ORDINARY TIME

Brookhaven Presbyterian Church / Nov 08



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.

The Way (New Horizon)

"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
–John 14:6

Chorus:
I believe You are
The way, the truth, the life
I believe You are
The way, the truth, the life

I believe
Through every battle
Through every heartbreak
Through every circumstance
I believe
That You are my fortress
Oh, and You are my portion
And You are my hiding place
I believe

Chorus

I believe
Through every blessing
Through every promise
Through every breath I take
I believe
That You are provider
And You are protector
And You are the One I love

Chorus

It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts,
they can all come too
Because they can't stay long
when I'm here with You

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.

God Is So Good

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.
–Psalm 100:5

No height or depth can separate
Your steadfast love we can't escape
Your faithfulness, an endless sea
So full of grace and mercy
We sing

Chorus:
God is so good
God is so good
God is so good
He's so good to me

Haunted by the past no more
My innocence has been restored
Forgiveness flows from Your veins
Your kindness shown in all Your ways
We sing

Chorus

There's never been anyone like You
There's never been anyone like...
You are worthy, You are worthy
Never been anyone like You
Never been anyone like You
You are worthy, You are worthy

Hope is rising like the sun
The old is gone, the new has come
I fix my eyes on Christ alone
My Rock, my Shield, my Cornerstone
We sing

Chorus

Build My Life

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.
-Matthew 7: 24

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, oh, we live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

Chorus:
Holy, there is no one like You,
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and
Show me who You are
and fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Jesus, the name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
You're worthy of every breath
we could ever breathe
We live for You, oh, we live for You

Chorus

And I will build my life upon Your love,
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken
And I will build my life upon Your love,
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Chorus

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

Luke 18: 9-14

9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: **10** "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11** The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. **12** I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

13 "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

14 "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Romans 8: 14-17

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. **15** The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

NOTES

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

What A Friend

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
-Proverbs 18:24

What a friend I've found,
Closer than a brother;
I have felt Your touch,
More intimate than lovers.

Chorus:
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,
Friend forever.

What a hope I've found,
More faithful than a mother;
It would break my heart
To ever lose each other.

Chorus

Steadfast

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
-Lamentations 3: 22-23

I will build my house
Whether storm or drought
On the rock that does not move
I will set my hope
In Your love, O Lord
And Your faithfulness will prove

Chorus:
You are steadfast, steadfast

By the word You spoke
All the starry host
Are called out by name each night
In Your watchful care

I will rest secure
As You lead us with Your light

Chorus

I will not trust
in the strength of kings
On Your promise I will stand
I will shout for joy,
I will raise my voice
Hallelujah to the Lamb!

Chorus

In the moment of emptiness
All was fulfilled
In the hour of darkness
Your light was revealed
In the presence of death
Your life was affirmed
In the absence of holiness,
You are still God

Chorus

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.

HEADLINES

1)

ADOPTION AWARENESS

2)

MISSIONS UPDATE: HALBERT FAMILY

3)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

4)

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: STEVEN SEARCY

Connect With Us: If you would like prayer for something specific, are new to the church, or would like to meet with a church leader, please text your information to 770-241-8131 or scan the QR code to fill out the contact card.

UPCOMING DATES - NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

Sun, November 8th: Youth Group from 6:00-8:00pm (BPC - Gym and Backyard)

Sun, November 15th: Adoption Panel & Coffee at 8:30am (BPC - Room 204)
Sun, November 15th: Motherhood Unscripted Lunch after church 11:30am-1:00pm - (Location TBD)
Sun, November 15th: Youth Group from 6:00-8:00pm (BPC - Gym and Backyard)

Sun, November 29th: Prayer for Hope and Healing at 9:00am (BPC - Room 101)

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!

1) ADOPTION AWARENESS

November is Adoption Awareness Month, and today is Pure Religion Sunday! "Observed on the second Sunday in November, [Pure Religion Sunday] encourages churches to engage deeply in adoption, foster care, global orphan care and wrap-around family support — as a foundational piece of living as disciples of Jesus." (quote from CAFO). The name "Pure Religion" comes from James 1:27 which says "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Join us next Sunday, November 15th at 8:30am in Room 204. We will hear from a panel of adoptive parents and an adult adoptee from BPC about where they've seen God at work in their adoption experience, how they initially experienced the call to adopt, unexpected challenges they have faced throughout the adoption and post-adoption process, and more. RSVP and register for childcare by scanning the QR code.

NOTE: This event is not an info session for adoption and is not exclusive to those who may be interested in adopting in the future (although of course we encourage any prospective adoptive parents to attend). The goal of this event is for BPC's Foster Care and Adoption Ministry team to highlight the impact of adoption on our congregation at BPC.

2) MISSIONS UPDATE: HALBERT FAMILY

The Halberts have been serving in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for 4 years with their kids, William, Emma Kate, Warren, and Wallace. Their church, Iglesia Presbiteriana Gracia Soberana, has a vision to share Christ in their part of the city, as well as to plant churches along each exit within the city. This vision has the churches sharing the word of God, while also being the hands and feet of God, showing up and supporting those in need in their communities.

Specific prayer requests for the Halbert family are peace and patience as they continue homeschooling their kids and that they would all continue to grow in language learning. Prayer requests for Gracia Soberana are that God would give them discernment in how best to start a new denomination, enact their church plant vision, and acquire the lot next to their church.

Please join God's work in Honduras through the Halberts and Gracia Soberana with your prayers.

3) CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The goal of the Congregation Care team is to glorify God by pursuing and serving the needs of our congregation. This team is composed of leaders who aim to walk alongside anyone in our church who may need a bit of extra help. This can be as simple as needing a ride in the middle of the week or brief childcare on a Sunday morning to long-term care teams.

Often these needs are met by the members of the Congregational Care team. However, there may be times when more specialized help is needed or even just more hands on deck. If you would be willing to periodically help meet congregational needs (without joining the Congregational Care team), scan the QR code below and complete a brief survey to be added to a database that we can use as needs arise.

If you would like to join the Congregational Care leadership team, please reach out to Beth (beth.goss@brookhavenpres.com) for more information.

4) MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: STEVEN SEARCY

Steven Searcy, his wife, Kaitlin, and their 4 boys have been part of BPC from the very early days! Last year we shared about Steven's book of poems called Below the Brightness.

Now, we are excited to share that his poem "Tabernacle" is included in this new anthology! Unto Us A Child Is Born: The Kingdom Poets Book of Christmas, edited by D. S. Martin, has just been released as part of the Poiema Poetry Series from Cascade Books. It includes classic poems from writers such as Donne, Milton, Tennyson, Christina Rossetti, George MacDonald, and G. K. Chesterton, as well as contemporary poets including Scott Cairns, Luci Shaw, Dana Gioia, William Baer, Sydney Lea, and John F. Deane.

If you are interested, the book is available at half price for the month of November with free US shipping, as part of Wipf & Stock's annual sale. Use the code CONFSHIP at checkout. You can scan here to find it: