

ORDINARY TIME Brookhaven Presbyterian Church / October 26



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.

Every Hour

Lord, You know me and You always will
Oh You keep me, 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, Y
ou 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

Call To Worship

Isaiah 12: 2-4

“Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my
might; he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the Lord,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.”

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

Take My Life

I appeal to you therefore, brothers,
by the mercies of God, to present
your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy
and acceptable to God, which is
your spiritual worship.

—*Romans 12: 1*

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold:
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be,
Ever, only, all for Thee.
Ever, only, all for Thee.

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).

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).



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

Nehemiah 9

1 Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. **2** And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. **3** And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the Lord their God. **4** On the stairs of the Levites stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani; and they cried with a loud voice to the Lord their God. **5** Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, "Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. **6** "You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you. **7** You are the Lord, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham. **8** You found his heart faithful

before you, and made with him the covenant to give to his offspring the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite. And you have kept your promise, for you are righteous.

9 “And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea, **10** and performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted arrogantly against our fathers. And you made a name for yourself, as it is to this day. **11** And you divided the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on dry land, and you cast their pursuers into the depths, as a stone into mighty waters. **12** By a pillar of cloud you led them in the day, and by a pillar of fire in the night to light for them the way in which they should go. **13** You came down on Mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven and gave them right rules and true laws, good statutes and commandments, **14** and you made known to them your holy Sabbath and commanded them commandments and statutes and a law by Moses your servant. **15** You gave them bread from heaven for their hunger and brought water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you had sworn to give them.

16 “But they and our fathers acted presumptuously and stiffened their neck and did not obey your commandments. **17** They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. **18** Even when they had made for themselves a golden calf and said, ‘This is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,’ and had committed great blasphemies, **19** you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud to lead them in the way did not depart from them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to light for them the way by which they should go. **20** You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouth and gave them water for their thirst. **21** Forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

22 “And you gave them kingdoms and peoples and allotted to them every corner. So they took possession of the land of Sihon king of Heshbon and the land of Og king of Bashan. **23** You multiplied their children as the stars of heaven, and you brought them into the land that you had told their fathers to enter and possess. **24** So the descendants went in and possessed the land, and you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gave them into their hand, with their kings and the peoples of the land, that they might do with them as they would. **25** And they captured fortified cities and a rich land, and took possession of houses full of all good things, cisterns already hewn, vineyards, olive orchards and fruit trees in abundance. So they

ate and were filled and became fat and delighted themselves in your great goodness.

26 “Nevertheless, they were disobedient and rebelled against you and cast your law behind their back and killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies.

27 Therefore you gave them into the hand of their enemies, who made them suffer. And in the time of their suffering they cried out to you and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them saviors who saved them from the hand of their enemies. **28** But after they had rest they did evil again before you, and you abandoned them to the hand of their enemies, so that they had dominion over them. Yet when they turned and cried to you, you heard from heaven, and many times you delivered them according to your mercies. **29** And you warned them in order to turn them back to your law. Yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments, but sinned against your rules, which if a person does them, he shall live by them, and they turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not obey. **30** Many years you bore with them and warned them by your Spirit through your prophets. Yet they would not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. **31** Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

32 “Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love, let not all the hardship seem little to you that has come upon us, upon our kings, our princes, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until this day. **33** Yet you have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly. **34** Our kings, our princes, our priests, and our fathers have not kept your law or paid attention to your commandments and your warnings that you gave them. **35** Even in their own kingdom, and amid your great goodness that you gave them, and in the large and rich land that you set before them, they did not serve you or turn from their wicked works. **36** Behold, we are slaves this day; in the land that you gave to our fathers to enjoy its fruit and its good gifts, behold, we are slaves. **37** And its rich yield goes to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. They rule over our bodies and over our livestock as they please, and we are in great distress.

38 “Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.

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 Confession says that for those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, and yet trust that these are forgiven them, the Supper may help remind them that their weakness and sin is covered by the suffering and death of Christ. If you think your child is ready to go through confirmation and receive communion, please contact Blythe.

For anyone that may find it easier to remain seated during communion, single-use communion cups are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to ask any BPC member for assistance.

