

# Epiphany Sunday



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church  
January 4, 2026  
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](http://www.bradleyhillchurch.org)**

In Christ's hope,

David Gray, Senior Pastor | **[david@bradleyhillchurch.org](mailto: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.

# GATHERING TOGETHER

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

### CARILLON PEAL

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

### GATHERING MUSIC

Franz Liszt

Adeste Fideles: March of the Three Kings from *Weihnachtsbaum*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Denise Diaab

One: Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings and queens to the brightness of your rising;

**All: Fill us this day with your glory.**

One: Show yourself to us as we worship you;

**All: The true light, the great gift, and the bright morning star.**

### \*HYMN 63

As with Gladness Those of Old

Dix

*The congregation is welcome to sing "those of old" or use the words printed in the hymnal.*

### WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

One: I lift my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?

**All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

## CONFESSING AND PRAISING

*In unison.*

### PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

God of gold, we seek your glory:

the richness that transforms our drabness into color,  
and brightens our dullness with vibrant light;  
your wonder and joy at the heart of life.

God of incense, we offer you our prayer:

our unspoken and unspeakable longings,  
our questioning of truth,  
our search for your mystery deep within.

God of myrrh, we cry out to you in our suffering:

the pain of all our rejections and bereavements,  
our baffled despair at undeserved suffering,  
our rage at continuing injustice.

We embrace you, God-with-us,

help us to confess as we pray.

*Silence for personal confession.*

## KYRIE



O come, O come, Em - man u - el, And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
Re - joyce! Re - joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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.

Glory to God

From the Lima Liturgy (Peru)



*Leader:*  
Glo ry to God, glo ry to God, glo ry in the high - est!

*All:*  
Glo ry to God, glo ry to God, glo ry in the high - est!

*Leader:* To God be glo - ry for - ev er. *All:* To God be glo - ry for - ev er.

*Leader:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men! *All:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men! *Leader:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men! *All:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men!

*Leader:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men! *All:* Al - le - lu - ia, A - men!

# 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 are encouraged to stay worship to participate in the sacrament of communion. If this is your child's first time at Bradley Hills, please accompany them out to meet their teacher in the Gathering Space.

## REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE FOR CHILDREN

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2: 1-12

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Epiphany

David Gray

## \*HYMN 68

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

*Puer Nobis Nascitur*

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS

### CALL FOR THE OFFERINGS, TITHES AND PLEDGES

**Scan the QR code to make an offering or place your offering in the offering plate or basket, make a pledge through Giving Now or under the Stewardship section of the website.** 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

Ancient Peoples Searched the Sky

BHPC Community Choir  
Adam Tice/Sally Ann Morris

## **\*SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING**

What Child Is This?

*Greensleeves*

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

*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 MUSIC**

This Little Light of Mine

African-American Spiritual, arr. Calvin Taylor

*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 66

We Three Kings of Orient Are  
vs. 1 & 5 All  
vs. 2 Upper Voices  
vs. 3 Lower Voices  
vs. 4 Choir Only

*Three Kings of Orient*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### Preview of January 11

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

Baptism of the Lord Sunday | Preaching - Pastor David Gray

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

9:15 a.m. Adult Education meets in the Lounge and on Zoom

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

### **ACTION FORUM** | Sunday, January 4 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Library

Light lunch offered

#### Agenda:

- Current work of the PC-USA Office of Public Witness regarding feelings of Holy Discontentment as faithful belief that God is calling each of us to respond in some way
- OPW's 2026 Advocacy calendar
- Report on alternative giving 2025 results as a call to action/planting seeds for the future
- Updates on feeding those in need as one form of action

## Adult Education - January

**January 11 | What will humans be good for as Artificial Intelligence spreads through societies?** Lee Rainie, Director of Elon University's, Imagining the Digital Future Center, returns to Bradley Hills to discuss the impact of AI on personal spirituality and dignity as well on work and jobs. Lee speaks frequently on national networks and cable. His center's research includes the influence of AI on human emotional connections. Lee joined the Imagining the Digital Future Center as director in 2023 after 24 years of directing Pew Research Center's efforts to study the internet and technology.

**January 18 | Martin Luther King Weekend:** Robert (Robby) P. Jones, the president and founder of Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) returns to Bradley Hills. His visit two years ago provided direction to the work of our Racial Justice Coordinating Committee and the development of the Antiracism Policy, recently approved by the Session. Robby will update us on insights and recent data from PRRI's American Values Survey and ongoing analysis of public opinion in these challenging times. He is the author of the New York Times bestseller *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future* (published September 5, 2023), as well as *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*, which won a 2021 American Book Award. He's just finished writing a forthcoming book, *Backslide: Reclaiming a Faith and a Nation After the Christian Turn Against Democracy*, which will be published by St.Martin's Essentials next fall ahead of the midterm elections.

