# ORDINARY TIME

Brookhaven Presbyterian Church / Nov 22



# What is the chief end of man?

The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy him forever.
-Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 1

## What do we do when we go to church?

We come to church to experience God in a way we are not able to individually. When we gather to worship God at church, the body of Christ collectively experiences and gives worship to the God of the universe. We do this by hearing directly from God reading Scripture, speaking to Him by praying, worshiping Him by singing songs, receiving His love and grace through celebrating the Lord's Supper, and learning about Him by hearing the Word of God interpreted through the sermon. We may or may not feel anything different here, but we believe that whatever it is that we experience when we are at church is the closest thing we have to experiencing an encounter with the living God. We're glad you're joining us.

## *Love Comes Down*

I brought You all my foolish crowns
With trembling hands I laid them down
Expecting wrath to be poured out
But You placed mercy on my brow

Still my best is nothing less
Than filthy rags and emptiness
One drop of blood raised me from death
And You see me through Your righteousness

**Chorus:**
*Oh how sweet amazing grace*
*Wraps me in a warm embrace*
*Oh my heart rejoice*
*I was lost, now found*
*All my praise goes up as*
*Your love comes down*

Now daily I walk safe, secure
Even through trouble You endure
I'm not afraid for I am sure
That You are mine and I am Yours

**Chorus**

What a great day that will be
When I stand there at my Savior's feet
Singing thank you for all eternity
All my praise goes up as Your love comes down

**Chorus**

# *Call To Worship*

## *Psalm 95: 1-3*

**1** Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! **2** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! **3** For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

## *Every Hour*

*It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."*
*-Deuteronomy 31: 8*

Lord, You know me and You always will
Oh You keep me, yeah, You hold me close
Like new mercies in the morning still
You surround me, and all I know is

**Chorus:**
*Every hour of every day*
*Oh I need You, Lord,*
*and that will never change*
*Every moment in every way*
*Oh I need You, Lord,*
*and that will never change*
*No that will never change*

You're a fortress, You're my hiding place
You're the shelter where I am safe
You have freed me, yeah, You have called me by name
My Redeemer, my saving grace

**Chorus**

Faithful, that's who You are
More than able to care for my heart
Father and friend, there till the end
You are faithful, oh God

**Chorus**

## *Hallelujah, Help Us To Pray*

*Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."*

*-Luke11: 1*

When we are strong
When we are weak
When we're distraught
When we have peace
When we have hope
When we're in grief
When we're content
When we have need

Help us to pray
Help us to sing

**Chorus:**
*Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

# Welcome & Announcements

## Get Connected

The following are opportunities to connect with others in the church. If you are interested in more information, please email Beth Goss (beth.goss@brookhavenpres.com).

**A. Connections Groups:** Monthly or quarterly gatherings for relational connection.

**B. Cohorts**: Groups that meet bi-monthly for the sake of exploring or growing in areas of similar interests or life circumstances.

**C. Discipleship Groups:** Small groups in which people are growing in their knowledge of Jesus in the context of meaningful community.

**D. Serving on Leadership:** The mechanism in which we are encouraging our people to invest in others as Christ has invested in us. For more information on the various leadership teams, please go to the BPC website (www.brookhavenpres.com/serve).

# Congregational Prayer

*Lord's Prayer*

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever.

**Amen**.
*Matthew 6: 9-13 (NIV)*

*Children of all ages are welcome in the service at all times. Anyone going to class may do so now.*

# Sermon

## *Isaiah 1:2-20*

**2** Hear me, you heavens! Listen, earth!
For the Lord has spoken:
"I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.
**3** The ox knows its master,
the donkey its owner's manger,
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand."

**4** Woe to the sinful nation,
a people whose guilt is great,
a brood of evildoers,
children given to corruption!
They have forsaken the Lord;
they have spurned the Holy One of Israel
and turned their backs on him.

**5** Why should you be beaten anymore?
Why do you persist in rebellion?

**7** Your country is desolate,
your cities burned with fire;
your fields are being stripped by foreigners
right before you,
laid waste as when overthrown by strangers.
**8** Daughter Zion is left
like a shelter in a vineyard,
like a hut in a cucumber field,
like a city under siege.
**9** "Unless the Lord Almighty
had left us some survivors,
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have been like Gomorrah."

