

CHURCH AND KINGDOM



THE BUILD INITIATIVE

# 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.

# Great Rejoicing

*The Lord your God is with you,  
the Mighty Warrior who saves.  
He will take great delight in you;  
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,  
but will rejoice over you with singing.  
-Zephaniah 3:17*

There's gonna be a great rejoicing  
There's gonna be a great rejoicing  
Troubles of this world  
Will wither up and die  
That river of tears made by the lonely  
Someday will be dry  
There's gonna be a great rejoicing

There's gonna be a great joy river  
There's gonna be a great joy river  
Questions of this world  
Someday will be known  
Who's robbing you of peace  
And who's the giver  
There's gonna be a great joy river

Someday you will find me  
Guarded in His fortress  
Open heart and wings that  
Never touch the ground  
Someday we will gather  
In a grand reunion  
The debts of this old world  
Are nowhere to be found  
Are nowhere to be found

There's gonna be a great rejoicing  
There's gonna be a great rejoicing

# Call To Worship

## Psalm 63: 1-4

### *I Am Held*

*Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.*

*-Isaiah 49: 16*

- 1 You, God, are my God,  
earnestly I seek you;  
I thirst for you,  
my whole being longs for you,  
in a dry and parched land  
where there is no water.
- 2 I have seen you in the sanctuary  
and beheld your power and your glory.
- 3 Because your love is better than life,  
my lips will glorify you.
- 4 I will praise you as long as I live,  
and in your name I will lift up my hands

#### **Chorus:**

*I am held*

*I am held*

*I am held by the One who won't let go*

*I am held*

*I am held*

*I am held by the lover of my soul*

Made in Your image  
Filled with Your breath inside my lungs  
Crowned with Your blessing  
You're proud of the work You've done

#### **Chorus**

Made for communion  
I am the branch and You're the vine  
My heart is a table  
And You are the bread and wine

#### **Chorus**

Caught in a love and it won't let go  
Caught in a love and it frees my soul

#### **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](mailto:beth.goss@brookhavenpres.com)).

**Community Groups:** Monthly gatherings for dinner and relational connection.

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

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

**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/leadership](http://www.brookhavenpres.com/leadership)).



# Membership and Baptism

## *About Membership:*

“The Church which the Lord Jesus Christ has erected in this world for the gathering and perfecting of the saints is His visible kingdom of grace” (PCA Book of Church Order 1.1-2). “Yet, the Church is not only a society of external things and rites, but principally a society of faith and of the Holy Spirit in the hearts” (Apology of Augsburg Confession, arts. 7-8). In the modern individualization of society where we are left to our own devices in navigating life, formal church membership is a way for us to bind ourselves together as a spiritual community. Church membership brings the accountability of responsibility, but it also brings us the security, safety and stability of meaningful connection. It is, in effect, a foreshadowing form of our engagement to be married to Christ on the day of His return.

## *About Baptism:*

“The sacrament of baptism is a washing with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, which is a sign and seal that we are joined to Christ, that we receive the benefits of the covenant of grace, and that we are engaged to be the Lord’s” (Westminster Confession of Faith, Shorter Catechism Q.94). Baptism is a poignant expression of our relationship with God through our savior, Jesus Christ, by whom it was instituted. It functionally serves as God’s sign to us, and the world around us, that we belong to Him and the body of his people in the church. As we observe the beautiful symbol that is the washing with water, we remember that it is only by Christ’s sacrifice for sinners like us that we can be washed clean and united to God and His covenantal community of grace. The baptism of our infants particularly reminds us of our own baptism story. Just as the infant brings nothing to the table and is unable to provide for its own needs, so too does God work through His promises to do for us that which we cannot do for ourselves. In these ways, baptism is a covenantal sign that the Holy Spirit wants to use to build a unified spiritual community based on the grace and promises of God.

## *New Members:*

Caroline Buckley  
Dalton Buckley  
Blythe Coker  
James Kim  
Ansley Poole  
Diana Shaw  
Kevin Shaw

## *Baptisms:*

David Mitchell “Bear” Bishop  
Lily Sue Chow  
Pax Samuel London  
Oliver Gabriel Reed  
Maximilian Axel Sundholm  
Merritt Bradley Wilkerson

# VOWS

## *Membership:*

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is ordered in the gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

## *Baptism:*

### **Parents:**

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on their behalf and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

### **Congregation:**

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

### **Prayer**

# 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*

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

## Sermon

### *2nd Samuel 12: 1-13*

**1** The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. **2** The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, **3** but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

**4** “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

**5** David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! **6** He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.

**7** Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. **8** I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives

into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. **9** Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. **10** Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.

**11** “This is what the Lord says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. **12** You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

**13** Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

### *Psalm 51: 1-17*

- 1** Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- 2** Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3** For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.
- 4** Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.
- 5** Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- 6** Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- 7** Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- 8** Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- 9** Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.
- 10** Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- 11** Do not cast me from your presence

- or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- 12** Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- 13** Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- 14** Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- 15** Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- 16** You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- 17** My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.

# 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.

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*

Father, we come to you this morning in our sinfulness and in the ways we failed to follow you this week. You know our hearts and how often we have sinned; in our selfishness, and in ignoring your call to love and serve sacrificially those around us. In your great mercy and kindness please show us our sin, give us hearts to be quick to repent and remind us that we are forgiven. Amen.

## *Assurance*

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

*Ephesians 1: 7*

## *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

### *Today If You Hear Him*

Today if you hear Him  
Skipping rocks on the river  
Laughing in the garden  
Like when you were young

Today if you hear Him  
Walking through the pine woods  
Racing down the big hill  
Calling you to come

Don't be too grown, oh  
For your own sake  
Let the children come  
Let us become like children today

Today if you hear Him  
Let your feet take off running  
Don't worry who is watching  
Let Him kiss you on the face

Don't be too grown, oh  
For your own sake  
Let the children come  
Let us become like children today

Let the children come  
Let us become like children today

### *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  
You're worthy of every breath  
we could ever breathe  
We live for You, oh, 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**

## Benediction

*Psalm  
145: 8-9*

**8** The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. **9** He is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

## 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.**

# **THE BUILD INITIATIVE: COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

Today is Commitment Sunday! As you leave the service, please place your commitment card in one of the wooden boxes in the back of the sanctuary. If you forgot your card, there are extras available next to each box. You can also submit your pledge online on the Build Initiative website ([www.brookhavenpres.com/buildinitiative](http://www.brookhavenpres.com/buildinitiative)).

Next Sunday is Celebration Sunday! Join us after the service for a community lunch and bounce houses as we celebrate God's provision together!

## **HEADLINES:**

- 1) Foster Care Awareness Month**
- 2) Summer at BPC**
- 3) Membership & Baptism Prayers**

# UPCOMING DATES:

## **THIS WEEK:**

**Wed 5/13:** Infertility and Loss Group at 6:30pm

*(Taqueria del Sol in Chamblee)*

**Fri 5/15:** Church-wide Fast from Breakfast

## **COMING UP:**

**Sun 5/17:** Rising 5th Grade Parents Meeting at 8:45am

*(BPC - Room 101)*

**Sun 5/17:** The Build Initiative Celebration Sunday and Community Lunch *(BPC)*

**Sun 5/17:** Youth Group End of Year Party from 6:00-8:00pm

*(BPC - Backyard & Gym)*

**Sun 5/24:** Kids Church End of Year Pool Party after church

*(The Webbs' House)*

**Tues 5/26:** Session Meeting at 8:00pm *(BPC)*

**Sun 5/31:** Prayer for Hope and Healing at 9:00am *(BPC - Room 101)*

*Please go to the BPC website or app to find out more details about the events above.*

# 1. FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH: FCAM TEAM UPDATE

It is both humbling and amazing to see how the Lord has privileged our Foster Care and Adoption Ministry team to walk beside four fostering families at Brookhaven Pres. We've seen placements come and go this year, siblings reunited, and the Lord prompting hearts to love vulnerable children in our community and walk alongside those He has called to the difficult but necessary work of being foster parents and families. Since the last ministry update, we've seen two of these families welcome siblings or sibling sets into their homes. Care community team leaders have organized meals and babysitters with hopes that fostering families would know that they are not alone and that others in our community are walking with them. We've been privileged that these fostering parents have been willing to share the highs and the lows and have vulnerably been willing to open their home and their life to their care community.