Suggested (though not required) audience preparation: learn how the 16th Annual Report of the PRRI uncovered surprising trends and attitudes about the current administration <https://contrarian.substack.com/p/most-americans-are-seeing-the-dangers>. Jones also writes a weekly newsletter for those dedicated to the work of truth-telling, repair, and healing from the legacy of white supremacy in American Christianity at [www.whitetoolong.net](http://www.whitetoolong.net).

**January 25 | Artificial Intelligence and the Bible?** Join us to examine how artificial intelligence can influence our understanding of the Bible. Dianne Whitaker and Clint Kelly return to the story of the Prodigal Son: Luke 15:11-32 and ask artificial intelligence to predict how the story plays out after a year has passed.

**A Stewardship Note** | Thank you for the faithful gifts that will make the church's ministry possible during this coming year. We are deeply grateful for this congregation's joyful generosity.

## Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

**We hold in God's healing presence those experiencing loss and grief.**

**We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.**

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

- Margaret, Joseph, and Kristine Yeager who are being treated for significant burns caused by a fire resulting from their Christmas tree igniting while they were preparing dinner.
- Greg Urban, Marcie, Helen, Mary Hickey, Donald, Kornelia Nagy-Koppany, Susan Slack, Peg Flowe, Graydon, Ed, Violet, Dick Tustian, Sharon Griffith, and Ben Flowe 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 war, hurt, and division including:**

- Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in all its forms as we stand in solidarity with our Jewish, Muslim, and LGBTQ+ siblings.
- All those experiencing food and housing insecurity.
- The welfare of our country; that those in authority lead with integrity considering all the people.
- Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine that benefits all the people and an end to gun violence.
- The people in Sudan, Palestine, Israel, South Korea, Syria, Israel, Taiwan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Haiti, Ukraine, and Russia.
- Those recovering from addiction and/or those suffering from mental illness.
- Those who are caregivers and those traveling.



# Winter at Bradley Hills

## Worship

**Worship at 8:30 a.m.** | In Covenant Hall

**Worship at 10:30 a.m.** | In the Sanctuary and online

## Adult Education & Small Groups

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

**Bible Study** | Wednesdays at 2 p.m. on Zoom

**Lenten Small Groups** | February 19-April 5 | Daytime and Evening | In-person and Zoom groups

**Grief Support Group** | 3rd Thursday | 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

## Mission

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

**Smart Sacks** | Sundays at 11:30 a.m. in the Lounge

**Feeding Families** | Pack and distribute groceries in Anacostia

## Children and 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 Noon in the Youth Lounge

**Desserts and Devotions** | Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Kitchen

## Music

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

**Alleluia Singers** | Sunday from 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**Lantern Chorale** | Thursday from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**Facilitators Needed for Lenten Small Groups** | Lenten Small Groups will be held for six weeks February 19 – April 5, 2026. There will be in-person and Zoom options.

The primary resource will be Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. During Lent we will accompany Rev. Taylor on "her journey to understand darkness... teaching us how to find God even in darkness and giving us a way to let darkness teach us what we need to know."

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Pastor Denise by January 18, 2026.

## Our Staff

Senior Pastor	David Gray	david@bradleyhillschurch.org
Associate Pastor	Denise Diaab	denise@bradleyhillschurch.org
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries	Rosanna Howard	rosanna@bradleyhillschurch.org
Director of Financial Ministries	Jan Spencer	jan@bradleyhillschurch.org
Interim Director of Music	Paul Vasile	paul@bradleyhillschurch.org
Facilities Manager	Farid Beltran	farid@bradleyhillschurch.org
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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), Brynn Farlow (tenor), Steven Slupe (bass)

## Next Weekend at BHPC

**Bradley Ringers** | Adults and youth are warmly welcome to our handbell rehearsal on **Saturday, January 10 at 2 pm**. We'll learn ringing fundamentals and prepare an easy piece to play the next morning. All are welcome, even if it's your first time!

**Understanding Baptism** | Join Pastor David Gray at 9:30 a.m. in Covenant Hall on January 11, as he host a class that focuses on the meaning, history, and practice of Baptism in the Reformed tradition. Those who are interested in baptism for their children or themselves are welcome.

**Family Scavenger Hunt and Lunch** | Sunday, January 11 at Noon in Memorial Hall.

## Worship Schedule

8:30 a.m. (Covenant Hall) and 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)

January 11 | Baptism of the Lord Sunday | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

January 18 | Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

January 25 | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

February 1 | Communion | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

February 8 | Preaching: Pastor David Gray | Annual Meeting

February 15 | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

February 18 | Ash Wednesday

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](mailto:kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org), and ask her to add you to our weekly email list.



bradleyhillschurch.org  
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Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m. to 1