

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

*Embracing Journeys
Engaging Faith*



**Before we can do what we are called to do, we need to know
what God has done. For that gives our lives purpose.**



**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 19, 2021
10:30 a.m.**

GATHERING TOGETHER

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CARILLON PEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING MUSIC

Vater unser im Himmelreich

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

CALL TO WORSHIP

DCE Matt Nabinger

One: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

All: Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;

One: Where there is discord, may there be union, where there is doubt, faith.

All: Lord, make us instruments of thy peace as we worship you.

*HYMN 162

O Lord, Our God, How Excellent

Winchester Old

O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is Your name
Your majesty surrounds the earth, and children sing Your fame.

The heavens shout Your handiwork; we stand beneath in awe,
To think the One who made all things should care for us at all.

Yet You have made us less than gods, surpassing all but You,
With heart and mind, with strength and will, to search for what is true.

Into our hands You've placed all things: the earth, the sea; each place
We're called to probe for secret gifts and venture into space.

O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is Your name,
Majestic in Your holiness. We sing ad praise Your fame.

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor David Gray

One: This is the day the Lord has made

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Mission Lay Ministry

CONFESSING AND PRAISING

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Pastor Eunice Yang

Holy God, you invite us to trust you, but we do not always believe. You challenge us to hope, but we fall back into fear. You urge us to give freely, but we fall into selfishness. You call us to expressive relationship, but we hide our feelings and soulful self. Forgive us. Increase our sense of trust and allow us to share our shortcomings, our concerns and our lamentations with you. Help us to find the kingdom inside as we confess...

Silence for personal confession

KYRIE

arr. David N. Johnson

One: We pray.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE OF & INVITATION TO CHILDREN

HYMN 263 - St. Denio

Children are invited to remain with their families for the Children's Moment for the time being. Following the Children's Message, children are invited to Children's Church in Memorial Hall. Please pick up your children immediately following the service.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

EXPERIENCING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON	Psalm 8	OT Page 492
One: This is the word of the Lord.		
All: Thanks be to God.		

ANTHEM

And Good in Every Thing

And this, our life, exempt from public haunt, finds tongues in trees, books in running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in every thing.

Kile Smith
(b. 1956)

SERMON

The Relationship That Gives Everything Purpose

David Gray

*HYMN 285

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

Austrian Hymn

God, You spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
We created in Your image, would a true reflection be
Of Your justice, grace, and mercy and the truth that makes us free.

You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship joined in one community.
When we blur Your gracious image, focus us and make us whole.
Healed and strengthened as Your people, we move onward toward Your goal.

God, Your word is still creating, calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion. Polish us with loving care.
Thus, new creatures in Your images, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE IN FAITH - From the Brief Statement of Faith (*in unison*)

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.

RESPONSE IN PRAYER

Response for Concerns: O Lord, hear our prayers.

Response for Celebrations: With thanksgiving, we praise the Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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.

RESPONSE IN OFFERINGS

Call for the Offering

Please reflect on your blessings and how you might, during these times, present your offering to God in time, talent or treasure.

You can give on your phone by texting to 73256, then enter BHPC (space) and the amount of the gift, press "send" and click on the link.

**Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

Offertory

Teach me, O Lord

Teach me, O Lord,
the way of thy statutes;
and I shall keep it
unto the end.

Thomas Attwood

(1765-1838)

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (*in unison*)

Loving God, we give you thanks for listening to us, for loving us and for the opportunity to worship you through our offerings. In Christ we pray. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN 288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

*CHARGE

CHORAL BENEDICTION (*Seated*)

Benediction

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
May the rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Owen Goldsmith
(b. 1946)

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*As we seek to maintain distancing from the chancel, we plan to keep
the first four rows in the nave empty for the time being.*



Parish concerns & celebrations: Our prayers are with those who are ill, injured, or facing/recovering from surgery. If you would like to join our prayer chain or share a prayer concern, contact David or Faith Community Nurse Joanie Friend (jfriend@pobox.com).

