



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025
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 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**

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 to set up a time or connect with David after the service. New members join May 18 and July 13.

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILLON PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

Pour une sainte de légende

Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

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--an inheritance that will never pass away.

All: Come, let us worship God together!

*HYMN 455

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!

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Legacy Planning

Carol Starr

CONFESSING AND PRAISING

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give 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 our lack of gratitude. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ as we confess...

***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 is Alive!

Truro

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Baptism

Abigail Olivia Shea and Andrew James Shea

Children of Courtney and John Shea

Juliet Madeleine Anna Melus

Daughter of Nina Enegren and Gregory Melus

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

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God

And God's righteousness

And all these things shall be added unto you

Hallelu, Hallelujah.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:16-20

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

John Rutter

(b.1945)

All things bright and beautiful

All Things Bright & 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,
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.

SERMON

The Nature of Doubts

David Gray

***HYMN 399**

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Dunlap's Creek

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS

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

Christ has no body now but yours
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he sees,
Yours are the feet with which he walks,
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

David Ogden
(b.1966)

***SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING**

**Doxology 592*

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.

The congregation may be seated.

RESPONSE IN PRAYER - CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Response for Concerns:

One: Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our prayers.

Response for Celebrations:

One: With thanksgiving,
All: We praise the Lord.

RESPONSE IN PRAYER - 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 142**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Coronation

***CHARGE**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Frank Ticheli
(b.1958)

Earth Song

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**

Preview of May 4

Join Us for Worship | One service at 10:30 in-person and online

Preaching - Barbara Brown Taylor

9:15 a.m. Adult Education in the Lounge and on Zoom. *Childcare included.*

10:30 a.m. Our traditional service with music from the Chancel Choir and Church School for our little ones through 5th grade.

11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

A 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.”

Flower Dedication | The flowers today are given by Linda Kauskay and Brendan O'Sullivan, in joyful celebration of Calvin Malashevich's first birthday.

Upcoming Adult Education

The Bradley Hills Adult Education Lay Ministry provides sessions each Sunday from 9:15–10:15 a.m. *Childcare is provided.*

May 4: Join us in Covenant Hall (an via Zoom) for a very special hour prior to worship to hear revelation and inspiration from guest preacher Barbara Brown Taylor, known for her profound and accessible explorations of faith, doubt, and the spiritual journey and recognized as one of the most influential and effective preachers.

May 11: Celebrating Mothers' Day - Women's Day : Thus far we have all been born of women and so it is that we celebrate the time honored Mother's Day. We will gather a panel of women of our church to share their lives and perspectives to recognize that women of the 21st century are not simply the wives of the 20th century.

May 18: There is an art to dying well that can be taught and learned. While death is inevitable, dying badly is not. Author and end-of-life activist Chris Palmer explains how a good death is achievable. Bloomsbury published Chris Palmer's latest book, *Achieving a Good Death: A Practical Guide to the End of Life*, in October 2024, which has received resounding praise from a wide range of reviewers.

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church welcomes



Barbara Brown Taylor

Sunday, May 4

10:30 am

Join us as renowned speaker, teacher, and *NY Times* best-selling author Barbara Brown Taylor delivers the message at our 10:30 worship service. She will lead adult education at 9:15 am.

Included in Time magazine's 2014 list of 100 most influential people in the world.

AUTHOR

- *An Altar in the World:
A Geography of Faith*
- *Learning to Walk in the Dark*
- *Holy Envy: Finding God in
the Faith of Others*

LOCATION

6601 Bradley Blvd.
Bethesda, MD



Photo: Kenny Simmons

ICPC Invites You



INTERFAITH Family Fun Day

MAY 18
5PM - 7PM

Held rain or shine

FUN ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Free Ice Cream
- ✓ Games
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Community
- ✓ Food for Purchase



*All are welcome +
to join in the fun!*



The Milestone Workshop

for Fifth Graders

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



April 27-May 4
9:15-10:15 am

Room 303

Led by Rosanna Howard

Mother's Day

Tea Party



Sunday, May 11
10:00 am

We're Celebrating Moms!

Bradley Hills invites all mothers (and the women who support them) to a delightful Mother's Day tea. Children are welcome too!

At 9:15 am, there will be crafting for the little ones and a special Adult Ed class.

Please register in Realm so we know how many are coming.

Free with
Registration



All Church BBQ



JUNE 8, 2025 | 11 AM

➤ After 10 am service ➤

Bring a side, salad,
or dessert to share.

Kick off your summer at Bradley Hills' all-church BBQ. Enjoy good food and great company. Bring a friend! Everyone in the neighborhood is invited.



We'll provide the drinks, hotdogs, & hamburgers (vegan options too!)

