

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
April 6, 2025
10:30 a.m. Service

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**

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. Join next on April 13!

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILION PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

Guest Organist Ken Cowan
Andante espressivo from Sonata in G, Op. 28

Edward Elgar
(1857-1934)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Denise Diaab

One: Open your ears to the Word of the Lord.

All: We are eager to hear.

One: Open your eyes to the light of God.

All: We long to see the light of Christ.

One: Open our hearts to the one who says we can come to him.

All: For he is humble and gentle. Let us worship God.

*HYMN 77

Forty Days and Forty Nights

Aus Der Tiefe Rufe Ich

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

MINUTE FOR RECOGNITION

Sutherland Ministry and 50 Years of Holtcamp organ

CONFESSING & PRAISING

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess to not being open to your grace. We confess we are not always patient as we long for your presence. Forgive us for not being gentle and gracious. Help us to open our hearts to your grace. Give us strength to accept transformation as we confess...

Silence for personal confession

KYRIE

Leader Response Leader

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Response Leader Response

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.

EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Baptism of Casey Levi Fritz
Son of Sarah and Cory Fritz

*Children ages 3 to 2nd grade are invited to Church School following the Children's Message. **Club 3-4-5 will not have church school today, and our 3rd to 5th graders are encouraged to stay worship to participate in the sacrament of communion.** Parents may pick up their children upstairs in the education hallway at their classroom doors.*

REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE FOR CHILDREN

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world;
Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in His hand,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Sharing One's Gentleness

David Gray

*HYMN 76

vs. 1-2, 5

My Song Is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

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 MUSIC

Anonymous
(16th c.)

Rejoice in the Lord alway
Rejoice in the Lord alway,
And again I say, rejoice.

Let your softness be known unto all men:
The Lord is e'en at hand.
Be careful for nothing:
But in all prayer and supplication,
Let your petitions be manifest unto God
with giving of thanks.

And the peace of God,
which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds though Christ Jesus.
Amen.

***SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING**

*Doxology 591

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

RESPONSE IN FAITH - SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

One: The gifts of God given for all.

All: For all.

***SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS**

COMMUNION ANTHEM

arr. Alice Parker

Come and Taste

(b. 1925)

Come and taste along with me,
Consolations running free,
From my Father's worthy home,
Sweeter than the honey comb.

(refrain)

I'll praise God, and you praise God
And we'll all praise God together.
We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done
And we'll bless His Name for ever.

All that come with free goodwill
Make the banquet sweeter still
Now I go to mercy's door
Asking for a little more.

(refrain)

Goodness running like a stream
Through the new Jerusalem;
By its constant breaking forth,
Sweetens earth and heaven both.

(refrain)

O return, ye sons of grace,
Turn and see God's smiling face.
Hark, he calls the wayward home,
Then from him no longer roam.

(refrain)

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 84**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Rathbun

***CHARGE AND BENEDICATION**

SENDING MUSIC

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Allegro assai vivace, from Mendelssohn Sonata in F minor, Op. 65, No. 1 (1808-1847)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Preview of April 13

Join Us for Worship | 8:30 a.m. in Covenant Hall and 10:30 a.m. in-person and online

Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. A more casual service in Covenant Hall

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

Upcoming Adult Education

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

April 13 - Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi by Amy Jill Levine. During this Lenten season we will focus on unique aspects of Christ's unique ministry with two discussions led by Dianne Whitaker, Adult Education Lay Ministry leader,

Join Dianne Whitaker for a video presentation and discussion of the parables of Jesus. World-renowned New Testament scholar Dr. Amy Jill Levine discusses the Jewish tradition of short stories as a teaching tool with an emphasis on the provocative and disturbing nature of Jesus's parables. Dr. Amy-Jill Levine is the Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace.

We will conclude Dr. Levine's analysis of the parables of Jesus with the Parable of the Widow and the Judge. Dr. Levine leans into the power of disturbing stories. The concluding parable looks at the meaning of justice. What is God's justice versus human justice?



Everyone is invited to join today at 11:30 a.m. to spruce up the church grounds for Spring! All levels of experience welcomed as we prep the grounds, clean up trash and plant some flowers. Meet outside following the 10:30 a.m. service. *No heavy lifting required.*

Questions? Reach out to Mike Kline at mpkline222@gmail.com.

Ken Cowan, organ

Today | 5:00 p.m.

Ken Cowan is regarded as one of North America's finest concert organists. Recent feature performances include appearances at Verizon Hall in Philadelphia with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Berlin Philharmonic, Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, Vienna Konzerthaus, Maison Symphonique in Montreal, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, and Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Join Cowan for a performance on Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church's magnificent Holtkamp organ, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Scan the QR code to register!



