

EMBRACING JOURNEYS. ENGAGING FAITH.



Creation Care Sunday



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship

A Special Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

We hope that the presence of the Holy Spirit and the warmth of Christ's love are gifts to you as we worship God together. **We encourage you to explore our bulletin, fill out a Visitor Card or the red fellowship pad at the end of your pew, and take home a welcome folder found just outside the Sanctuary.**

We are a caring community of friends who come from a variety of backgrounds to seek God in this place. We are united by our faith in Christ, our care and nurture of children and families, our love of learning, our appreciation of music and worship, our passion for service, and our desire to deepen our spiritual lives. Bradley Hills is a safe place to ask the deep questions of life and a community that embraces each spiritual journey.

We seek to be a welcoming witness to the love of Jesus Christ. We believe that diversity in our membership--different ages, genders, ethnicities, abilities, races, sexual orientations, ideological and theological beliefs, and experiences--is an important strength. We come from a variety of denominational backgrounds and from around the world. We are all God's children, united by God's love.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers ages 3 and under in our nursery. All children are welcome to grab an activity board and children's bulletins for the service.

We are a mask optional community. We have masks available just outside the Sanctuary if you would like one.

We hope we have a chance to greet you and get to know you. There are a lot of exciting activities happening at BHPC that we would love for you to be a part of. If we can share any information about the church or be of support to you in any way, just let us know. We invite you to explore our website at www.bradleyhillchurch.org.

In Christ's hope,

David Gray, Senior Pastor | david@bradleyhillchurch.org

Interested in joining the church? Email David to set up a time to talk.

Get Connected | Explore Membership

BHPC is excited to welcome you to our growing community. Pastor David will be available after worship or during the week to meet with families or individuals interested in connecting more at BHPC or exploring membership. Just email David at david@bradleyhillchurch.org to set up a time.

New Members will be received next on May 19.

Our next Exploring Membership classes are on Sundays, April 28, May 5 & May 12 at 11:45 a.m. in the Library and on Zoom. *Childcare and lunch will be provided!* If you are interested in joining the new member class, please contact Pastor David.

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILION PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

Magnificat II Toni; Tertius Versus

Matthew Weckmann

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Denise Diaab

One: Blessed is God!

All: God has raised Jesus from death to new life.

One: Now all creation is drawn into freedom.

All: We have been reborn into a living hope—

One: Reborn for new life in Christ.

All: Come, let us worship God together!

*HYMN 455

v. 1-4

All Creatures of Our God and King

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

CONFESSING & PRAISING

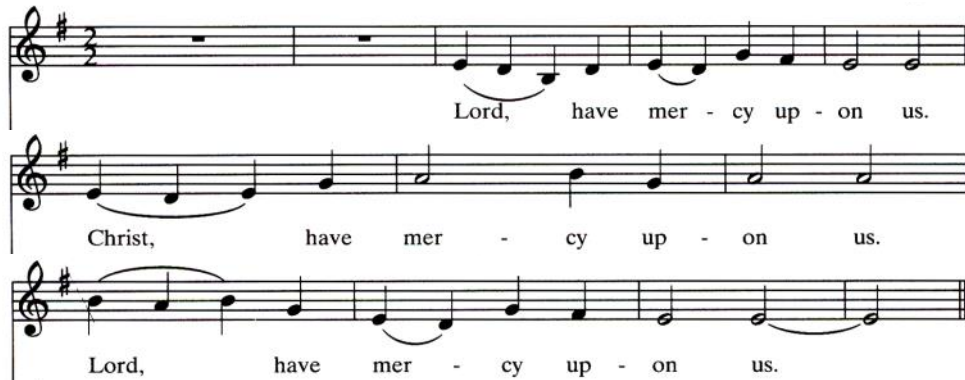
Said in unison.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give you in return. We rejoice to find that in Christ, there is always more grace. Yet at times we struggle to believe the good news. We imagine your grace and risen power is for someone else or some other time. You show up in our lives, yet we fail to notice you. Forgive us. We long to know the Risen Christ and believe more deeply in your promise of new life. Resurrect us for life in Christ as we confess...

Silence for personal confession.

KYRIE 574



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

One: We Pray

All: Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE & INVITATION TO CHILDREN

Children are invited, with the permission of their parents, to come forward and sit on the Chancel steps for the Children's Message.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

Llanfair

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation, join to say; Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

TDCE Rosanna Howard

Children ages 3 to 5th grade are invited to Church School following the Children's Message. Parents may pick up their children upstairs in the education hallway at their classroom doors.

REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE FOR CHILDREN

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to You by both be given; Alleluia!

Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 24:1-7

ANTHEM

Innisfree

Gerald Custer

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

SERMON

Keep Moving

David Gray

*HYMN 272

v. 1, 2, 5, & 6

God of the Sparrow

Roeder

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The congregation may be seated.

RESPONSE IN FAITH - FROM THE CONFESSION OF BELHAR

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS - CALL FOR OFFERING

Scan the QR code to make an offering or place your offering in the offering plate. As we make our offerings, guests are encouraged to fill out the Visitor Card or the fellowship pads in the pews; fellowship pads can be passed to the end of your row and back so that we might greet each other in our rows by name following the service.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Rutter

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours, He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the weather, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden--He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

*SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING

Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

RESPONSE IN PRAYER - CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Response for Concerns:

One: O Lord,

All: Hear our prayers.

Response for Celebrations:

One: With thanksgiving,

All: We praise the Lord.

Said in unison.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN 495

We Know That Christ Is Raised

Engelberg

*CHARGE

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Earth Song

Frank Ticheli

Sing, Be, Live, See.

This dark stormy hour, the wind, it stirs.

The scorched earth cries out in vain:

Oh war and power, you blind and blur.

The torn heart cries out in pain.

But music and singing have been my refuge,

And music and singing shall be my light.

A light of song, shining strong: Alleluia!

Through darkness and pain and strife I'll

Sing, Be, Live, See.

Peace.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST



Mini-Recital: John Solomon Collins, Sutherland Choral Scholar

Today after the 10:30 a.m. Worship

In this recital, John Solomon Collins will be performing three song cycles by Black composers: *Nightsongs* by H. Leslie Adams (b. 1932), *Four Songs* by Margaret Bonds (1913-1972), and *3 Lieder für Bariton und Klavierbegleitung*, Op. 20 by Robert Owens (1925-2017). *Nightsongs* was composed by Adams in 1961 and features text by African-American writers Langston Hughes, Leslie Morgan Collins, Gloria Douglass Johnson, Clarissa Scott Delany, and James Weldon Johnson. *Four Songs* features text by the prominent writer and feminist Edna St. Vincent Millay. *3 Lieder* features text by Nobel

Prize winner Hermann Hesse.

Help Us Celebrate Today: Creation Care Sunday!

Join Us for the Spring Fling! | Today at 11:30 a.m.

Time to get out your gloves and gardening tools for BHPC's annual Spring Fling on **TODAY** after the 10:30 a.m. service. Meet us just outside the Narthex and help keep our grounds looking nice!

Family Connection Lunch and Service Project

Today from
11:30 am-1:30 pm
in Memorial Hall!



Preview of April 28 | Youth Sunday

8:30 a.m. **Worship** in Covenant Hall | 10:30 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary & online

Adult Education

April 28 at 9:15 a.m. | Lounge and on Zoom

Topic: *Equal Creation, Equal Rights: The 100 Years Struggle for Constitutional Equality in the U.S.*

Bradley Hills member **Allyson McKinney Timm**, founder of Justice Revival and an expert on the front lines of the ERA movement, will explain about why this reform matters more than ever today--for women and LGBTQ+ citizens. If we are all equal in dignity and worth before our Creator, do we not also deserve equal respect under the law? The Equal Rights Amendment would make this vision a reality by enshrining gender equality in the U.S. Constitution. The ERA is closer than ever to being rightfully recognized as the 28th Amendment, and people of faith have a critical opportunity to help get it over the finish line--securing equality for generations of Americans to come.

Details about the upcoming Adult Education sessions and the Zoom link can be found in the weekly emails, on the website, and below. The recordings of the Adult Education sessions can be found on the Bradley Hills YouTube Channel.

Join the Zoom Meeting Each Sunday!

Or you can dial in for Audio only at 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 817 0659 1994 | Passcode: 20817

Get Involved This Week at BHPC

Smart Sacks in the Lounge | Sundays at 11:30 a.m. A **family-friendly mission opportunity** that provides supplemental food to families in Montgomery County who are food deficient over the weekends.

Alleluia Singers & Cherub Choir Rehearsal | Sundays at 11:45 a.m. Open to children **ages 3 to 5th grade**, the choirs will be combined for the rest of the Spring and will make a joyful noise in the Choir Room.

Youth Group | Sundays at 12:00 p.m. Open to youth in **grades 6 to 12**. Come hang out in the youth lounge, play games, build relationships, and experience God.

Lantern Chorale Rehearsal | Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. For youth in grades 6 to 12. Come make a joyful noise, work as a team, and learn new and fun things about music.