Supporting Those Impacted by Changes in Governmental Policy

BHPC Support for Federal Workers Group | During these anxious, unknown, challenging times, BHPC is offering a support group each Monday for federal workers, both in and outside our congregation, to have a chance to connect, and to share thoughts, advice, and strategies, and to support each other. Reach out to David at David@bradleyhillschurch.org for more information.

Action Forum | We are called to listen, learn, respond, advocate and care for each other. As Pastor David said in his April 6 sermon, we are called to RADICAL EMPATHY. The focus for this meeting will be to hear how our BHPC mission partners (and our neighbors) are being impacted by the drastic changes that started after the inauguration and which continue to make headlines on a daily basis. Our hope is that this meeting will result in specific short term and long term recommendations in regard to our mission partners. The work is just beginning. Action ideas will need adjustment as circumstances continue to change. Thanks to all who attended the Hands Off march on April 5.

PLEASE NOTE THIS RAPIDLY APPROACHING DATE FOR ADVOCACY - On Wednesday, April 23, at noon. FOCUS – HUNGER. This requires advance sign up (recommend no later than April 21 or 22). Please contact Elizabeth St. John at estjohn20903@gmail.com for the sign-up link. This advocacy opportunity is offered by the PC-USA Office of Public Witness, in conjunction with Voter Voice.

Next Action Forum Meeting - Today at 11:45 a.m. in the Library.

Supporting Refugee Resettlement | The abrupt termination of federal financial support for refugee resettlement in January 2025 has led to chaos and hardship among newly arrived refugees. The Interfaith Refugee Family Support Initiative appealed to our congregations over the past several weeks to help bridge the financial gap left by the funding cutoff. We and those we serve are grateful for your generous donations. It will ease the lives of many newly arrived refugees.

Seeking Leads on Employment Opportunities: In the past two months volunteers from our Interfaith group and from Temple Micah have been supporting an Afghan Family of seven. We are helping this family with many thing, including a job search. Three of the adults, with minimal English skills, need jobs. The mother is a wonderful cook and has a college degree, working for an organization supporting women exposed to violence in Afghanistan for 10 years. The husband was a security guard, and the son has a high school degree, but no formal work experience. Please let us know if you have any contacts who might be able to provide employment opportunities for this family.

Questions? Reach out to bkburgett@gmail.com and eganzglass@gmail.com.

ICPC Book Discussion | The next Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee (ICPC) book discussion will be about *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, by Yossi Klein Halevi.

The in-person discussion will be held Tuesday, May 13 in Covenant Hall from 7:00 – 8:30 pm, in-person only.

The author writes a series of letters to unspecified Palestinians to explain why Israel matters to him and the Jewish people, and why it's so hard to make peace even when folks want it. Mr. Halevi is upfront with his readers, sharing that he is representing his personal Jewish point of view but wishes to engage in a real dialogue. Originally published in 2018, the second edition (2019) includes responses from Palestinian and other Arab readers. Please read the second edition if possible.

This ICPC event is sponsored by Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church (BHPC), Bethesda Jewish Congregation (BJC), and Maqaame Ibrahim Islamic Center (MILC.).

For further information, please contact Marilyn Allen at mpallen114@aol.com.



**Join us for a week of music,
games, crafts and faith formation!**

August 18-22:

9 am - Noon

Optional Extended Day:

Monday-Thursday, 12-2:30 pm

For children ages 4 years old (as of 9/1/25)
through rising 5th graders.

6th - 12th graders are welcome as volunteers.

Register by May 31: \$65/child

Register by June 30: \$80/child

Register by Aug. 3: \$95/child

*To access early bird rates, use the
discount codes provided on the
registration form*

Extended Day:
additional \$40/child

*Scholarships are
available for any
family who needs one.*

REGISTER HERE



Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

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

- The family of Byron Zeigler (Sharon Zeigler's husband) whose Celebration of Life will be held in the sanctuary at 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 26, followed by a reception in Memorial Hall.
- Derek (friend of David) whose mother died recently.
- The family of Grant Huber, (Madge Henning's sister) whose husband Neal Henderson died recently.

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.

- Congratulations and all blessings to Amanda and Andrew Loughran on the birth of daughter Abigail, who was born on April 18.

We hold in God's healing presence those who suffer pain, ill health or other concerns, including:

- Marcia Hummers for comfort and total well-being.
- Janet Hagwood (Kristen Abbott's mother) for health and well-being.
- Lynda Harman who is recovering from a fall.
- Ben Flowe for total well-being.
- Todd McCreight for health and well-being.