As we lift our prayers to God during our concerns and celebrations, even if we all cannot hear each other's prayers, we know that God can, and that we support each other by affirming each other's prayers.

We are grateful to our Flower Guild for our beautiful flowers on the Chancel each Sunday.

This morning's flowers are given in memory of Hugh Pettigrew by his wife, Karen, for the their 60th wedding anniversary.

We are so grateful especially now for our wonderful sound and video ministry team:
Bruce Liffiton, Jim Kettler, Min Lee, Bruce Hunter and Max Kuzmyak.

*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

Music Notes

And good in every thing – Kile Smith

"The music for the beginning of the text, up to "sermons in stones," almost wrote itself. It rarely happens that I compose quickly, and I am wary of the result when I do, but my joy on pronouncing it good was quickly tempered by the fact that my putatively five-minute anthem had used up all of 60 seconds.

I had only five words left for the remaining four minutes of music.

I didn't know how I was going to wriggle out of this, but just kept writing, trying different ways of setting "and good in every thing" (don't you love that "every thing" is two words?). I lingered on "and" almost, I admit, to buy me some time, but it is something I love doing, by the way: accenting supposedly unimportant words.

But then a musical phrasing fell into place that seemed to welcome slight variations, subtle shifts from E-flat to C minor chords, and as I toyed with it, it occurred to me that it could go on for a while. And it struck me that I could spend an entire four minutes on those five words and those two sonorities and I got part-way through and said to myself, "Really? You're going to do this?" and I answered, "Why not?" and I just kept at it.

It's not a "sacred" anthem in that the words are not religious nor of course from Scripture, but in setting this, I thought what would the music be like if I believed, if I really believed, that there was good in every thing. It reminds me of the reading from Genesis, where God looks on what He created, and calls it good."

-Kile Smith

We are grateful for all 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, a place to consider "home."

Thank you.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. 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 love of learning, our appreciation of music and worship, our passion for service and our desire to deepen our spiritual lives. We believe you will find Bradley Hills an open and safe place to ask the difficult questions of life and a community that embraces each spiritual journey. Our history is connected to the care and nurture of children and to our supporting each other as we seek God. We encourage you to explore our bulletin and website. We hope we have a chance to greet you following worship or that you'll contact us. See you next week at church!

Many blessings,

David, the BHPC Staff, and Congregation
David@bradleyhillschurch.org

Bradley Hills is 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 across the nation, from different denominational backgrounds and from around the world. We are all God's children, united by God's love.



Youth Group Kickoff Today at noon

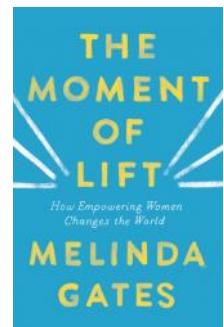
We are so excited to start our new youth group year in person! Our first event will be an outdoor Youth Group Kickoff today from noon - 1:00. All youth and PARENTS are invited! While youth participate in fun games and activities, parents will learn more about youth group and what our plans are for the year. We will have a calendar for the year at the Kickoff. Hope to see you there!

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Children's Church is a worship service designed specifically for children. After the Children's Message in the Sanctuary, all children ages 3 - fifth grade are invited to join Matt and two co-leaders for Children's Church in Memorial Hall. Masks and physical distancing will be required for all participants as we encounter God's word together and respond with prayer, thanksgiving, and creative projects. We would still like each family to register the children who will be attending in grades pre-K through fifth grade. You can find the link at www.bradleyhillschurch.org/church-school.

Bible Study on Zoom, Thursday, September 23 at 2:00: Join David on Zoom on Wednesday to discuss upcoming scripture. Contact Terry Brady (terry_48@mac.com) for the Zoom link.

