Hebrews 1:1–9, selected

Pastor: *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? But of the Son He says,*

All: *"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."*

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

The Offertory

"Go, Tell It On the Mountain"

Hannah Darlington, Soloist; Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra

Season of Worship Through Carols of Christmas*

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

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

Prayer of Illumination*

Scripture Reading*†

Exodus 4:21–23; Matthew 2:13–14

Exposition of God's Word

Dr. Scott Redd, Pastor

"Jesus, the Son"

Exodus 4:21–23; Matthew 2:13–14

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

For the Love of Christ controls us... II Corinthians 5:14a

Pastoral Benediction*

Congregational Affirmation*

"The Doxology"

Postlude

*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 "signed" each week in the Worship Center.

Morning services are available live on WLJR 88.5 FM. and online at briarwood.org/livestream.

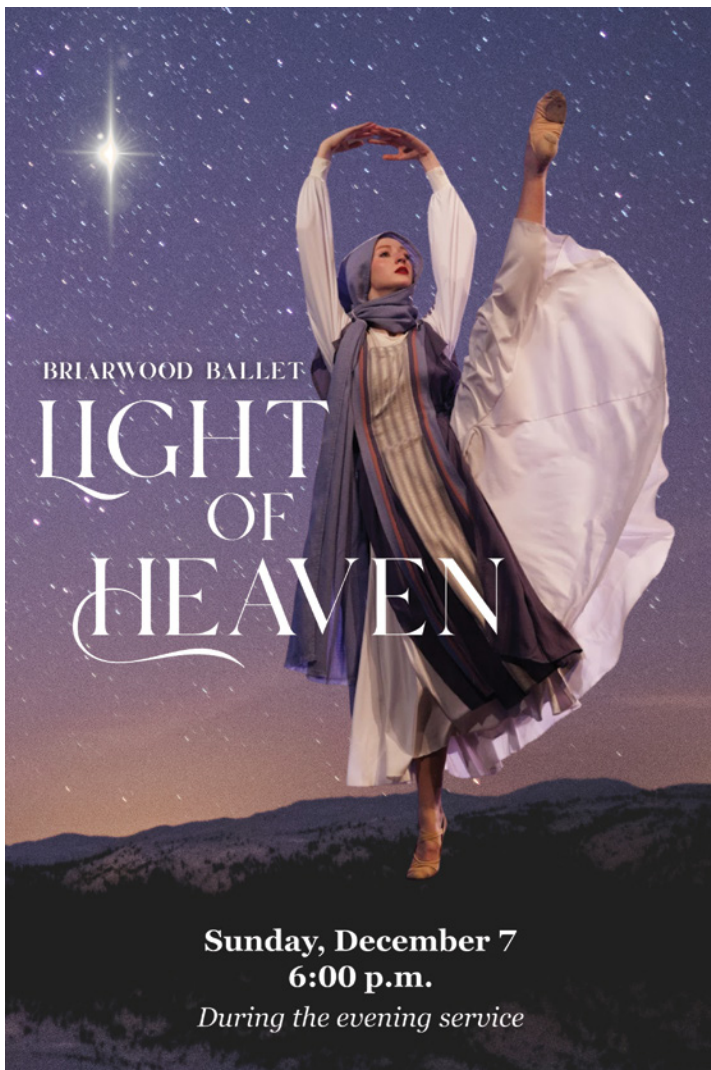
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email: info@briarwood.org — website: briarwood.org

2200 Briarwood Way — Birmingham, Alabama 35243 — 205-776-5200

FELLOWSHIP OF WORSHIP

Evening Service of Praise and Proclamation – 6:00 p.m.



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.

– Dr. Scott Redd & the Briarwood Church Family

FEATURED EVENTS

“Light of Heaven” — Briarwood Ballet | December 7 *

Celebrate the Advent season with the Briarwood Ballet as they lead us in worship with their presentation on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Admission is free.

Walk Through Nativity — Church Wide | December 10-12 *

December 10, 11 and 12 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 at briarwood.org/wtn or call 205-776-5282.

“Your Light Has Come” — Briarwood Christmas Festival | December 21 *

Come experience Advent through musical and artistic presentations from the Briarwood Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choirs, Orchestra, and Ballet featuring special guest, Sandra McCracken. This event is free and open to the public.

