



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday of Easter
May 4, 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 worship bag 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

Prière à Notre-Dame; from Suite Gothique, Op. 25

Léon Boëllmann
(1862-1897)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Jong Lee

One: God of Creation, we come to praise you.

All: Open our eyes to see your hope.

One: Open our souls to sense your presence.

All: Open our hearts to your love.

One: Open our ears to hear of your story.

All: Open our mouths to sing of your glory. Let us worship our risen Lord this Easter tide.

*HYMN 495

We Know That Christ Is Raised

Engelberg

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

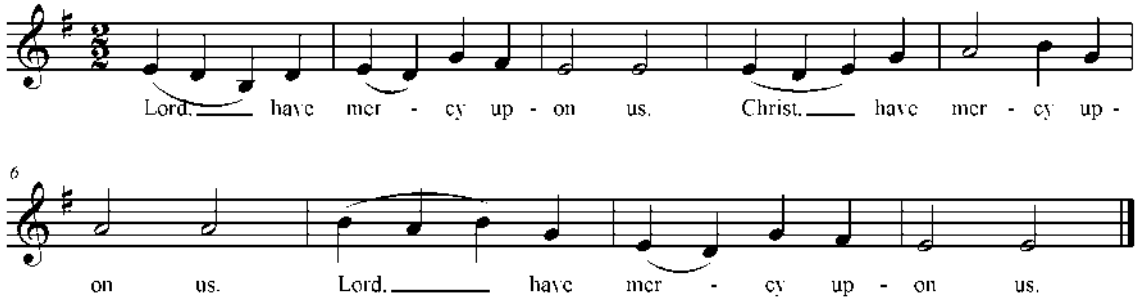
Pastor Denise Diaab

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your love and your grace. Forgive us, we pray. Guide our feet back to your path as we confess ...

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

Recognition of Long Time Members

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 13:31-33, 44-52

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

George Frederick Handel
(1685-1750)

I know that my Redeemer liveth; from Messiah
I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that He shall stand
at the latter day upon the earth.

And tho' worms destroy this body,
yet in my flesh shall I see God.
I know that my Redeemer liveth:
For now is Christ risen from the dead,
the first fruits of them that sleep.

SERMON

The Near Kingdom

Pastor Barbara Brown Taylor

*HYMN 121

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

Puer Nobis Nascitur

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE IN FAITH - PCUSA CONFESSION 1983

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, of every race and people, to live as one community.

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

Philip Stopford

The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*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 Celebrations:

One: With thanksgiving,

All: We praise the Lord.

Response for Concerns:

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayers.

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

King of Glory, King of Peace

General Seminary



1 King of glo - ry, King of peace, I will love thee;
2 Where - fore with my ut - most art, I will sing thee;
3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;

and that love may nev - er cease, I will move thee.
and the cream of all my heart, I will bring thee.
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.

Thou hast grant - ed my re - quest, thou hast heard me;
Though my sins a - gainst me cried, thou didst clear me;
Small it is in this poor sort to en - roll thee;

thou didst note my work - ing breast, thou hast spared me.
and a - lone, when they re - plied, thou didst hear me.
e'en e - ter - ni - ty's too short to ex - tol thee.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

Nun danket alle Gott, Op. 65, Nr. 59

Sigfried Karg-Elert
(1877-1933)

