



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EMBRACING JOURNEYS. ENGAGING FAITH.

OCTOBER 11, 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



GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILLON PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Union Seminarian Han Setiawan

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

All: who made heaven and earth.

One: Our joy comes from the heart of God,

All: who gives us minds to think and hearts to love.

One: Our grace comes from God's compassion,

All: who inspires us to faith.

One: Blessed be the Lord our God,

All: who reveals to us the one who brings new life.

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CONFESSING AND PRAISING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, we confess to you our unfaithfulness, our division, our dancing around the truth. We look all around for approval instead of seeking to serve you. Turn our hearts back to you. Set us free to sing your praises as we confess ...

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

Baptism of Maya Rose Elliott-Zahraie

Parents: Kathleen Elliott and Cyrus Zahraie

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.

EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 5:13-15

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 35:21-29

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What is Freedom For?

Dr. Jacqueline Lapsley

*HYMN 411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

Offertory

John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, shall I come before Him with yearling calves?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give him my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
He has shown you, o man; He has shown you what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

***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 466**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON CM

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING MUSIC

***PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Preview of October 18

**Join Us for Worship | 8:30 a.m. in Covenant Hall
10:30 a.m. in-person in the Sanctuary & online**

Preaching: Pastor David Gray
"Being Human in the Age of A.I."

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

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

Jacqueline Lapsley serves as the eighth President of Union Presbyterian Seminary which has campuses in Richmond, VA and Charlotte, NC. Before coming to Union in 2023 she served on the faculty at Princeton Theological Seminary for 25 years, ending her time there with a five-year stint as Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Jacq (pronounced like "Jack") earned her B.A. from Smith College, M.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and Ph.D. from Emory University. She is the author or editor of numerous books, including *Whispering the Word: Hearing Women's Voices in the Old Testament* (2005); *A Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics* (2011); *A Women's Bible Commentary* (2012); and *Bible and Ethics in the Christian Life: A New Conversation* (2018). Jacq is married to the Rev. Greg Bezilla, an Episcopal priest; they have two adult children, a wildly energetic, badly behaved dog, and two imperious cats. She is a ruling elder in the PC(USA) and our 2026 Susan Andrews lecturer.



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

Getting Connected and Exploring Membership Classes

**Classes will be held
October 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



Connecting Our Community at BHPC

Recommendations

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

October 18 | The Reverend Jermaine Ross-Allam, inaugural Director for the Center for Repair of Historic Harms, Presbyterian Mission PCUSA, will update us about the work of the center and churches through the PC USA to repair of historic harms as the national government has suppressed programs that address structural racism and poverty.

October 25 | The Supreme Court and the Lower Courts: How to Understand What Is Happening Now in Lawsuits Challenging Actions of the Current Administration. Bradley Hills member Penny Clark returns with an update from her presentation in March, focusing particularly on lawsuits about elections and voting. Penny is a retired attorney whose 44-year career included arguing employee benefits cases before the United States Supreme Court. She served as a law clerk to Associate Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. of the United States Supreme Court from 1974 to 1975 - one of the first dozen women to clerk at the U.S. Supreme Court.



Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
presents

THE YALE WHIFFENPOOFS

America's Oldest Collegiate A Capella Group

Saturday, October 17

7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary



Individual Tickets: \$40 adult | \$30 student | \$15 child (under 15 years)
Get \$5 off when you advance purchase individual tickets.



FALL CALL CLEAN UP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Your help is urgently needed to prepare our beautiful church grounds for winter. On October 18, come dressed in your gardening clothes! Join us after the 10:30 a.m. worship service for a snack, followed by fun and fellowship outside. See you there!



Rake Leaves



Weeding

**Join us outside of the Education Door
after 10:30 a.m. worship**





Make a joyful noise! Join the Bradley Hills Children's and Youth Choirs!



Who | Ages 4 - 3rd Grade
When | Sundays after worship
from 11:45 am -12:15 p.m. in
the Sanctuary



Who | Grades 4 - 8
When | Thursday evenings
from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the
Sanctuary



Baby and Me Playgroup

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

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



Trunk or Treat

Children

Dress up in Halloween costumes and trick-or-treat for candy around the Bradley Hills' parking lot.

Adults and Youth

Decorate the trunks of your cars with Halloween themes and hand out candy to kids.

October 24 | 5-7 pm

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Parking Lot
6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD



MISSIONS AT BHPC

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!



After the worship service on Sunday, October 25th, please plan on coming down to Memorial Hall to participate in our annual BHPC Day of Service! Everyone – young, old and in-between – are invited to assemble 36 clean-up buckets, 240 hygiene kits, 96 kids kits, and 90 period packs for distribution by Church World Service (CWS) to those in need.

At our BHPC Day of Service you can also purchase a coat for the annual BHPC coat drive for children at our partner elementary school, and sort and bag food for our Smart Snacks ministry that provides much-needed food for children in Montgomery County schools.

Coffee hour will also be held in Memorial Hall that morning too! Come join your BHPC family on **October 25th** and live out the calling in **Hebrews 13:16: "Do not forget to do good and help those in need."**

Annual Coat Drive

**SUNDAYS
Through October 25**

BHPC is supporting families with kids at Arcola Elementary School and Wider Circle through our annual coat drive! Here's how you can help:

- 1. Volunteer** to help run the coat drive on Sunday mornings. Set up, sales, and packing assistance is needed. Email Bob Reutershan if you're interested at soshikins@aol.com.
- 2. Provide a coat** | Purchase the coat you have chosen and bring it during Coffee Hour after the 10:30 a.m. service to the Coat Drive Table in the Gathering Space on October 11 and 18 or in Memorial Hall on October 25. If you are not comfortable using the Sign Up Genius, the volunteers at the Coat Drive Table will help you select a coat to purchase on October 11 or 18. All coats must be received by October 25.
- 3. Support the Coat Drive** by making a financial donation on Realm. If we have funds in excess of those needed for the coats going to Arcola, we will provide those funds to A Wider Circle to be used to provide coats for individuals in the Wider Circle community.

Purchase a coat:



Make a donation (select coat drive under FUND):





Abrahamic Faiths: The Conversation Continues

Wednesday, October 14 | 7:30 p.m. in Covenant Hall

The Inter Congregational Partnership Committee (ICPC) presents Abrahamic Faiths, the Conversation Continues, featuring Dr. Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad, MIIC, Rabbi Eric Abbott, BJC, and Pastor David Gray, BHPC.

The clergy will discuss how the core tenets of each religious tradition influence how we instruct and nurture our children in faith and other practices of each congregation.



Scan the QR code to attend in person or on Zoom.



ICPC Interfaith Youth Board Games Afternoon

Sunday, October 18 | 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the Lounge

Come join us for a fun afternoon of board games and pizza! This interfaith event is open to all youth ages 10+ from BHPC, BJC, and MIIC. We will have games, but you can also bring your own. You are welcome to bring a friend.

Contact icpc6601@gmail.com for more information or if you have any questions.



Scan the QR code to register.



ICPC Book Discussion | *The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran* by Shida Bazayr

Tuesday, October 27 | 7:00 p.m. in Covenant Hall

The book follows an Iranian family from Iran to Germany, during the years 1979--2009. Their journey goes from Tehran to Germany to Tehran and back to Germany, from revolution to exile and back to revolution. Originally written in German, it was shortlisted for the International Booker Prize in 2026. The work was translated by Ruth Martin. Though the book is about an Iranian family, their adjustments and difficulties are universal.

Read the book and come prepared to share your thoughts with other members of BHPC, BJC, and MIIC at 6601 Bradley Blvd. This is an in-person event only.

For more information, please contact Karen Levi, BJC; Laurie Mabile, BJC, or Susan Hashmi, MIIC at icpc6601@gmail.com



Scan the QR code to register.



A Stewardship Note

Our grounds are beautiful this time of year. Thank you for your gifts of money that make it possible to maintain the grounds. And thanks to the dedicated volunteers who devote their time during the growing season to weeding and watering the plants to make the landscape so lovely.