This week of Foster Care Awareness month, we'd like consider the biological parents and families of the children in care in our congregation. Please join us as we pray that their families would be reunited safely. Pray with us that our perspective would be shifted as we remember each of these parents was made in God's own image, and is loved deeply by Him. Often times, the parents of children in care were once in care themselves and deeply love and desire a better life for their children. Also, they have very real and engulfing struggles and they just don't know how to get out, if they can get out, or if it's even worth trying only to struggle and fall back in. Please pray that our ministry and our congregation at BPC remains for the family and together with the family, against anything that seeks to steal, kill or destroy that which God intended to be good (John 10:10).

*\*Large portions of this update were adapted for our purposes using Jason Johnson's "River Analogy."*

## 2. SUMMER AT BPC

### June:

June-July: Supper Clubs\*

Fri-Sun June 5-7th: Youth Retreat

Sundays, June 7th, 14th, 21st: Sunday School\* at 8:45am

Wednesdays, June 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th: Open Gym Days for Families from 1:00-4:00pm

Sunday, June 7th: Playground Playdate for 2 & 3 year olds at 9:30am

Thursday, June 11th: Ladies Night\* at 7:30pm

Sunday, June 14th: Youth Hangout

Tuesday, June 16th: Youth: Meet ATL

Thursday, June 18th: Nights of the Roundtable\* at 7:00pm

Sunday, June 28th: Prayer for Hope and Healing at 9:00am

### July:

Sunday, July 12th: Youth Hangout

Sunday, July 19th: Playground Playdate for 2 & 3 year olds at 9:30am

Tuesday, July 21st: Youth: Meet ATL

Thursday, July 23rd: Ladies Night at 7:30pm

Saturday, July 25th: Membership Class 1\* at 9:00am

Sunday, July 26th: Youth Hangout

Sunday, July 26th: Prayer for Hope and Healing at 9:00am

### August:

Sundays, August 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd: Sunday School: Theology Class

*\*Register on the events page on the BPC app or website for each of these events*

# 3. MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM PRAYERS

## Prayers for our New Members:

- Pray that each of these new members find deep community in our congregation.
- Pray for them to continue to grow in their understanding of God's love for them in such a way that every aspect of their lives is changed by God's grace.
- Pray for them to find joy in using the gifts that God has given them to serve in the ways that God has called them to.
- Pray that they would become more like Jesus as they spend time with God.

## Baptism Prayers:

**David Mitchell "Bear" Bishop (David and Michelle):** Our prayer for Bear is that he grows up to love the Lord as his Father and what the Lord has set before him as good. We pray that Bear grows into a man that pursues the Lord above all else and that he seeks to serve faithfully in the kingdom of God.

**Lily Sue Chow (Taylor and Mallory):** Our prayer for Lily is that she would live in the freedom of God's love, that her life would be marked by joy and gentleness, and that she would know goodness and mercy are chasing her all the days of her life.

**Pax Samuel London (Levi and Allie):** Pax Samuel means "God has heard and brought peace." We pray that Pax would come to know God at an early age, that he would hear the needs of others and be moved to respond to them, and that he would be a peacemaker.

**Oliver Gabriel Reed (Brandon and Annie):** We pray that God would cultivate in Oliver the peace and restoration he brings to humanity in a tangible way, and that he would use Ollie to reflect his glory in that way here on earth. We also pray that "God is my strength" would be the truest part of Oliver, and that from this foundation he would place his identity in Jesus, and not in any of the multitude of places in which people misplace their identity.

**Maximilian Axel Sundholm (Nathaniel and Lauren):** Our prayer is for Maximilian to be strong yet gentle, peaceful but a force for justice, and successful but humble.

**Merritt Bradley Wilkerson (Brad and Christy):** Our prayer for Merritt is that she would know she is loved by God - who made her, died for her, and delights in her; that she would use her gifts to build God's kingdom and bless others; and that she would not put her hope in the things of this world, but in the all sufficient merit of Christ.