ICPC INVITES YOU
TO THE



INTERFAITH FAMILY FUN DAY

MAY 5 | 5PM - 7PM
AT BHPC



Interfaith Family Fun Day | May 5, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Join us for our **family-friendly outdoor fun day** organized by BHPC, BJC, and MIIC on the church grounds. Come for **games, arts and crafts, face painting, food trucks, and FREE ice cream!** It's a fun way to try out new foods and meet our Jewish and Muslim friends who worship in the same building!

12 May 2024

Mother's Day Tea Party

10:00 A.M. IN MEMORIAL HALL



CHILDREN ARE TO MEET IN MEMORIAL HALL AT
9:15 A.M. FOR CRAFTING & SNACK MAKING.

MOMS ARE INVITED TO GO TO THE SPECIAL
MOTHER'S DAY ADULT EDUCATION AND THEN
JOIN THEIR CHILDREN AT 10:00 A.M.
FOR TEA!



We Need Help for the BBQ to Happen!

It's that time of year again! We're looking for a few people to fire up the grill and **help us plan the All Church BBQ on June 2.**

If you're interested in helping to plan this churchwide event, please contact Pastor David at david@bradleyhillchurch.org.

Interfaith Refugee Family Support Initiative

IRFSI volunteers from BHPC provide the immediate need of furnished apartments for newly arrived refugees through **Homes Not Borders (HNB)**--furnishing nine apartments and donating or purchasing needed items since October 2021.

Donate Gently Used or New Household Items

We continue to collect **household items** for apartment set ups. If you would like to donate household items, new or in very good condition, email Brigitte Burgett at bkburgett@gmail.com. For **larger furniture donations**, please review the website and contact HNB for pick up: www.homesnotborders.org/donate-items

Volunteer to Set Up Apartments

Home set ups are usually on **Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays**. Ten volunteers are needed per set up and are usually done between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. HNB sends out a [sign-up genius link where individuals can sign up when available](#).

Both adults and youth welcome! If you are interested in volunteering for home set ups or have any questions, please contact Brigitte Burgett bkburgett@gmail.com.



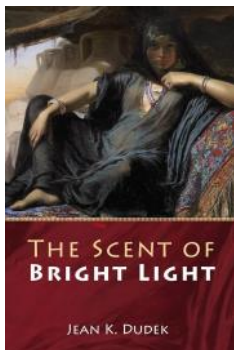
***Pictured:** Abby & Neil Imus, James Scroggs, Brigitte & Dave Burgett, (Not Pictured: Bob Reutershan), & other HNB volunteers.*

Smart Sacks | A Family-Friendly Serving Opportunity

Smart Sacks is a family-friendly serving opportunity that occurs right after the 10:30 a.m. service in the Lounge to pack sacks of food for families in Montgomery County Public Schools who are food insecure. **We need volunteers to:**

- **Help us Set Up on Sunday mornings:** We need volunteers to help set up the Smart Sack stations before the assembly. Volunteers will need to be able to do some lifting in order to help with set up.
- **Help us Pack and Assemble the Smart Sacks:** An opportunity for the whole family! Join us immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service to pack and assemble the sacks that will go to the families for the following weekend.
- **Help us Deliver assembled Smart Sacks:** We need volunteers to deliver food **during the week** to designated public schools. Volunteers who would like to deliver will also need to be able to do some lifting as well.
- **Set Up & Delivery** are about 1.5 hour commitments and volunteers are scheduled approximately once a month.

***Interested in joining the Smart Sacks Team?** Contact Elaine Henderson or Jim Kettler during the Smart Sacks assembly time after the 10:30 a.m. worship.*



Adult Education Preview: May 12

9:15 a.m. | Lounge and on Zoom

Topic: *The Scent of Bright Light*

We will hear and discuss BHPC community member Jean Dudek's new book, *The Scent of Bright Light*. It's historical fiction, **retelling the biblical story of Sarah, Abraham, and Hagar (Genesis 12-23)**. Sarah tells her story through the lens of her relationship with Hagar, whom she loves and raises like a daughter.

You can purchase Jean's book through Amazon or order a copy directly from the publisher at wipfandstock.com, where you can use **coupon code CONF40** and **save 40%**. Copies will also be available for sale at church. You do not have to read the

Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

We hold in God's healing presence those who are experiencing grief and loss.

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.

We hold in God's healing presence those who are suffering or have other concerns:

- Those hospitalized, injured, facing/recovering from surgery, being treated for chronic illness, ALS, or Parkinson's, awaiting medical results, receiving hospice care, and/or isolated from the community.
- Judy (Jana Coffey's mother) who is in the hospital with pneumonia.
- Delaney (granddaughter of Janet Williams) who is recovering from open-heart surgery.

We hold in God's healing presence the suffering people of our world, and all the places where people are experiencing hurt and division.

If you would like to join our prayer chain or share a prayer concern, contact Pastor Denise (denise@bradleyhillchurch.org).

Ways to Give at BHPC

Cash or Check Giving



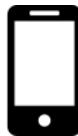
6601 Bradley Blvd
Bethesda, MD 20817

Text Giving



Text "BHPC"
to 73256

Mobile Giving



Download the Realm
Connect App

Realm Giving



Access the **Bradley Hills Giving Page**

www.bradleyhillchurch.org

Click the **GIVE NOW** button

A Note From Stewardship

Think about the part you can play in the future of Bradley Hills. You can support the church's ministry in many ways. Naming the church as a beneficiary of your will, or for a portion of your life insurance policy or retirement plan, can assure your continued participation in this ministry far into the future. A brochure on Planned Giving, which you can find in the literature rack in the Narthex, contains more information on making such gifts.

Did you know that you can **gift securities** (stocks, bonds, etc.)? Transferring securities to Bradley Hills' brokerage account is a great way to donate appreciated securities while potentially avoiding capital gains taxes. For more info on this, **give the office a call at (301)365-2850**.

Music Note

Ticheli writes about the germination of this piece: "*Earth Song* is one of only a few works that I have composed without a commission. Instead...I felt a strong impulse to create something that would express my own personal longing for peace." He created the text himself, reminding performers and listeners alike to use music as both a refuge from the destruction the world can wreak, and as a tool to encourage action against, "the dark stormy hour."

I.D.E.A.S. Summer Camp

The I.D.E.A.S. camp is renting space at BHPC this summer for a camp for **Pre-K to 8th Graders** from **July 8 to August 2**. BHPC community members will receive discounts to enroll their child in camp. More info is available in the Narthex or visit ideassumercamps.com.

Our Staff & Partners in Ministry Directory

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Senior Pastor	David Gray	david@bradleyhillschurch.org
Associate Pastor	Denise Diaab	denise@bradleyhillschurch.org
Director of Music	Matthew Robertson	matthew@bradleyhillschurch.org
Temporary Director of Christian Education	Rosanna Howard	rosanna@bradleyhillschurch.org
Financial Manager	Jan Spencer	jan@bradleyhillschurch.org
Manager of Facilities	Farid Beltran	farid@bradleyhillschurch.org
Director of Communications & Administrative Ministries	Elizabeth Bullock	elizabeth@bradleyhillschurch.org
Coordinator for Spiritual Life	Gail Brown	polserbrown@hotmail.com
Nursery School Director	Liz Sobrino	lsobrino@bhpcns.org
Friends Club Director	Ken Silverstein	ken@friendsclubbethesda.org

Our Sextons - Juan Mendez Sr., Leonel Bruno, Juan Mendez Jr., & Jorge Miranda

Our Child Caregivers - Nora Mendez, DelCarla Shorter, & Liz Allen

Director of Music Emeritus - Donald S. Sutherland

Our Section Leaders - Marie Marquis (soprano), Kaytlin Withers (alto), Kyle Tomlin (tenor), Steven Slupe (bass)

2024 Sign-Ups for Flower Deliveries & Dedications Available Now!

Scan the QR code to the right or contact Bie Fox or Caroline Simpson if you are available to **deliver flowers to congregational members** who are isolated from the community, need TLC, or simply in celebration of life's joys. We urge those who can to please help in this ministry of care. **Families, adults, and youth are welcome to participate in putting a smile on someone's face!**



Scan the QR code to the left or contact Elizabeth Bullock or the Flower Guild if you are **interested in dedicating flowers in honor or in memory of someone.** Each dedication costs \$65.00. All proceeds go to funding the Flower Guild and Sunday morning flower arrangements.

Worship Schedule: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

April 28 | Youth Sunday

After Worship: New Member Class

May 5 | Legacy Sunday

Preaching: Pastor David Gray | Luke 24 | Communion

8:30am Worship Outside at the Cross

After Worship: New Member Class | Interfaith Family Fun Day at 5:00 p.m.

May 12 | Mother's Day

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

8:30am Worship Outside at the Cross

After Worship: New Member Class

May 19 | Pentecost Sunday

Preaching: Pastor David Gray | Acts 2 | New Member Recognition | **Wear Red**

8:30am Worship Outside at the Cross

May 26 | Summer Worship Begins: One Service at 10:00 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

Interested in Staying Up-to-Date on BHPC? Get Connected!

Interested in staying connected and informed about BHPC? Contact our Dir. of Comm & Admin at elizabeth@bradleyhillchurch.org, and ask her to add you to our weekly email list.



bradleyhillchurch.org

6601 Bradley Blvd. ▪ Bethesda, MD 20817 ▪ 301-365-2850

Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.