BHPC Book Group Meeting today from 3:30 - 4:45 via Zoom: All are invited! The Book Group will discuss *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World* by Melinda Gates. "When you lift up women, you lift up everybody - families, communities, entire countries." In her book, Melinda tells the stories of the inspiring people she's met all over the world, provides compelling data, and powerfully illustrates issues that need our attention. Please contact Mary Hickey (maryhickey4415@yahoo.com) or Marilyn Allen (mpallen114@aol.com) if you have comments or questions. [Click here for Zoom meeting](#). Meeting ID: 846 9016 7775



Confirmation Information Meeting, Wednesday, September 22 from 7:30-8:00 p.m. via Zoom: Confirmation classes at BHPC begin this fall! Parents and youth in seventh and eighth grades are invited to this information meeting where you will hear all about the confirmation program and get excited to grow in friendship and faith together! All 7th and 8th graders are eligible to participate in confirmation. Any high schoolers who have not yet been confirmed are also invited. Questions? [Email Matt](#). [Click here for Zoom meeting link](#).

Winter Coat Drive for Arcola Families: Help us meet the goal of 100 coats for Arcola Elementary School families . Click here to sign up online. Coats can be brought to the church as soon as they are purchased. All coats are due by October 17.

Service as an Elder Or Deacon: Your nominating committee will soon be considering nominations for individuals to serve as elders or deacons for upcoming classes. To nominate someone or to self nominate, see the [brochure](#) in the pews or email Stacey Milne (staceyfmilne@gmail.com).

Exploring Membership: If you would like to learn more about BHPC, get connected or explore membership, join David by Zoom on Sundays, October 10, 24, and 31 after worship by Zoom for a connectional opportunities. New members will join the church on November 7.

Email david@bradleyhillschurch.org for more information

Interfaith Works (IW), a Bradley Hills mission partner, is coordinating Montgomery County residents' support to the families displaced by flooding from Hurricane Ida on September 1. IW has received many generous donations of clothing and household items for these families, and is now asking for volunteers to help sort them at its Clothing Center at 751 Twinbrook Pkwy in Rockville, between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 22 and Thursday, September 23. A brief orientation will be provided when you arrive. You can sign up to volunteer [here](#). If you see a time that you'd like to volunteer, but the slots are filled up, please send an email to the Clothing Center's volunteer coordinator, Miranda Marks, at mmarks@iworksmc.org. Even if you can only come in for an hour, feel free to sign up and let Miranda Marks know when you can help.



Fall Small Groups: The Fall Small Group will gather from the week of October 17 to November 14 for five weeks. If you have an interest in leading a small group, please let [Pastor Eunice](#) know. Thank you.

Worship Notes

1. How does Psalm 8 mirror the Genesis creation story?
2. Derek Kidner wrote that Psalm 8 is "an unsurpassed example of what a hymn should be, celebrating as it does the glory and grace of God, rehearsing who God is and what God has done, and relating us and our world to God, all with a masterly economy of words, and in a spirit of mingled joy and awe. It brings to light the unexpectedness of God's ways in the roles God has assigned to the strong and the weak, the spectacular and the obscure, the multitudinous and the few; but it begins and ends with Godself, and its overriding theme is 'How excellent is thy name!'" What does this idea mean to you?
3. Isn't God just amazing as seen in creation?
4. What does David mean by "Before we can do what we are called to do, we need to know what God has done. And that gives our lives purpose."
5. Flip through a hymnal and read For the Beauty of the Earth and How Great thou Art. Do they remind you of Psalm 8?
6. What does it mean to understand God's creation?
7. Does being made in God's image change how you view yourself?
8. How does understanding creation make our faith in God more relevant?

Update on Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Activities

We welcome the Maqaame Ibrahim Islamic Center (MIIIC) to our multi-year BJC, BHPC, and Idara é Jaferia Interfaith refugee family initiative.

Resettlement agencies are understandably overwhelmed by the large influx of refugees and offers to help. Because of the uncertain situation, the partnership with KindWorks, a local nonprofit organization, with whom we have worked previously to set up an apartment for a refugee family, is unlikely to materialize as originally envisioned. Current estimates are that we will begin setting up apartments in October. We are likely to be given just a few days' notice.