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Preview of May 11

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

Preaching: Pastor David Gray | Communion | New Members Class

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

68 Years

Don Wilson

67 Years

Jean Seybert

66 Years

Barbara Jennings

Marilyn Alberts

65 Years

Nancy Taylor

John Grobowski

60 + Years

Martha Fouchard

David Hammers

Chuck Weir

Janet Miller

John Gaffney

Marion Patel

55+ Years

Elizabeth St. John

Jack & Shirley Bennett

Joan Beddow

Carol McLeod

Dick & Jeanne Tustian

Charles de Court

Carol Frenkel

50+ Years

Ed Hummers

Laura Edson

Calvin D. Meleney

Donald & Phyllis Sutherland

Waid Lechner

Kent Wilson

Amy de Court

Joan Jameson

Scott & Carol Butcher

Janet Krasnican

Janet Williams

Joanie Friend

Carol Dorsey

Barbara DeLouise

Nancy Cylke

Tom Biggs

Dorothy Kirkendall

Steve Holmberg

40+ Years

Lisa Alberts-Cox

Al & Marcia Kingman

Lisa Hicks

Carol Starr

Corky & Mary Hickey

John Bowis

Pam Hammers

Cheryl Naulty

Jennifer Snow

Melissa Busch

Tim & Susan Vanderver

Fabian Sydnor

Steve & Joan Burns

Terry & Kathy Brady

30+ Years

Abby & Neil Imus

Julie Jameson

Michelle Marcoot

Clint & Missy Kelly

Harriet Powell

Margaret & Paul Rick

Jason Oliver

Kristine & Josef Yeager

Rosanna Morrison

Gail & George Brown

Lizzy Menard

Michelle Friend

Paul Skrabut

Lou & Pat Kallas

JoAnne Jensen

Judy & Rick Arndt

Judy Rankin

Julie & Bruce Hunter

Casey & Elaine Henderson

Pat Stocker

Gretchen Gaines

Lizanne Stafford

Susie Wellman

Jean Sutton

Gretchen Bolton

Stephanie Naulty

Jenni Biggs

James & Betsy Scroggs

Susan Plaine

Robyn Nietert

Madge Henning

Cindy Geer

Walter Hill

Pat Wainwright

Ben Flowe

Bill & Doreen Miller

Katharine Scheig

Sally Fowler

Kate Wise

David Hammers, III

Sally Muth

Robert Jensen

Bob & Karen Deans

Lucy McFadden

Marc Allen

Mike Frenkel

Yupin Whitehead

Cathie Lutter & Todd McCreight

Jonathan Rick

Ila Roy

Liz Allen

Sarah & Karl Klontz

Bebe McMeekin

30 Years in 2025

Bob Reutershan

Jennifer Stitson



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 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.

May 25: Memorial Day Weekend - Adult Education is officially on vacation for the summer.

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



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.)



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!*

Logo: The Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee, 6001 Bradley Blvd.

Illustration: A smiling taco character and a smiling burrito character walking next to a white food truck with a yellow awning.

Food for Music Concert

Saturday, May 10 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us on May 10th for a Food for Music concert to benefit Bethesda Help. This free concert will feature the Tempo Giusto ensemble, with all donations going directly to Bethesda Help.



To learn more about Bethesda Help and the program, scan the QR code!

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!)



**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



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, will 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.



FAMILY FUN + GAMES

Welcome Back Brunch+

Time to
Celebrate!

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21, 2025

11:30 A.M. | POTLUCK

All are invited!



Part of our 70th Anniversary Celebrations

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 Hummer's 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 Rev. Pete James (retired pastor at Vienna Presbyterian Church) whose wife, Chris, died on March 20.
- The family of Derek (friend of David) whose mother recently died.
- 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 (please note time change from previous announcement).

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.

- The fun "Blessing of the Animals" on April 27, held in our beautiful refurbished labyrinth.
- The baptisms of Abby and Andrew Shea (parents Courtney and John Shea) and Juliet Melus (parents Nina Enegren & Greg Melus).
- The ribbon-cutting and re-opening of Scotland AME Zion Church on April 30.

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

- Barbara DeLouise.
- Cameron (non-member).
- Anne and Andrew for healing.
- 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 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.

A Note from Stewardship | Through the first 4 months of the year a majority of the 212 households that made stewardship pledges for the year 2025 have either fulfilled their pledge entirely or have contributed one-third or more of the pledged amount. 101 pledging households either have made no gift to date or have contributed less than one-third of their pledges. We give sincere thanks to those who are on track or ahead of schedule in fulfilling their pledges. Receiving pledges on a regular basis ensures that the church can continue fulfilling its mission throughout the year.

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

A Music Note | The music of Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933) is becoming increasingly well known, though he's not yet a standard household name in this country. If an organ composer wanted to be recognized in Germany, they would write music based on chorales (i.e., German hymns). Such was the case of Karg-Elert when he composed his *66 Chorale Variations*, Op. 65, of which ***Nun danket alle Gott*** is played this morning. He was influenced by the music of Bach, Claude Debussy, and Max Reger. *Nun danket alle Gott* represents these influences. *Nun danket (Marche Triomphale)* is perhaps his most famous composition for organ. Fragments of the tune (Now Thank We All Our God) are heard in the soprano voice, but in a disguised manner. Flourishes and chromaticism abounds, though within the strict parameters of tonality, hallmark traits for this romantic, impressionistic, and expressionistic composer.

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

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

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.

Flower Dedication | The flowers are dedicated to Emily, by Terry and Kathy Brady.

Worship Schedule

Services at 8:30 & 10:30 am

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

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

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

 *are welcome here.*