



# *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 – April 6, 2025

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## Worship Leaders

Dr. Dan Doriani, Interim Senior 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 34:1–3

Pastor: *I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

All: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.  
Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!

## Prelude & Time of Meditation & Confession

“Easter Song”

Briarwood Orchestra

*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.*

## Invocation

## Gospel Word of Salvation

## Greeting of Grace & Peace\*

## Hymn of Ascents\*

“In Christ Alone”

## The Confession of Truth\*

Psalm 34:8–22 (selected)

Pastor: *Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!*

All: Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Pastor: *The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.*

All: The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

*...I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings  
be made for all people... 1 Timothy 2:1*

**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 Tithes & Our Offerings**

**The Offertory**

*"To the Lamb on the Throne"*

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

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* Hymn 43  
*"Build My Life"*

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*...and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit,  
which is the Word of God... Ephesians 6:17*

**Prayer of Illumination\***

**The New Testament Reading\*†**

Romans 12:14–21

**Exposition of God's Word**

Dr. Dan Doriani

*"Overcoming Evil"*

Romans 12:14–21

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of  
the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13*

**Congregational Affirmation\***

*"The Doxology with Alleluias"*

**Pastoral Benediction\***

**Postlude**

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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

*“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”*  
Timothy Asbeck, pianist

## Welcome

Eric Reebals, Pastor of Evangelism & Discipleship

## Call to Worship

Psalm 33:16–18

Pastor: *The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.*

All: Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love.

## Prayer of Invocation

## Songs of Praise\*

*“Rejoice”*  
*“How Great (Psalm 145)”*  
*“Indescribable”*

Shane Davis, Worship Associate

## Announcements

## Offertory Prayer

## The Offertory

Daniel Cason

## Scripture & Sermon

Rev. Jim Alexander, Pastor of Pastoral Care

*“David Spares Saul Twice”*  
1 Samuel 24 & 26

## Doxology\*

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

## 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

### **Holy Week 2025 — Worship Services | April 13–20 \***

Remember the death and celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ with us during Holy Week. We will have Worship Services on Palm Sunday (April 13), an evening Communion Service on Maundy Thursday (April 17), a Service of Reflection at noon on Good Friday (April 18), and on Easter Sunday (April 20), a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. and Worship Services. Find details at [briarwood.org/holyweek](http://briarwood.org/holyweek).

### **IMPACT Birmingham — Church Mobilization | April 26 \***

On the morning of April 26, we will have the opportunity to work together on a wide range of service projects that will help support several of our local ministries. This will be a great time to serve as the body of Christ and IMPACT Birmingham for the glory of God! Find additional information and register for projects at [briarwood.org/impact](http://briarwood.org/impact).

### **Spring Music Concert — Evening Worship | May 4**

Join us for “Hope in Christ!” on Sunday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. This musical offering of worship will feature inspiring works from Mozart’s “Coronation Mass” along with scriptures, anthems, and hymns all centered on the Gospel Message.

\* 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 the IMPACT opportunity we have to serve our community on April 26. May the Lord lead us to take part in one of the wide range of projects with our supported ministries. Pray that we will minister to many as we IMPACT Birmingham for Christ.

Pray for the Pulpit Search Committee to see the marvelous light of Jesus as they seek His will for our next Senior Pastor.

**Missions Prayer Focus** — Pray for our international adults who attend our weekly English classes to know and experience the love of Christ in our church and during classes. Pray as they learn about Jesus that they would desire to know Him as their Lord and Savior. *The flag of South Korea is featured in today’s service.*

**Hospitalized** — Sarah Frances Wilson, French Forbes III, Adelaide McBride, Jean Chase

**Our love and sympathy** — to Kay Hall and family on the death of her husband, member Steve Hall, on March 24; to Laurie, Victoria and Luke Dickinson and family on the death of their mother and grandmother, Ms. Yawn, on March 24; to Judy Shepura O’Brien and family on the death of her brother, John Wainwright ‘Wayne’ Bateman, on March 24; to Benny, Charity, Ben and Watkins Youngblood, Katherine Lee and family on the death of their father and grandfather, James Youngblood, on March 25; to Dunn McKelvey and family on the death of his mother, Jeanette McKelvey, on March 20; and to the friends and family of member Carter Slappey on his death on April 1.

# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**Faith Promise Update** — As of the end of March, \$2,875,907.38 has been pledged to our Global Missions Faith Promise Fund, exceeding our Hallelujah goal of \$2,873,434 by \$2,473.38. Thank you to everyone who participated in this Faith Promise season and praise God from whom all blessings flow!

**Easter Lily Dedication** — Deadline is today. Purchase a lily to be placed in the Worship Center in memory or honor of someone for Easter Sunday. Order at [briarwood.org/lily](http://briarwood.org/lily).

**Easter Basket Donations** — Today through next Sunday, April 13. The Women's Ministry is collecting Easter baskets for Daniel Cason Ministries' evangelistic children's event. Cellophane wrapped baskets can be dropped off in the Women's Ministry Office.

**Adoption/Foster Connection Meeting** — Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bride's Room. Current/interested foster and adoption parents are invited to meet with other like-minded families to encourage and equip one another. Email [w.carter.ralph@gmail.com](mailto:w.carter.ralph@gmail.com).

**Palm Sunday Children's Triumphant Entry** — Next Sunday morning, K4–6th graders are invited to take part in the Palm Branch Entry. Children will line up at the ramp between the Worship Center Lobby and Chapel 15 minutes before each service. After the processional, K4–3rd grade will go to Children's Worship and 4th–6th graders will go sit with parents.

**Communion Service** — Thursday, April 17. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the Maundy Thursday service. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

**CMMA Human Trafficking Seminar** — Thursday, April 24 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Healthcare providers are invited to hear from an expert in the field on how to identify victims of human trafficking. Register at [cmmauab.org/ministry-activities](http://cmmauab.org/ministry-activities).

**VBS 2025** — June 2–6. Register at [briarwood.org/vbs](http://briarwood.org/vbs) for children attending and teen helper sign-up. We need 125 more volunteers. Email Raleigh at [rmacoy@briarwood.org](mailto:rmacoy@briarwood.org). Nursery volunteers are also needed to serve as classroom shepherds! Contact Sarah at [ssewart@briarwood.org](mailto:ssewart@briarwood.org) or 205-776-5214.

**Camp Briarwood Employment** — Counselors can apply at [campbriarwood.org](http://campbriarwood.org).

**Camp Briarwood Alumni** — If you went to Camp Briarwood and/or worked as a counselor and now have children going to Camp Briarwood or working as a counselor, we would love to hear from you! Email us at [quest@briarwood.org](mailto:quest@briarwood.org) or call 205-776-5237.

**Senior Adults Shepherding Pastor** — Seeking a Pastor to shepherd our senior adult members. Should have an intrinsic love for people, strong relational skills, and effective leadership skills. Candidate must be ordained or ordainable in the PCA. Send resume to [pclaud@briarwood.org](mailto:pclaud@briarwood.org) or call 205-776-5282.

**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).

email: [info@briarwood.org](mailto:info@briarwood.org) — website: [briarwood.org](http://briarwood.org)  
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