



Bradley
Hills

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EMBRACING JOURNEYS. ENGAGING FAITH.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP

A Special Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

We're glad you're here. We hope the presence of the Holy Spirit and the warmth of Christ's love help you feel at home. 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 in the Narthex.

Bradley Hills is a caring community that seeks God together. We are united by our faith in Christ, our love of learning, music and worship, and our passion for service. 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 all around the world. We are all God's children, united by God's love.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers through age 3 in our nursery. All children are welcome to grab an activity bag and children's bulletins.

We hope you'll get to know us and find a place to belong. Learn more 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. Email David to set up a time to connect. Membership classes will be held October 4, 11 and 18th. New Members join October 25.

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILLON PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Jeff McCreight

One: Grace and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: We are all welcome in God's house.

One: Here in this sanctuary, all are loved,

All: for all are welcome in God's house.

One: Jesus speaks the language of faith, hope and love,

All: for all are welcome in God's house. Let us worship God.

*HYMN 462

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn, unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless us the day's return, till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Visiting Team

Jennifer Kline

CONFESSING AND PRAISING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Denise Diaab

Creator God, you alone are Lord of all life, and we give you praise for your steadfast presence. We confess that we do not always give our lives over to the transforming power of your Spirit. May we open ourselves to the new creation you seek to bring about within and among us, through the grace of Jesus Christ ...

Silence for personal confession.

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.

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice, Before His throne rejoice;

Praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCYFM Rosanna Howard

Children (pre-k through fifth grade) are invited to exit the Sanctuary for Church School. 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

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;

Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.



Register for
church school

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:16-17

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Fairest Lord Jesus

Hakes

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nations, O thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring:

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host:

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 9:15 and 1 Timothy 2:5-6

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Mediator of Love

David Gray

*HYMN 341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;

Angels, descending, bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,

Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Refrain.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE IN FAITH FROM CONFESSION OF 1983 *(seated)*

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. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS

CALL FOR TITHES AND 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 your row; 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

I Am Not My Own

Courtney

I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

*SUNG OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

RESPONSE IN PRAYER

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.

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 376

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

HYFRYDOL

Ladies V1: Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded, love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Men V2: Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

All V3: Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

All V4: Finish, then, Thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation, perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Preview of September 27

Join Us for Worship | 8:30 a.m. at the cross garden
10:30 a.m. in-person & online

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

8:30 a.m. | A more casual service at the cross garden
(Covenant Hall with inclement weather)

9:15 a.m. | Adult Education 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





Connecting Our Community at BHPC

Providing Feedback on our Livestream Experience

As the sanctuary floor project concludes and fall begins, we are now starting to think about a second project made possible by our *Here for Good* campaign - updating our Livestream AV equipment, some of it a decade old. We are seeking feedback from those who regularly worship through the livestream about your experience. If you have comments on things you like, things you'd like changed or things we might add, email Pastor David at david@bradleyhillchurch.org or Jim Kettler, AV team member and Chair of PMLM, at kettlerjmk@gmail.com.



We Welcome Your Recommendations for Elder and Deacon

The Nominating Committee seeks your recommendations of persons to serve as Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee members. Please contact Curt West or Pastor David for more info and to submit recommendations.

Next Steps Towards our Next Associate Pastor

We very much appreciate Pastor Denise serving as our Associate Pastor. As her ministry among us concludes next February, we now begin to look forward to calling a new Associate Pastor to continue our ministry. If you are interested in being considered to be part of that process, email david@bradleyhillchurch.org or PLM Chair Robert Rennhack at robert.rennhack@verizon.net.

UPCOMING BHPC EVENTS

Adult Education

9:15 a.m. in the Lounge and on Zoom | Childcare provided

September 27 and October 4 | Dr. R. Bruce Douglass (and close friend of Bradley Hills,) Director Emeritus, Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington and former Chair of the Department of Government at Georgetown University will be presenting a three-part series: REFORMED POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE "POSTIST" ERA.

September 27th | The triumph of "liberal" democracy

October 4 | Secularization



ICPC Voices Among Us Speaker Series

September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge

Women, Identity and the Search for Freedom

The ICPC invites you for a conversation with artist Jahan Ara Rafi about women, identity, and the struggle for freedom within societies that often define women's roles for them. Through her paintings, Rafi explores the silence, confinement, and resilience of women - and the hidden stories held behind closed eyes and within quiet lives. Her talk will reflect on art as a way to challenge inherited limitations, give voice to what remains unspoken, and search for a deeper understanding of freedom and human dignity.