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 in New Jersey affected by the recent wildfires.
 - All who are feeling anxious related to jobs and/or uncertainty regarding their job.
 - All government leaders for wisdom to govern in best interest and welfare of the people.
 - Safety and compassion for undocumented refugee families.
 - An end to gun violence; those suffering from mental illness and addiction.
 - Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in at its forms as we stand in solidarity with our Jewish, Muslim and LGBTQ+ siblings.
-



Gather. Inspire. Belong.

Connect with your faith family all week long!
Discover our new and improved social media.



Scan the QR
code for links
to our social
media sites
or go online:

- ✓ Fun photos
- ✓ Behind-the scenes stories
- ✓ Inspiration
- ✓ Community



www.BradleyHillsChurch.org/social-media



Get Involved at Bradley Hills

Worship

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

8:30 a.m. Worship (**in-person**) | Covenant Hall

10:30 a.m. Worship (**in-person & online**) | Sanctuary

Adult Education & Small Groups

Adult Education | Sundays at 9:15 a.m. -10:15 a.m. in the Lounge or on Zoom

Bible Study | Wednesdays at 2 p.m. on Zoom | Discussion of upcoming scripture

Mission

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

Feeding Families | Collaborating with Faith Presbyterian Church in Anacostia.

Smart Sacks | Pack sacks of food for families in need. | 11:30 a.m. every Sunday in the Lounge

Children, Youth, & Family Programs

Childcare | Children 3 and under at 10:30 a.m. Worship

Church School | Sundays at 10:45 a.m. after the Children's Message

Pre-K to Kindergarten | 1st to 2nd Grade | 3rd to 5th Grade

Youth Group | Sundays at 12:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge

Baby and Me | Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. in the Crib Room

Music

Chancel Choir | Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Lantern Chorale | Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room

Alleluia Singers | Sundays at 11:45 a.m. in the Choir Room

Today's service will focus on the legacy that you can leave to your church and your church family by making a planned gift: leaving a bequest to the church in your will, naming the church as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan, or in other ways, such as in a trust. We ask you to consider prayerfully how you might leave such a legacy for Bradley Hills. For more information, look for a brochure on Planned Giving on the literature rack in the Narthex, or contact any member of the Stewardship Lay Ministry. Those who have already arranged for such a legacy gift to Bradley Hills are listed as members of the Lantern Legacy Circle unless they have asked to remain anonymous. The current members of the Lantern Legacy Circle, including those who have already passed away, are: Susan Bowis (deceased), Christina Casson (deceased), Penny Clark, Amy deCourt, Joel Fickett, Bill and Bethany Frick, Cindy and Ira (deceased) Geer, David and Bridget Gray, Madge Henning, Ed and Marcia Hummers, Neil and Abby Imus, Wafa Khallouf (deceased), Cathy Lutter and Todd McCreight, Judy Rankin, Bob Reutershan, Mike and Jalena Specht, Carol Starr, Alvin Stenzel, Myla Williams, and four people who asked to remain anonymous.

Our Staff

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 & Family Ministries	Rosanna Howard	rosanna@bradleyhillschurch.org
Director of Financial Ministries	Jan Spencer	jan@bradleyhillschurch.org
Facilities Manager	Farid Beltran	farid@bradleyhillschurch.org
Office Manager	Kristen Abbott	kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org
Coordinator of External Communication	Beth Beisel	beth@bradleyhillschurch.org
Pastoral Counselors	Samantha Steinfeld	samantha.steinfeld@imagocenterdc.com
	Tory Joseph	victoria.joseph@imagocenterdc.com
Nursery School Director	Liz Sobrino	lsobrino@bhpcns.org 301-365-2909
Friends Club Director	Ken Silverstein	ken@friendsclubbethesda.org (301) 469-0070

Sextons - Juan Mendez, Leonel Bruno, Juan E. Mendez and Jorge Miranda

Child Caregivers - Nora Mendez, DelCarla Shorter and Liz Allen

Parish Associates - Wally Harman and Jong Mi Lee

Director of Music Emeritus - Donald S. Sutherland

Section Leaders—Marie Marquis (soprano), Kaytlin Withers (alto), Brynn Farlow (tenor), Steven Slupe (bass)

Sign-Ups for Flower Dedications



Scan the QR code to the left or contact Kristen Abbott 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.

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

Interested in staying connected and informed about BHPC? Contact our Office Manager at **kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org**, and ask her to add you to our weekly email list.

Worship Schedule

Services at 8:30 & 10:30 am

May 4 | One Service at 10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Barbara Brown Taylor

May 11 | 8:30 a.m. at the cross, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

May 18 | 8:30 a.m. at the cross, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

May 25 | One Service at 10:00 a.m. (through Labor day)

Preaching: Pastor Jong Lee

June 1 | Communion

10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

June 8 | Pentecost

10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

June 15 | 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

June 22 | Mission Trip Report Back


are welcome here.



bradleyhillschurch.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