Within the next two weeks we will send out a sign up list through which we ask that you to let us know of items on the list of needed furniture, furnishings and supplies that you are prepared to donate, *when requested*. We don't have storage facilities so we cannot accept donations in advance. Also, we will only accept donations of needed items on the list that are clean and in good condition. Bags and cartons with donations that are labeled will be very helpful for volunteers doing the actual set up. All items need to be clean and in good condition. Having this inventory of available donations will allow us to gauge our capacity and respond quickly to specific requests. More details to follow as we get more information.

In addition to supporting our activities, here are links to other groups serving refugees in the DMV area: [Solutions in Hometown Connections](#) provides English language, citizenship and early childhood programs for families living in the area. [Lutheran Social Services](#) provides a range of services and seeks volunteers. In addition, the KAMADC [website](#) provides a comprehensive list of organizations helping refugees.



Adult Ed on Zoom Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Classes begins at 9:00, but we open the Zoom meeting at 8:45 for fellowship. Bring your own coffee - no need to dress up!

Note that all sessions will be via Zoom in September. With the number of COVID cases still rising in Montgomery County, we think it's prudent to postpone the return of adult education to 6601 Bradley Boulevard for now.

[Click Here to Join the Zoom Meeting Each Sunday](#)

Meeting ID: 815 0426 9624

Passcode: 454038

You may also call in at (301) 715-8592

September 19: Dr. R. Bruce Douglass, Director Emeritus of the Reformed Institute of Washington and Associate Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University, *Black and Reformed in America: The Witness of Black Presbyterians*. Following his memorable series of lectures last year on the history of the attitude toward race in the broader community of denominations in the United States, Dr. Douglass will focus this year on our own history. Presbyterian churches in America have long had Black members. But even though Black Presbyterians have had some eloquent leaders, their thinking has not been well known by other Presbyterians, most of whom have been White. Indeed, the views of Black Presbyterians on everything from theology to civil politics have been largely ignored by the White majority. These talks will introduce the thinking of some of the more prominent figures in the history of Black Presbyterianism in America. They will focus in particular on the careers and views of three notable figures who represent distinct stages in the history of the Black experience in America: Henry Hyland Garnett (1815-1882), Francis Grimke (1850-1937) and Gayraud Wilmore (1921-2020).



September 26: Matt Nabinger, BHPD Director of Christian Education and a group of our amazing high school youth will show pictures and discuss their mission trip at the beginning of the summer of 2021. This was hands-on witness to our faith – sleeves rolled up, hammers and saws at the ready, working in partnership with Appalachia Service Project in Tennessee to address needs they had identified as their priorities.



Upcoming Worship Schedule
Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
8:30 Worship resumes on September 19*



Fall Sermon Series
Psalms and the Relevancy of Faith

September 26

David preaching on Psalm 27
Baptism

October 3

World Communion Sunday

David preaching on Psalm 86
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

October 10

Susan Andrews Lecture
Dr. Serene Jones, President of Union
Theological Seminary in
New York preaching
Pastor Eunice leading at 8:30

October 17

David preaching on Psalm 42
Baptism

October 24 - Stewardship Sunday

David preaching on Psalm 90
Baptisms
Chancel Players

October 31 - All Saints' Sunday

8:30 Worship in Covenant Hall
David preaching on Psalm 23
Chancel Players
Communion
Honoring those who have
died in the past year



* 8:30 worship will be outdoors at the cross
from September 19 through October 24,
weather permitting. We will hopefully re-
turn to Covenant Hall on October 31.