Ways to Give at BHPC			
Cash or Check Giving	Text Giving	Mobile Giving	Realm Giving
			
6601 Bradley Blvd. Bethesda, MD 20817	Text "BHPC" to 73256	Download the Realm Connect App	Access the Bradley Hills <u>Giving</u> page
www.BradleyHillsChurch.org Click the GIVE NOW button			

BHPC Nursery School

We have begun planning for the 2027-2028 school year. Current families of the preschool and BHPC community members receive priority placement when registering their child(ren). Our play-based program, taught by loving teachers, is the ideal first school experience for your child.



To learn more about us or to schedule a tour visit our website, call the office at 301-365-2909, or email us at info@bhpcns.

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 Ben Flowe who died peacefully on October 8.**
- **The family of Joyce Shoemaker Hunt (Carl Hunt's wife) whose Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held in the sanctuary at 1:00 p.m., October 11, followed by a reception in Memorial Hall.**
- **Family of Judy Paise Masselam (former sister-in-law of Venus Masselam) who died from a heart attack October 1.**

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:

- **Carol Buckner for healing and full recovery from back surgery October 5.**
- **Joanie Friend for healing and full recovery from knee surgery and broken ankle (Joanie will have to be off her leg for two months).**
- **Jeff who is having a procedure on October 12.**
- **Daphne Mace (Melanie & Phil Mace's daughter) for health and total well-being.**
- **Sharon Griffith for health and total well-being.**
- **Helen Hobson for health and well-being.**
- **Margaret Liffiton (Bruce Liffiton's mother) for health and well-being.**
- **Stephanie (daughter of Cheryl Naulty & Walt Hill) for healing and full recovery.**
- **Eric, Gloria Androa, Debbie Bowis, Ed Everitt, Peg Flowe, Frank Fowler, Donna Foley-Rennhack, Linda Harman, Jean Sutton, Phyllis Sutherland, Donald Sutherland, and Margaret and Kristine Yeager.**

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

- **Lis (Karin & Jim Harrison's adult child) who was in a serious bicycle accident.**
- **Christopher (Helen Hobson's son and primary caregiver) for total well-being.**
- **Marianna Squier (Venus Masselam's friend's mother) who has pneumonia.**
- **Rebecca Slack (Sally Fowler's niece) who dealing with a serious heart malady.**
- **Rob Krueger (friend of Cheryl Naulty & Walt Hill).**
- **Nora Casey (Charles Brodine's friend's mother) who was diagnosed with terminal cancer.**
- **Shannon (Bridget Gray's mother) for health and well-being.**
- **Amin Behr, Ed Gray, Cynthia Hines, Scott Hagwood, Kitty Morris, Piper Sutton, Elizabeth Ritter, Vi Ozone, and Leslie Patterson Werner.**
- **Barbara, Doug, Graydon & Jeanne, Jai, Jan, Kevin, Karl, Lauren, Patty, Rob, Shannonn (Charles Brodine's friend), 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.

- **Prayers for the victims and survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence everywhere.**

Our Staff

Senior Pastor	David Gray	david@bradleyhillchurch.org
Associate Pastor	Denise Diaab	denise@bradleyhillchurch.org
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries	Rosanna Howard	rosanna@bradleyhillchurch.org
Director of Music Ministries	Gunner Chancey	gunner@bradleyhillchurch.org
Director of Financial Ministries	Jan Spencer	jan@bradleyhillchurch.org
Facilities Manager	Farid Beltran	farid@bradleyhillchurch.org
Office Manager	Kristen Abbott	kristen@bradleyhillchurch.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 Carl Hunt - in memory of Joyce Shoemaker Hunt.

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

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

Worship Schedule

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

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 22 | Music Sunday

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

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

December 13 | Third Sunday of Advent | Lessons and Carols

December 16 | Blue Christmas

December 20 | Fourth Sunday of Advent | Preaching: Pastor David Gray

December 24 | Christmas Eve Services | 4:00, 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. services



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