

EMBRACING JOURNEYS. ENGAGING FAITH.



*Rooted in Love*

" I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;  
being rooted and grounded in love."

Ephesians 3:17-18



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

July 28, 2024

10:00 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.bradleyhillschurch.org](http://www.bradleyhillschurch.org).

In Christ's hope,

David Gray, Senior Pastor | [david@bradleyhillschurch.org](mailto:david@bradleyhillschurch.org)

### Get Connected | Explore Membership

BHPC is excited to welcome you to our growing community. Pastor David will be available to meet with families or individuals interested in connecting more at BHPC or exploring membership. Just email David at [david@bradleyhillschurch.org](mailto:david@bradleyhillschurch.org) to set up a time.

**New Members will be received next on October 27.**

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

Pastor Denise Diaab

### GATHERING MUSIC

Prière; *Op. 6 No. 15*

Jean Langlais

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Michelle Scott

**One:** May every family in heaven and on earth gather in name and spirit.

**All:** **May God pour out courage and compassion  
on our congregation through the Spirit.**

**One:** May our minds be open, that Christ may dwell within.  
May our hearts receive the fullness of our faith.

**All:** **From generation to generation, God's grace is abundant! Amen.**

### \*HYMN 139

Come, Thou Almighty King

*Italian Hymn*

### WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor Denise Diaab

**One:** We gather in this holy place,

**All:** **That we might know and understand God better.**

## CONFESSING & PRAISING

*Said in unison.*

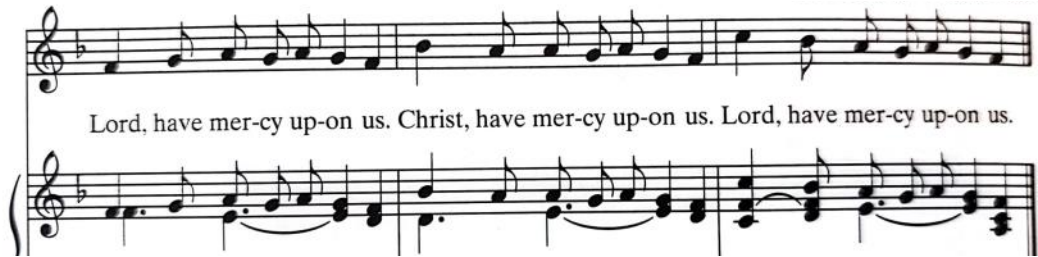
### PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

Christopher Scott

Holy One, we come before you with contrite hearts. You know what we've done and left undone. You know who we've betrayed and excluded. Yet you love us still. We do not mean to hurt or cause harm, yet we easily cover up our wrongs. We bow before you in hope and trust that you won't push us away, but will draw us home once more into the arms of your never-failing love.

*Silence for personal confession*

## KYRIE 572



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: Confessions, whether spoken aloud or acknowledged silently within our hearts, are pleasing to our God. 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.*

Spirit of the Living God

*Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

## EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCYFM Rosanna Howard

*Kids ages 3 to 4th grade are invited to Summer Church School with all ages combined together during the 10:00 a.m. service. Parents may pick up their children upstairs in the education hallway.*

### REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE FOR CHILDREN

Seek Ye First

*Lafferty*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,

And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 3:14-21

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

\*HYMN 391

v. 1, 3-6

Take My Life

*Hendon*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### RESPONSE IN FAITH - EXCERPT FROM THE CONFESSION OF 1967

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of [human] life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes [the] natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that [God's] purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from [God's] creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope... and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. "Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever." Amen.

### 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 MUSIC

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace      Holly Flack, *soprano*      Oley Speaks

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee  
The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day.

### \*SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING

Doxology

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly 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 326

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

*Morecambe*

### \*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*Seated.*

### SENDING MUSIC

Fugue in B Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST



## Preview of August 4

**One Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary & Online**

**Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab**

Attend the New Story Leadership Presentation TODAY!

An ICPC sponsored event

## New Story Leadership

### Alumni Presentation

July 28, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Covenant Hall



NSL Alumni share the “**Phoenix Plan**,” an actionable post war plan that addresses and identifies deadlock issues including:

- Palestinian & Israeli Leadership
- Gaza Reconstruction
- Systemic Accountability/ Restorative Justice
- Preparing the Public for Peace
- Visions for the Future
- The Role of the International Community



< **Scan the QR Code (left)** to read the one page overview on the Phoenix Plan. For more info on the Phoenix Plan, visit [www.newstoryleadership.org](http://www.newstoryleadership.org).

**Scan the QR Code (right) >** to **Register** for this event. **Questions?** Contact Judy Ozone ([judy.lozone@gmail.com](mailto:judy.lozone@gmail.com)) or Evelyn Ganzglass ([eganzglass@gmail.com](mailto:eganzglass@gmail.com)) for more info.