JOIN ICPC FOR A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

- ANTI-HATE TASKFORCE
- KEEPING FAITH INSTITUTIONS SAFE
- RESOURCES FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

**APRIL 9th
6:30 PM**



**Our Guest Speaker
COUNCILMEMBER
EVAN GLASS**



Palm Sunday

*The Festive Parade of Palms
and Beyond*

April 13

8:30 & 10:30 am

Message: Pastor Denise Diaab



Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 AM

Sunday, April 20



Easter

Sunday, April 20

9:15 AM & 11:15 AM

TWO IDENTICAL SERVICES

WITH BRASS QUINTET & CHANCEL CHOIR

Message: **Easter Hope for Unsettling Times**

REV. DR. DAVID GRAY

Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 AM



Maundy Thursday

*Wandering Heart:
Figuring Out Faith with Peter*

Message by Pastor Denise Diaab

April 17

7:30 pm, in-person
With Communion



Experience "the way of sorrows" to the cross

- Follow Jesus to his death with Peter as our companion
- Imagine how we might have acted as one of Jesus' followers and friends
- Reflect on how we betray those we are called to serve and love
- Share Holy Communion
- Help carry the cross to the Cross Garden

Special music by Bob Deans and BHPC Section Leaders

Good Friday

Reflecting on the Sacrifice of Christ

April 18

12:00 pm, in-person
an intimate, contemplative service

7:30 pm, in-person and online
with special Chancel Players offering & music

Message: Rev. Dr. David Gray

Easter Flower Sign-Ups

Through April 6

Purchase your Easter azaleas, hydrangeas, and lilies for \$25/plant! To place your order, sign-up sheets can be found in the Narthex or scan the QR code.

Each plant purchased comes with a dedication that will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletins.



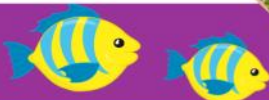
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Ending hunger, repairing after disasters, and promoting the self-development of all people.

Throughout Lent we are receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS). Gifts to this offering support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People programs. To make an OGHS gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks. You can also designate "One Great Hour of Sharing" on the memo line of a check payable to BHPC or on Realm.



Blessing of the Animals



SUNDAY APRIL 27
8:30 am | Labyrinth

Barbara Brown Taylor

Join us as renowned speaker, teacher,
and *NY Times* best-selling author
Barbara Brown Taylor delivers the
message at our 10:30 worship service.

Sunday, May 4

10:30 am

ONE SERVICE

Leading Adult Education
9:15 am



Photo: Kenny Simmons

BHPC Youth 2025

SUMMER TRIPS

REGISTER NOW!

Mission Trip with
Appalacia Service Project

Location TBD
June 15th - June 21st



Massanetta
Middle School Conference

With Mission at Massanetta
July 8th - July 13th



Montreat
High School Conference

in Montreat, NC
July 5th- July 12th



REGISTER BEFORE APRIL 7!

Email rosanna@bradleyhillchurch.org with any questions.

Scholarships are available for any family in need.

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

Today we celebrate 50 years of beautiful music from our magnificent organ. Thank you for the financial gifts that make it possible for us to maintain the instrument and to continue the tradition of exceptional music in our worship services.

Join us for an evening of
*Celebration, Remembrance,
& Joy* at the

Anniversary Gala

May 3, 2025 | 6 pm

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

Dinner & Entertainment
Casually Elegant Attire
\$70/person

Purchase via Realm
In-Person sales start Feb. 23
Childcare Will Be Available

bradleyhillchurch.org/70th | [#CelebrateBHPC70](https://twitter.com/CelebrateBHPC70)



**Last call to place your dinner reservations. Please RSVP on Realm,
or in the Gathering Space after worship.**

Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

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

- The family of Byron Ziegler who died unexpectedly early this week. Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, April 26.
- The Celebration of Life for Douglas Rigler will be held on May 18 at 2:00 pm followed by a reception in Memorial Hall.

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations, including:

- The meaningful and memorable Youth Sunday worship service developed and led by our youth and children on March 30.
- Participating in the Iftar service and delicious dinner with MIRC to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

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

- Jeff for healing.
- Marcia Hummers for comfort and total well-being.
- Ben Flowe for total well-being (visits, cards and emails welcomed—please text Peg regarding visits and copy her on emails to ensure that Ben receives them).
- Todd McCreight for health and well-being.
- Dick Tustian for health and well-being.
- Anna for continued healing.
- Paul (Rebekah Liu's brother) who completed his treatment for pharyngeal cancer.
- Those facing challenging issues and/or difficult decisions.

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

- All those in Myanmar and Thailand impacted by the 7.7 earthquake on March 28.
- All those impacted by the recent wildfires in North Carolina.
- All who are feeling anxious related to job loss and/or uncertainty regarding their job.
- All government leaders for wisdom to govern in best interest and welfare of all the people.
- Safety and compassion for undocumented refugee families.
- The people Bangladesh, Syria, Palestine, Israel, Middle East, Taiwan, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Haiti, Ukraine, and Russia.
- Those who live in hope for an end to gun violence.
- 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 from mental illness and/or addiction.

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

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

Music Note | Alice Parker has enjoyed an extraordinarily prolific career as an arranger, conductor, and teacher. Educated at Smith College and the Juilliard School, Parker is closely associated with Robert Shaw, the two collaborating on nearly 250 arrangements of folk songs, spirituals, hymns, and songs. While many of these works bear both Mr. Shaw and Ms. Parker's names, the musical work was almost solely Parker's, Shaw serving as editor and publisher. ***Come And Taste*** is a rarity in that it bears Parker's name alone, and is a haunting rendition of an old Appalachian tune.

- Music Note by Gilbert Spencer

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
Coordinator for Spiritual Life	Gail Brown	polserbrown@hotmail.com
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

April 13 | Palm Sunday

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

April 17 | Maundy Thursday | 7:30 p.m.

April 18 | Good Friday | Noon and 7:30 p.m.

April 20 | Easter Sunday | 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

April 27 | Blessing of the Animals | 8:30 a.m. outside

Creation Care Sunday | 10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

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

All 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