



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 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.** Join us for fellowship after the 10:30 a.m. service at our weekly coffee hour.

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, June 15 and July 13.

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILLON PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

The Gift of Love

Bradley Ringers

Hal Hopson
(b.1933)

CALL TO WORSHIP

BHPC Lantern Chorale

Hal Hopson

Sing a New Song to the Lord

Refrain: Sing a new song to the Lord;

Sing a new song, all the earth;

Praise God for morning splendor;

Praise God for noonday sun;

Praise God for hush of evening;

Let all voices join in singing;

Let all the bells join in ringing;

Sing! Ring! O Praise the Lord!

Praise God who made them all.

Refrain.

Praise God for springtime freshness;

Praise God for summer joy;

Praise God for fall and winter;

Let all voices join in singing;

Let all the bells join in ringing;

Sing! Ring! O Praise the Lord!

O sing a new song.

Alleluia!

*HYMN 115

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

St. Kevin

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

One: Christ is risen!

All: **He is risen indeed!**

CONFESSING AND PRAISING

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Pastor Denise Diaab

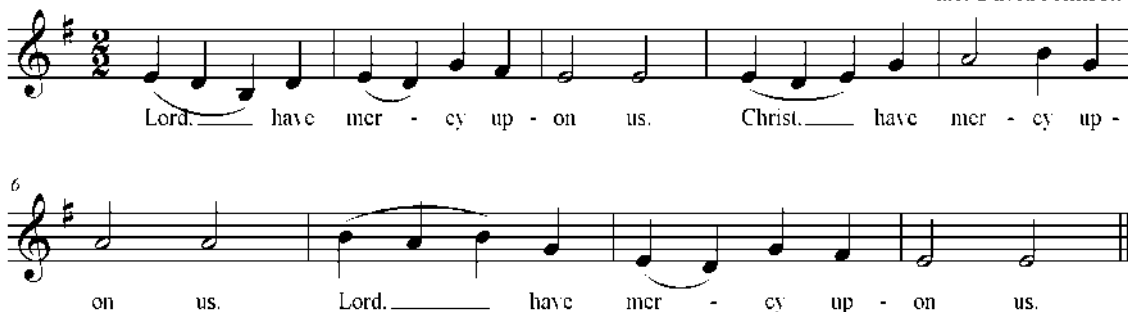
Ever patient and loving God,
you light the fire in our hearts,
and we squelch it with dampening fear.
You give us many gifts,
but we bury them with self-pity.
You make us in your image,
but we distort visions of ourselves and others.

Renewing God, eternal parent,
call us out of our complacency.
Forgive us for those times
when we settled for what is,
rather than reaching for what could be.
Disturb us this day with your dissonant call,
and fill us with your grace and love . . .

Silence for personal confession.

KYRIE

arr. David Johnson



One: We pray.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: It is the Lord who helps us. Because of the grace we received in baptism, we have nothing to fear. 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 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

DCYFM Rosanna Howard

*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

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And God's righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you
Hallelu, Hallelujah.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Proverbs 31:10;16-20, 25-26

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Strength to Keep Coming Back

David Gray

*HYMN 517

We Come as Guests Invited

Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS

CALL FOR THE 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

V. Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit *from Ein Deutsches Requiem, Op. 45*

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1987)

Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit;
aber ich will euch wieder sehen
und euer Herz soll sich freuen
und eure Freude soll niemand von euch nehmen.

*You now have sorrow;
but I shall see you again
and your heart shall rejoice
and your joy no one shall take from you.*

Sehet mich an:
Ich habe eine kleine Zeit Mühe und Arbeit gehabt
und habe großen Trost funden.

*Behold me:
I have had for a little time toil and torment,
and now have found great consolation.*

Ich will euch trösten,
wie Einen seine Mutter tröstet.

*I will console you,
as one is consoled by his mother.*

*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 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

Anna Þorvaldsdóttir
(b. 1977)

Heyr þú oss himnum á
Heyr þú oss himnum á,
hýr vor faðir, börn þín smá,
lukku oss þar til ljá
líf eilíft þér erfum hjá,
og að þé r aldrei flæmumst frá.

*Hear us in heaven,
loving God, as we, your small children,
ask for the fortune
to receive eternal life.
We shall not stray from your path.*

Þitt ríki þró ist hér,
það þín stjór n og kristni er,
svo að vé r sem flestir,
safnist, Guð, til handa þér,
fegin yfir því fögnum vér.

*May we help your kingdom
to grow here on earth.
Following your guidance,
we gather around in your name,
and gladly celebrate.*

Síst skarta sönglist má,
sé þar ekki elskan hjá,
syngjum þvíþýtt lof þá,
þér, Guð drottinn, himnum á,
Maður rétt kristinn mun þess gá.

*We cannot make a joyful song
unless we are moved by love.
So let us sing our gentle praise
to you, Lord God, in heaven,
as the truly faithful have done.*

En þegar aumir vér,
öndumst burt úr heimi hér,
oss tak þá , Guð, að þér,
í þá dýrð, sem aldrei þver.
Amen, amen það eflaust sker.

*When our poor souls
pass away from this world,
take us God to you,
into your everlasting glory.
Amen, Amen, may this be done.*

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 113

Christ the Lord Has Risen Today!