Jahan Ara's art will be on display at the Lounge. Learn more about the artist at <https://www.jahanart.com/>

For more information, email icpc6601@gmail.com



Scan the QR
code to
register.



Getting Connected and Exploring Membership Classes

**Classes will be held
October 4, 11 and 18**

11:45 am–12:45 pm | Library

LUNCH & CHILDCARE PROVIDED

For those interested in membership, we'll welcome you during worship on **October 25**.

**TO RSVP, ASK QUESTIONS OR REQUEST THE ZOOM LINK
(TO JOIN REMOTELY)**

Contact Pastor David at
david@bradleyhillchurch.org

We'll enjoy lunch and an hour of relaxed conversation with Pastor David and other staff about how you can become more involved with church activities and/or become a member.





Baby and Me Playgroup

Tuesdays | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Crib Room

Calling parents and little ones 0-3 years in our community! Come join us for developmentally appropriate, child-led play with music, dance and stories!



Sacrament of Communion Class

Sunday, October 4
9:30 a.m. in Covenant Hall

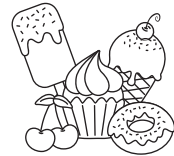
Inviting all current 3rd, 4th and 5th graders and their parents to attend a brief class on the sacrament of communion on World Communion Sunday, prior to their first Sunday in the full worship service. *Please email Pastor David with any questions.*



Youth Dessert and Devotions

Thursdays | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Kitchen

Join us as we bake or share a dessert and dive into topics of faith relevant to today's teens.



Make a joyful noise! Bradley Hills Children's and Youth Choirs start back this fall!



Who | Grades 4 - 8

When | Thursday evenings
from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Starting September 24



Who | Ages 4 - 3rd Grade

When | Sundays after worship
from 11:45 am - 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Starting October 4

Bradley Hills Presents - The Whiffenpoofs of Yale

Saturday, October 17 | 7:30 pm



Bradley Hills Presents is excited to kick off our 2026-27 season with the return of The Whiffenpoofs, one of the world's oldest and best-known collegiate a cappella groups. The "Whiffs" sing a mixture of old Yale tunes, jazz standards, and other hits from across the decades, including pieces arranged by members of the ensemble. Recent Whiffenpoof performance venues have included Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the White House, the Rose Bowl, and Lincoln Center.



Scan the QR
code to
purchase
tickets.

MISSIONS AT BHPC



Tutoring Opportunity

If helping a second grader become a fluent reader by the end of the school year is appealing to you, then join the enhanced reading tutoring program that Bradley Hills is helping to sponsor with Germantown Global Connections, a non-profit specializing in reading literacy.



WHEN | Tuesday OR Thursday afternoon from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Tutoring begins 10/6

TRAININGS | 2 sessions with options the weeks of 9/15 & 9/22

WHERE | Sargent Shriver Elementary School - 12518 Greenly St, Silver Spring

WHY | Second Graders need help meeting reading goals

HOW TO SIGN UP | Scan the QR code to register for the fall semester

Smart Sacks

Immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service | Lounge

Welcome back to Smart Sacks! It's time to join your BHPC friends immediately after worship to assemble food sacks. We deliver the Smart Sacks to schools that then distribute them to families who need supplemental food for the weekends.



Come join us! ALL AGES are welcome!

Distribute Groceries in Anacostia - OCTOBER 17

BHPC is proud to support Faith Presbyterian Church's monthly "Feeding Families" project. The demand is now higher than ever for families in the church's neighborhood. Up to 4-5 BHPC volunteers help Faith's team from 9:00-10:40 a.m., rain or shine. Volunteers pack 60 grocery bags at the church in Anacostia and distribute them on the church property. Adults, families and teens are welcome.

Sign up on Sign Up Genius by scanning the QR code or send an email to Joan Burns, BHPC liaison to Faith Presbyterian Church.



A Stewardship Note

Through the end of August – the first 8 months of the year – a majority of the 211 households that made stewardship pledges for the year 2026 have either fulfilled their pledge entirely or have contributed two thirds or more of the pledged amount.

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. If you fell behind over the summer, now is a great time to catch up!