**10** Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom;
listen to the instruction of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!
**11** "The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?" says the Lord.
"I have more than enough of burnt offerings,
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;
I have no pleasure
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.
**12** When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you,
this trampling of my courts?
**13** Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Your incense is detestable to me.
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—
I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.
**14** Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals
I hate with all my being.
They have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.
**15** When you spread out your hands in prayer,
I hide my eyes from you;
even when you offer many prayers,
I am not listening.
Your hands are full of blood!

**16** Wash and make yourselves clean.
Take your evil deeds out of my sight;
stop doing wrong.
**17** Learn to do right; seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.

Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.

**18** "Come now, let us settle the matter,"
says the Lord.
"Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.
**19** If you are willing and obedient,
you will eat the good things of the land;
**20** but if you resist and rebel,
you will be devoured by the sword."
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

## *Note*

# Lord's Supper

For Christians, the Lord's Supper is the most sacred thing we do all week. We believe as Presbyterians that though the bread and wine do not become the physical body and blood, nevertheless something mysterious and spiritual happens when we eat and drink by faith, so that we are spiritually nourished and our union with Christ and one another is signified and sealed. For that reason, anyone who is not a Christian and does not see this as sacramental may feel free to abstain, as we do not want to force you to do something with your body that is inconsistent with your heart. However, the Heidelberg Catechism says that for those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, and yet trust that they are forgiven, the Supper is a sign and reminder of the unconditional love of God for them, and that their weakness and sin are covered by the suffering and death of Christ.

If this is where you find yourself, we invite you to come forward to participate in the supper. When the music starts, please go to the center aisle of the section where you are sitting and return on the outside aisle of your section. When you come forward, please take a gluten-free cracker and dip it into the white grape juice or red wine. For anyone who may find it easier to remain seated during communion, single-use communion cups are available on the table in the front right of the sanctuary. Please feel free to ask any BPC member for assistance. If you think your child is ready to go through confirmation and receive communion, please contact Blythe Coker, Director of Youth Ministry (blythe.coker@brookhavenpres.com).

Whether you are coming forward to participate in the Lord's Supper or choose to abstain, we have people in the front corners of the church who would love to pray for you.

## *Apostles Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

**Amen**.

## *Confession*

Gracious God, we confess that we often focus on creating a world that benefits us. We hold tightly to anything we can control, hoping to make our lives comfortable and easy. We ask that you forgive our lack of faith and our unwillingness to trust in your plan. In your kindness, please bring us to repentance. Teach us to trust that You are the author of our lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## *Assurance*

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
*-Lamentations 3:22-23*

## *Prayer & Reflection*

We encourage you to use the time before and after you receive communion to be still with God. For each of us this may look different, but you can use this time to read back over the scripture, reflect on God's love and forgiveness for you, sing along with the song or pray through the following prompts:

-For God to give you deep rest in Him.
-For God to give you a hunger to know and be with Him

-For God to show you how He wants you to respond to anything from the service today that convicted, encouraged, or compelled you to action.
-For anyone in your life who may be struggling.

## *Offering*

An offering box is located on the left of the stage as an opportunity to give back to God. You may also donate online through Church Center.

## Communion Song

### *Home To Me*

Like an unborn baby, in a mother's womb
Before my lungs could breathe,
I was alive in You
Before my eyes were open,
Before my tongue could speak
Before the bond was broken,
Between You and me
You were home to me

**Chorus:**
*You are home, home to me*
*You are patient and kind*
*You are peace, peace to me*
*You are never failing*

Like a house out in the country
Like a boat out on the sea
Like a river going somewhere,
We all wanna be
Like a voice it's so familiar
Like a ground beneath my feet
Like the way, I've always known how close You are to me
You are home to me

**Chorus**

You are where we all have come from
You are where we long to go
We have journeyed far from Eden
And we are coming home
So let our eyes be filled with wonder
Let our lives be filled with song
Let the way of Jesus lead us
Back where we belong
You are home to me

**Chorus**

## *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me*

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing,
"All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall
overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am
free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall
repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him

When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

## Benediction

*From Revelation 21:5 and 22: 20*

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

## Doxology

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

# Christmas at BPC

**Sunday, December 20th: CHRISTMAS POTLUCK BRUNCH & ADVENT IN SONG**

We will gather at 10:00am for our annual Christmas Potluck Brunch, followed by our special *Advent in Song* worship service at 10:45am! *(See inside back cover for more details!)*

**Thursday, December 24th: CHRISTMAS EVE**

The service will be at 5:30pm. Children's Ministry classes will be open for children ages 3 and under. Please RSVP for childcare on the Events page on the BPC app or website for Christmas Eve!