Llanfair

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Preview of May 18

Join Us for Worship | 8:30 a.m. outside at the cross, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and online

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

8:30 a.m. A more casual service outside at the cross

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.*

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.

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!)

Interested in volunteering at the BBQ? Reach out to Pastor David or Sean Owens.



New Member Class

Pastor David will lead a class for those interested in finding out more about Bradley Hills or membership. He'll also fill you in on the many offerings here and how you can get involved. New Members join May 18, June 15, or July 13.

Looking to Connect?
Want to Explore Membership?

May 11 | Library
11:45 am | with lunch

Contact Pastor David at david@bradleyhillchurch.org



**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



FAMILY FUN + GAMES

Time to
Celebrate!

Welcome Back Brunch+

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21, 2025

11:30 A.M. | POTLUCK

All are invited!



Part of our 70th Anniversary Celebrations



Lifting Up Memories

As part of our 70th anniversary celebration year, we will be celebrating our "present" this summer. As part of that present focus, we are hoping to lift up voices from our congregation – in music, in word and in memories.

We are interested in hearing your stories. Stories of what has been meaningful to you and of where you have found God in our midst over time. Some stories may be compiled over the summer and shared at our September 21 70th anniversary fall event. Others might be included in sermons. Still others of you may be interested in lifting up what we are calling "minutes for memory." Similar to minutes for ministry, these moments during the welcome part of worship this summer, might allow folks to share a memory from years past in worship.

If you have memories to share, you may send notes, letters, emails or videos to David, or let him know if you have something for a minute of memory.



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.BradleyHillsChurch.org

Click the **GIVE NOW** button

A Note from Stewardship | We are grateful for all of our church staff, not only for those who guide and teach us, but those who enable the church to function as a healthy, safe, and lively place to worship and learn – our spiritual home. Thank you.

A Music Note | When Brahms chose to compose a requiem – always a major undertaking for any composer – it was not to be connected with the liturgical rites of any organized religion. So, he chose not to utilize the traditional Latin text prescribed for use in the Roman Catholic service for the departed. But, instead, Brahms himself compiled a text made up of verses from the Bible which he found meaningful to people at the time of the death of a dear one. This is a requiem for the mourners, for those left behind, to comfort, to help them make sense of life and death. And to make it more human, more personal, he chose the text in his native language, and called it specifically "A German Requiem."

"Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit," the fifth movement for soprano solo and chorus, was composed at a later date than the rest of the Requiem and was added to what had already been a completed (and performed) work. It has usually been thought that the death of Brahms' mother during this period inspired its composition. It is indeed the most inward and personal movement of the piece. It is as if the soprano were speaking to one specific individual: "You now have great sorrow, but it will eventually pass and you will have joy again." One million delicate, subtle feelings are expressed in this amazing movement. And the chorus is used almost as a Greek chorus, commenting from afar on the thoughts of the soprano.

- Music note by Dennis Keene

A request from DCYFM Rosanna Howard | We are in need of two more chaperones for the mission trip with Appalachian Service Project to Western North Carolina on June 15–21. For more information on what is required or to join in the fun, email Rosanna ASAP.

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 (MIIC.)

Scan the
QR code
to register.



Questions? Contact Marilyn Allen at mpallen114@aol.com.

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!*





Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

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

- The family of Marcia Hummers (Ed Hummers' wife) whose Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary on Saturday, May 17, followed by a reception in Memorial Hall.
- The family of Douglas Rigler (Katherine Rigler's husband) whose Celebration of Life will be held in the sanctuary at 1:30 pm on May 18.
- The family of Norma (Elaine Hunt's friend) who died April 24.

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.

- The wonderful 70th Anniversary Gala Dinner on May 3: good food, fellowship, and friends. Much gratitude to all who helped to make it such a fabulous evening.
- Pastor Barbara Brown Taylor's presentation at Adult Ed and sermon at 10:30 worship.
- Honoring of long-time members.

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

- Barbara DeLouise.
- Cameron (daughter of Stewi and Andy Corno).
- Zane (Pat Kallas' great-nephew) who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- 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.
- Dick Tustian 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:

- All those in Pakistan affected by the recent attack by India.
- 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 of Palestine, Israel, Taiwan, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Ukraine, and Russia.
- An end to gun violence; those suffering from mental illness and addiction.
- Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in all its forms as we stand in solidarity with our Jewish, Muslim, and LGBTQ+ siblings

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.

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

BHPCNS wishes all the mothers in the BHPC congregation a joyous and wonderful Mother's Day!

The warm weather has been a blessing and we have taken full advantage of the BHPC campus to explore all that spring has to offer. We've been having adventures in the creek, the playgrounds, the children's garden, the outdoor discovery center, the big blocks, and more.

There are still a few spaces in our summer camp, "Bradley Bear Goes Camping". Children between the ages of 3 and 6 are welcome to join us as we Slip N Slide the day away! For more information, or to learn more about our play-based programming for 2, 3, and 4 year old children, please call us at 301-365-2909 or email us at bhinfo@bhpcns.org. You can also check out our website at www.bhpcns.org!



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 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

June 29 | 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

 *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