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

BHPC Ministry Partners

Seeking Involvement with the BHPC Nursery School

Since 1957, the BHPC Nursery School has served families in the broader community with high quality, play based early childhood education. Many BHPC families have found our preschool a wonderful place for their family. As the school is a mission of the church, we are seeking church members who may be interested in school governance, board membership or serving in school leadership searches. For more info or to express interest, email George Petrides Jr. at gpetridesjr@gmail.com or David Gray at david@bradleyhillschurch.org.

Friends Club Has Openings

Friends Club (a ministry of BHPC) brings together active gentlemen in the early-to-mid stages of memory loss in a caring, safe, fun, and secure environment. They meet M/W/Th, 9:30 - 1:30 p.m. at BHPC. The program enriches participants' lives by engaging in active discussions and other activities which bring joy and laughter to the members and much needed respite for their caregivers. For more information - call Ken Silverstein, Executive Director at 301-469-0070 | email ken@friendsclubbethesda.org.



Celebrations & Concerns: Please Pray With Us

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

- **The family of Francine Kauffunger (Charlie Kauffunger's mother) whose memorial service was held on September 13.**
- **The family of Nancy Taylor (Laura Creech's mother) whose Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be at 12:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, September 27, followed by a reception in Memorial Hall.**
- The family of Jean Seybert whose graveside service will be held October 8, at Parklawn Cemetery in Silver Spring.
- The family of Joyce Shoemaker Hunt (Carl Hunt's wife) whose Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held at 1:00 p.m., October 11, followed by a reception

We give thanks to God for joys and celebrations.

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

- **Margaret Liffiton (Bruce Liffiton's mother) for health and well-being.**
- Bruce (Elaine Hunt's son-in-law) who is recovering from knee surgery on 9/14.
- Dora Jean Smith (Denise's aunt) for health and well-being.
- Stephanie (daughter of Cheryl Naulty & Walt Hill) for healing and full recovery from surgery on September 1.
- Those injured, having procedures of any kind, hospitalized, facing surgery, being treated for chronic illness, cancer, ALS, or Parkinson's, awaiting medical tests and/or results, receiving hospice care, and/or isolated from the community.
- Christopher, Eric, Gloria Androa, Debbie Bowis, Ed Everitt, Ben Flowe, Peg Flow, Frank Fowler, Donna Foley-Rennhack, Sharon Griffith, Linda Harman, Helen Hobson, Jean Sutton, Phyllis Sutherland, Donald Sutherland, Greg Urban, Jeff Williams, and Margaret and Kristine Yeager.

We hold in God's healing presence family and friends of BHPC community.

- Amin Behr, Nora Casey, Ed Gray, Cynthia Hines, Scott Hagwood, Lee Family, Billy Magro, Kitty Morris, Piper Sutton, Elizabeth Ritter, Vi Ozone, and Leslie Patterson Werner.
- Barbara, Cynthia, Doug, Graydon & Jeanne, Jai, Jan, Kevin, Karl, Lauren, Marcie, Patty, Rob, Shannon, Susan, Suzanne, and Violet.

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.

- An end to the war with Iran and a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.
- For the people of Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Haiti, Iran, Israel, Palestine, Russia, South Korea, Sudan, Syria, Taiwan, Uganda, Ukraine, and Venezuela.
- For all those being held in detention centers in unhealthy conditions.
- Those affected by hate, discrimination, and intolerance in all its forms as we stand in solidarity with our Muslim, Jewish, and LGBTQ+ siblings.
- All those experiencing food and housing insecurity.

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 Music Ministries	Gunner Chancey	gunner@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
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 - DelCarla Shorter and Izzy Ayala

Parish Associates - Wally Harman and Jong Mi Lee

Director of Music Emeritus - Donald S. Sutherland

Section Leaders - Marie Marquis (soprano), Natalia Kojanova (alto), Lily Gallihue (tenor)



Flower Dedication

From Catherine Payne and Christina Liu in memory of their mom's birthday.

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

Contact our Office Manager at kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org, and ask her to add you to our weekly email list.

Worship Schedule

8:30 and 10:30 a.m. worship

September 27 | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

October 4 | World Communion Sunday | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

October 11 | Baptism | Preaching: Dr. Jacqueline E. Lapsley, President of Union Presbyterian Seminary

October 18 | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

October 25 | Stewardship Sunday | New Members Joining |
Preaching: Pastor David Gray

November 1 | All Saints Sunday | Communion |
Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

November 8 | Dedication Sunday | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

November 15 | Interfaith Sunday

November 20 | Music Sunday

November 29 | First Sunday of Advent | Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

December 6 | Second Sunday of Advent | Preaching: Pastor David Gray



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