VBS 2024 | August 19 - 23

Vacation Bible School | August 19 - August 23

Join Bradley Hills Presbyterian & Geneva for a week of music, games, crafts, and faith formation! **JUST LIKE ME** is an inclusive VBS curriculum that will help kids celebrate their identity as God's beloved creations just as they are! **Scan the QR Code to register your child.**



**Register by August 5: \$110/child**

**Questions?** Contact DCYFM Rosanna Howard at [rosanna@bradleyhillschurch.org](mailto:rosanna@bradleyhillschurch.org).

### VBS Supplies Needed for Donation

We would so appreciate donations of any of the following items to give our VBS kids a garden-tastic experience:

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Aprons of All Sizes          | Real & Fake Plants in Planters |
| Gardening Tools of All Types | Gardening Gloves               |
| Strawberry Pint Baskets      | Potting Soil                   |
| Tarps or Plastic Sheets      |                                |

If you would like your items back at the end of VBS, please put your name on them! All donations can be brought to Rosanna's office or the church office for delivery.

# YOUTH CONFIRMATION

**SUNDAY MORNINGS,  
THIS FALL AND WINTER,  
9:10-10:10**

- **LEARN ABOUT TRADITIONS**
- **GUIDANCE FROM ADULT MENTORS**
- **GROW IN FAITH & FRIENDSHIPS**

**CONTACT DCYFM ROSANNA HOWARD OR PASTOR DAVID FOR MORE INFO OR TO SIGN UP!**



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## Attention Middle & High Schoolers Looking for SSL Hours!

Bradley Hills' Property Management Lay Ministry needs help with the upkeep of our grounds. Come water and weed our beds and gardens, and you can be awarded SSL hours.

Interested? Contact DCYFM Rosanna Howard ([rosanna@bradleyhillchurch.org](mailto:rosanna@bradleyhillchurch.org)) with questions or contact Mike Kline ([mpkline222@gmail.com](mailto:mpkline222@gmail.com)) to schedule a time to come work!



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## Worship Notes

The Call to Worship, Prayer of Adoration and Confession, and Assurance of Forgiveness were written by Leigh Ann Shaw, which appeared in the July 28, 2024 article of "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024" issue of *Abingdon Worship Annual*.

The sermon benefitted from the work of William W. Klein in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary Revised Edition*, Volume 12: Ephesians - Philemon

## Lon's House Meals

*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. (Matthew 25:35)*

We have been partnering with Interfaith Works to provide dinner once a month to Becky's House, a shelter for eight women. **We are excited to expand our ministry to include Lon's House, a home for eight men located in Rockville, also managed by Interfaith Works.** We are pleased to have the opportunity to broaden this ministry by giving those who deliver the dinner the option to stay, serve, and dine with the residents. This is an option, not required. **We will start providing meals at Lon's House in September.**

Scan the QR Codes to sign up to make dinner for Lon's House. You can also look for the links in the weekly emails and on the Bradley Hills website at [bradleyhillchurch.org](http://bradleyhillchurch.org).



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## Tech Volunteers Needed for Adult Education

We need a few talented tech hands (those who have general knowledge of laptops and Zoom meetings) to help manage the technology for Adult Education. The Adult Education sessions are on **Sundays from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.** and require a volunteer from **8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.** per session. Our goal is to create a **team of volunteers** that would be scheduled on a **rotating basis.**

If you are interested in volunteering, **please fill out the interest form by scanning the QR code** or accessing it through one of the weekly emails. Training will be provided!

Questions? Contact Carol Starr or Pastor Denise for more information.



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## Office Staff Transition

As we give thanks for Elizabeth Bullock's ministry among us as she transitions from BHPC at the end of August, if you have notes of appreciation for Elizabeth, email them to Andrew Milne ([anstacar@comcast.net](mailto:anstacar@comcast.net)) by August 24 or put them in the Personnel Mailbox in the outer office. We will share information about new employees who start later in August in the coming weeks.

# Get Involved at Bradley Hills This Summer

## Worship

**In-Person & Online Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

## Mission & Racial Justice

**Feeding Families** | Collaborative with Faith Presbyterian Church in Anacostia  
Next Scheduled Opportunity: August 17

**Becky's House & Lon's House** | Make a one-time meal for eight.

## Families & Children

**Childcare** | Children 3 and under at 10:00 a.m. worship

**Summer Church School** | Sundays at 10:15 a.m. after the Children's Message  
Pre-K to 4th Grade

**Vacation Bible School** | August 19 - August 23, 2024

## Music

**Intergenerational Choir** | Sunday, August 18

**Summer Hymn Sings** | Sunday, September 1

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## Mark Your Calendar for BHPC's Summer Events!

Sunday, July 28 | **New Story Leadership Alumni Presentation** | Covenant Hall | 3-5pm

Sunday, August 18 | **Handbell Petting Zoo** in the Sanctuary loft at 11:15 a.m.

Monday, August 19 - Friday, August 23 | **Vacation Bible School** Register today!

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## Hearing Assistance in Worship

We have several hearing enhancement devices available in the sanctuary near the A/V desk in the back right of the sanctuary. All hearing devices are available for anyone in-person who would like to hear worship a little better.

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## This Week at BHPC

**Bible Study | Wednesday, July 31 at 2:00 p.m.** Join our pastors on Zoom for a deep dive into this week's upcoming scripture. Participants and listeners are both welcome! Contact Pastor Denise for the Zoom link.