**Friday, December 25th: CHRISTMAS DAY**

Everyone is welcome for a short service on Christmas morning at 10:00am. It will be kid-friendly with shorter readings and Christmas songs that many kids will know. There will not be childcare, but there will be donuts for the children (and adults) to enjoy during the service. Pajamas are welcome!

**Sunday, December 27th: SUNDAY WORSHIP**

We will have our worship service as normal at 10:00am.
All Children's Ministry classes will be open.

# Christmas Potluck Brunch & Advent in Song

On Sunday, December 20th, we will gather for our annual Christmas Potluck Brunch and a special worship service, *Advent in Song* (formerly *Lessons and Carols*). Following the format of our Worship Sundays, *Advent in Song* will lead us through four Scripture-based meditations, each accompanied by songs and congregational singing. Together, we will reflect on the hope, longing, joy, and promise of Christ's coming as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Rather than a traditional sermon, the service will weave together Scripture, reflection, and music, inviting us to participate in the story of Advent through singing and contemplation.

Childcare will be available only for children ages 3 and under. Because this service features shorter meditations interspersed with music and congregational singing, we believe it will be particularly accessible to elementary-aged children. While *Advent in Song* is designed for the entire congregation, its format provides a wonderful opportunity for families to worship together. As always, children of all ages are welcome in the service, and parents are encouraged to make the decision that is best for their family.

**Children's Ministry:**

**All children are encouraged to wear their favorite Christmas pajamas!**

***9:45am:*** Children's Ministry classes open for children under 3 to be dropped off any point. Children 4+ will be in the service.

***10:00-10:30am:*** Kids activities open*:

Cookie Decorating

Christmas Craft

**Please note that there will **not** be childcare for these activities. Parent presence is required for children to participate.*

***10:35am:*** Kids group photo in front of the stage.

**Brunch and Service:**

***10:00am:*** Christmas Potluck Brunch begins

- Our annual Christmas Potluck Brunch is one of our favorite BPC traditions! We encourage every family who is able to bring a dish with 6-10 servings, ideally pre-cut/divided into individual portions.

- Plan your dish based on your last name:

  - A-L: Savory (Ex: egg casserole, quiche, chicken and waffle skewers, sausage balls, bacon, etc.)

  - M-S: Sweet (Ex: coffee cake, muffins, cinnamon rolls, scones, donut holes, etc.)

  - T-Z: Sides (Ex: fruit salad, hashbrowns, breakfast potatoes, yogurt parfaits, etc.)

***10:45am:*** *Advent in Song* service begins

# UPCOMING DATES -

**Tues, December 1st:** Session Meeting at 7:30pm (BPC - Room 204)*
**Thurs, December 3rd:** Diaconate Board Meeting at 7:15pm (BPC - Room 100)*
**Sun, December 6th:** Membership and Baptism Sunday at 10:00am (BPC - Sanctuary)
**Sun, December 6th:** Youth Group from 6:00-8:00pm (BPC - Gym and Backyard)
**Sun, December 13th:** Youth Group Christmas Party from 6:00-8:00pm (BPC - Gym and Backyard)
**Sun, December 13th:** Mid-Century Moderns Christmas Party at 6:30pm (Brannan Home)

**CHRISTMAS:**
**Sun, December 20th:** Christmas Potluck Brunch and Advent in Song at 10:00am (BPC - Gathering Space and Sanctuary)
**Thurs, December 24th:** Christmas Eve Service at 5:30pm (BPC - Sanctuary)
**Fri, December 25th:** Christmas Day Service at 10:00am (BPC - Gathering Space)

**Session, Diaconate, and Committee meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. If you would like to attend the next session meeting, please email Beth (beth.goss@brookhavenpres.com). If you would like to attend the next Diaconate meeting, please email Ken (ken.matlack@brookhavenpres.com).*

***You can find all the details and any relevant registrations for each of these events on the Events page on the BPC app or website!***