ORDAINED AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Session: Bethany Frick ('21), Walter Hill ('21), Louise Meyer ('21), Sean Owens ('21), Brent Coffey ('22), Neil Imus ('22), Rebekah Liu ('22), Rosanna Morrison ('22), Doug Anderson ('23), Dave Burgett ('23), Stacey Milne ('23), Shizuko Sei ('23) and Jackson Biggs ('21)

Deacons: Jana Coffey ('21), Bill Edelblut ('21), Bie Fox ('21), James Scroggs ('21), Mike Frenkel ('22), June Kyakobye ('22), Judy Ozone ('22), Frank Randall ('22), Carol Frenkel ('23), Mark Kindig ('23), Cliff Ty ('23), Tamae Wong ('23) and Allie Coffey ('21)

Lay Ministry Chairs: Eva Caldera (Worship & Arts), Myla Williams (Mission Coordination), Todd McCreight (Finance), Linda Kauskay (Property Management), Andrew Milne (Personnel), Cathie Lutter and Amanda Owens (Children's Ministry), Tara Eliason (Youth Ministry), Steve Fox and Dianne Whitaker (Adult Education), Fam SaeChao Chock (Outreach and New Members), Rick Arndt (Stewardship), Stacey Milne (Nominating), and Bonnie Holcomb and Sara Inati (Connectional)

Worship Captains: Mary Hickey (Chancel Guild), Lisa Suggs Wilson and Jon Winslow (Communion Team), Joy Panagides and Bie Fox (Flower Guild), Corky Hickey and Susie Wellman (Usher Team), Bruce Liffiton (Sound System), Andrew Wolvin (Chancel Players), Tom Biggs (Lay Readers)

Mission Statement

To reflect God's gracious love by following Christ's example to welcome, nurture, heal and serve.

Vision Statement

A vibrant caring community that draws and energizes people to grow in faith, serving together to make every breath count.

KEEPING UP WITH GIVING



BHPC's 2021 Stewardship theme – Abundant Blessing, Abundant Gratitude, Abundant Giving – continues to frame the life our church. Even during this time when we cannot gather in person, we hope that each of you can discern how God continues to shower blessings on us all, individually and as a church family, and in gratitude for those blessings, give abundantly to support God's work at BHPC.

Now more than ever, we want to ensure that everyone is aware of the many methods of giving that are available, whether you are a long-time BHPC member, a virtual visitor, or looking to simplify your giving habits. So, here is a comprehensive list of the ways you can give to BHPC.

Online: All methods of online giving will direct you to Realm, BHPC's virtual connection tool, where you can securely enter any giving amount, designate which "fund" should receive your donation (e.g., "General Giving," the "Annual Pledge" or even the "Easter Fund"); and choose whether to make a one-time donation or a recurring donation and how you want to give, *by credit/debit card or by ACH transaction using your bank account*. All methods of online giving incur a processing expense for the church. To help offset this expense, the donor is offered the opportunity to contribute 1.5% of the gift amount for ACH transactions and 3% of the gift amount for credit/debit card transactions.

- **The "Give" Button:** Simply click the red "Give" button found on the top right corner of the BHPC website and you be directed to Realm.
- Text "BHPC" [space] dollar amount" (ex. "BHPC 150" for a \$150 gift) to 73256 (REALM) and follow the link.
- **Log into Realm** via the App or from the website and choose the "Giving" option.

Donors can setup online giving by providing the information for credit/debit card, for ACH transactions, or for both. If both giving options are setup for a donor, the selection of which donation method to used is made at the time of each gift of when setting up recurring gifts.

Check: Please make checks payable to Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church and place a check through the office door (Door #4) mail slot, or you can set up automated bill payment through your bank and the bank will mail a check to the church at a frequency and amount you choose. For all checks, you can indicate a special designation in the memo field; gifts without a designation will be directed to general giving.

Gifts of Securities (e.g., stocks, bonds, etc.): Transferring securities to Bradley Hills' brokerage account is a great way to donate appreciated securities while potentially avoiding capital gains taxes. To learn more about this giving option, please see our website under the **SERVE** tab and then "Ways for You to Give."

Thank you for supporting our mission to reflect God's gracious love by following Christ's example to welcome, nurture, heal and serve.

Every gift counts ... to the glory of God.