## 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 including:**

- Beautiful singing of "Balm in Gilead" by the Intergenerational Choir on Sunday.
- Eating ice cream and visiting with friends at the Ice Cream Social sponsored by Children's Lay Ministry on Sunday.

**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.
- Beckie Merideth for health concerns.
- Robby (friend of Elaine Hunt's sister) who has a recurrence of throat cancer.
- Nick (friend of Elizabeth St. John) who is hospitalized for sepsis.
- Mike Frenkel for healing and complete recovery following back surgery.
- Dick & Jeanne Tustian for health and well-being.
- All those recovering from Covid.
- Don (Jennifer Kline's stepfather) for health and well-being.
- Judy (Jana Coffey's mother) who is receiving comfort care.
- Helen and daughter.
- Randy.
- Eric.

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

- Those affected by Typhoon Gaemi including Taiwan, the Philippines, and SE China.
- Those who live in hope for an end to gun violence and healing for the division in America.
- Peace for the people in Gaza, Israel, Myanmar, Taiwan, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Ukraine, and Russia.
- Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in all its forms as we stand in solidarity with our Jewish, Muslim, and LGBTQ+ siblings.
- Those suffering with mental illness and/or addiction.
- Those who are caregivers.
- Those traveling.
- Those who are moving to another country.

If you would like to join our prayer chain or share a prayer concern, contact Pastor Denise ([denise@bradleyhillchurch.org](mailto: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](http://www.bradleyhillchurch.org)

Click the **GIVE NOW** button

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## A Note From Stewardship

Since the May 5 service emphasizing legacy giving, BHPC has added **5 new members to the Lantern Legacy Circle:** Amy de Court, David & Bridget Gray, Neil & Abby Imus, and **2 others who have asked to remain anonymous.** We are grateful to these members who have planned a legacy that will help BHPC continue to fulfill its mission to be Christ's representative on earth for generations to come. If you have not yet planned to make a legacy gift to BHPC, please consider how you can do so. 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 contribution to this ministry far into the future.

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.**

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## 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.

## 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
Director of Children, Youth, &	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
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)		

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### Flower Dedication

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Sisai Ibssa, a valued colleague, by Bonnie Holcomb.

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### BHPC's 70th Anniversary!

As July begins, we want to officially announce that in 2025 BHPC will be having a **70th Anniversary Celebration**. A planning committee has put forth ideas for the celebration and session has approved them. We are planning on several fun events, gatherings, and projects that will span the year and are centered on the theme of **celebrating Bradley Hills' past, present, and future**. We will be sharing more about what is in the works next year throughout this summer and fall, and will have **several *Save the Date!* announcements coming in the next few weeks**. As we get going, if you'd like to join us in being a part of planning the fun, email Kathleen Elliott (krelliott92@gmail.com) or Pastor David (david@bradleyhillschurch.org).

## Discussion Leaders Needed for Fall Small Groups

The time for Fall Small Groups is just around the corner. Small Group sessions will meet for six weeks beginning the week of September 22 and ending the week of October 27. In-person and Zoom sessions will be offered.

This fall we will be using Howard Thurman's book, *Jesus and the Disinherited*. This timeless classic offers us insights on how the teachings of Jesus help us hold on to our integrity and live in love during anxious times.

Being a Discussion Leader is not a heavy lift. Small Group time offers the opportunity for fellowship, while discussing relevant topics. Lesson guides are provided for each session.

Please contact Pastor Denise if you are interested or have questions.

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## A Note from Pastor David

Bridget and I, and our family, are so grateful for BHPC and our shared ministry. In consultation with lay leadership, I plan to take a smaller bit of time each summer for the next several summers in conjunction with study leave. Our new strategic plan is now completed, and our staff is strong and are more than capable of handling things. Later in July and in early August this summer, I plan to take a few weeks where I would disconnect, which will give me an opportunity to take a step back and give others a chance to grow in ministry here. I plan to use this time for prayer and to plan sermons and worship for the year to come, and perhaps for some longer form writing again. Our family is so grateful for our shared ministry together and we look forward to the years to come.

In Christ's love,

David

## Summer Worship at 10:00 a.m.

July 28

**Preaching:** Pastor Denise Diaab

**After Worship:** NSL Alumni Presentation

August 4

**Preaching:** Pastor Denise Diaab | Communion

August 11

**Preaching:** Pastor Denise Diaab

August 18

**Pulpit Exchange:** Rabbi Eric Abbott | Intergenerational Choir

**After Worship:** Handbell Petting Zoo

August 25

**Preaching:** Pastor David Gray | VBS Report Back

September 1 | Holy Humor Sunday

**Preaching:** Pastor David Gray | Communion

September 8 | Welcome Back Sunday | Services at 8:30 & 10:30am

**Preaching:** Pastor David Gray

**After Worship:** Welcome Back Brunch

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

Interested in staying connected and informed about BHPC? Contact our Director of Comm & Admin at [elizabeth@bradleyhillchurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@bradleyhillchurch.org), and ask her to add you to our weekly email list.