Christmas Eve Services — Evening Worship | December 24 *

Join us for Family Candlelight Services at 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. At 11:00 p.m. we will partake in the Lord's Supper with a Candlelight Communion Service.

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

PRAYERS & CHURCH FAMILY

Briarwood Prayer Focus — Give thanks for the many members volunteering to serve in the Walk Through Nativity. Pray the wonderful Good News of Jesus Christ will be heard clearly as viewers walk through the 12 scenes depicting the birth and life of our Savior and Lord.

Missions Prayer Focus — Pray for Restoration Academy as they meet their students' individual needs through dynamic instruction, sports, and opportunities for growth. Pray that all students recognize God's call to be agents of change, peace, and reconciliation (Isaiah 58:12). Pray that each one graduates with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a commitment to follow Him. The flag of Birmingham will be featured this morning.

Church Family — Pray for our hospitalized members Sandy Bell, Christi Bono, Janice Bricker, Carolyn Campbell, Jerry Creager, Jim Leonard, Barbara Matthews, Elaine Willis, and Al Black.

Our love and sympathy to Theodore Woo and family on the death of his grandmother, Shun-Hai Moy, on November 29; to Janie Mosca, Christina Poff and family on the death of their husband and father, member Bob Mosca, on November 30.

Receive each day's prayer as a notification through the Briarwood App.
In your Briarwood App settings, enable “Weekly Prayer Guide” notifications.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Congregational Meetings — The Session has called Congregational Meetings for Sun., Dec. 7 for the purpose of selecting officers for the Class of 2028 and Sun., Dec. 14 for the purposes of receiving the 2026 General Fund Budget and electing the slate of candidates receiving the highest number of votes on Dec. 7. Both meetings will be from 8:00 a.m. to the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. service. On Dec 14 there will be a special order at 10:35 a.m. in the Worship Center to receive the 2026 budget.

Christmas Poinsettias — Today is the last day to purchase! Dedicate a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone this Advent season. You can pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve candlelight service. Purchase for \$18 at briarwood.org/poinsettia.

Campus Outreach Celebration Luncheon — This afternoon in FH-F. Alumni and Supporters, join us for a luncheon where we will hear from local staff and celebrate the Lord's impact with Campus Outreach! RSVP to jef.fluevog@campusoutreach.org.

Camp Briarwood Registration Opens — December 8. Day Camp for rising 1st thru 3rd graders is June 8–12. Four Overnight Camp session options are available for rising 4th thru 10th graders during June 22–July 18. Register at campbriarwood.org.

Camp Briarwood — December 15 at 5:30 p.m. in G-101. Come hear about what it's like to be a camp counselor and get the chance to talk to current counselors about their testimony with Camp. Pizza will be provided! RSVP to quest@briarwood.org.

BYG Laguna Beach Retreat — December 27–30. All 9th–12th graders, don't miss this incredible trip as we close out the year with seaside activities, teaching from Wright Draper, and worship with Ezra Worship Initiative. Register at briarwood.org/laguna.

Lampstand Conference Volunteers Needed — We need volunteers for housing and assembling notebooks for those attending our conference on January 22–24, 2026. If you would like to serve in these areas, contact Christi Bono at cbono@briarwood.org.

Securities Stewardship — When giving gifts of securities, please notify our Church Administrator at the time of your gift so that your contribution may be processed accurately and efficiently. Call 205-776-5205 or email bscruggs@briarwood.org.

Submit Your EMC Pledge — You can still turn in your pledge for EMC. Go online to briarwood.org/emc or bring your Pledge Card to the Church Accounting Office.

Sunday Greeters Needed — We would love for your smiling face to be a welcoming presence for each person who walks through our doors. All ages can participate! You can serve individually or as a family. Email abarton@briarwood.org to volunteer.

Job Opening: Women's & Children's Counselor — Qualifications include a master's degree in biblical counseling and five years of counseling experience. A candidate should inquire with resume to Patti Claud at pclaud@briarwood.org.

Job Openings: Families, Youth, & College Administrative Assistant — Candidate will support the Youth, College and Family Ministries through day-to-day administrative tasks. This is a full-time position with benefits. Send resumes to jshaw@briarwood.org.

Part-time Receptionist Substitute — If interested, email bscruggs@briarwood.org.