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 acknowledge how easily we have failed to follow you this week. In your kindness, please show us the ways in which we have not treated others with respect, not loved well or were self-seeking in decisions that we made. We ask that you bring us to repentance in these areas. We long to be made more and more like Christ as you draw us closer to yourself. Help us to understand and fully live out what it means that we are a people who have been reconciled to you because of the work of Jesus on our behalf. Teach us to rest in the beauty of your love so that we can live as those who have hope instead of discouragement and despair.

Assurance of Pardon

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1: 13-14

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

Psalms 116

I love you, Lord,
For you have delivered me
I love you, Lord,
For you have delivered

Chorus:

*My soul from death,
My feet from stumbling;
I will walk
In the land of the living
My soul from death,
My feet from stumbling;
I will walk in the
Land of the living*

I love you, Lord,
For you have delivered me
I love you, Lord,
For you have delivered

Chorus

I will bless You, Lord
For you heard my cry
I reached out my hand
And You saved my life
I will bless You, Lord
For You heard my plea
And the God of Heaven
Turned His ear to me
I will bless You, Lord
For unending love
For Your grace and mercy
Raining down from above
And I will bless You, Lord
To the very end
I will call on You
As long as I may live

It Is Well With My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Chorus:

*It is well (It is well)
With my soul (With my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

Chorus

My sin - O the bliss of
this glorious thought! -
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Chorus

And, Lord, haste the day
when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound,
and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

Benediction

*Psalms
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.

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Missionary Highlight:
The Moore Family

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Sunday Night Worship

4

Mid-Century
Moderns Gathering



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:

THIS WEEK:

Sun 10/26: Youth Group at 6:00pm (*BPC - Gym/Backyard*)

Sun 10/26: Mid-Century Moderns Dinner at 7:00pm (*Marlow's Tavern in Brookhaven*)

Mon 10/27: Prayer for Sally Jordan at 9:00am (*BPC - Room 101*)

Mon 10/27: Creative Cohort at 8:00pm (*Ware Home: 1214 W Nancy Creek Drive NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319*)

COMING UP:

Sun 11/2: Membership & Baptism Sunday at 10:00am (*BPC - Sanctuary*)

Sun 11/2: Church Family Lunch: Chili Cook-off at 11:30am (*BPC - Gym*)

Sun 11/2: Sunday Night Worship at 7:00pm (*BPC - Sanctuary*)

Mon 11/3: Prayer for Sally Jordan at 9:00am (*BPC - Room 101*)

Mon 11/3: Creative Cohort at 8:00pm (*Ware Home: 1214 W Nancy Creek Drive NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319*)

Thu 11/6: Book Club Cohort at 7:00pm (*Anne Marie Dine's Home: 1132 Standard Drive NE, Atlanta, GA 30319*)

Fri 11/7: Motherhood Unscripted Cohort at 9:30am (*Location TBA*)

SAVE THE DATE!

Sat 12/6: Church-wide Christmas Party at 7:30pm (*BPC*)

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

HEAD LINES

1) Finance Update

	Sept 23 - Aug 24	Sept 24 - Aug 25	Sept 25 - Aug 26	Current %	Ideal %
General Income	\$1,890,000	\$2,233,000	\$2,233,000		
Operating Expenses:					
Staffing + Contractors	\$1,005,000	\$1,138,000	\$1,240,000	55%	53%
Facilities + Central Administration	\$280,000	\$344,000	\$290,000	26%	15%
Mortgage	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$280,000		
Ministry / Program	\$139,000	\$140,000	185,000	8%	7%
External Ministries (deacons / missions / session)	\$325,000	\$221,500**	\$235,000	11%	25%
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,029,000	\$2,123,500	\$2,230,000		
	(\$139,000)	\$109,500	\$3,000		

**Started the year at \$147,000

HEAD LINES

1) Finance Update

BPC's Generosity Statement:

At BPC, we believe that generosity is a picture of the Gospel, an expression of gratitude, a pathway to provision, and an act of worship. We give freely and generously in the recognition that Christ first gave everything freely to us, at great expense to himself. Our acts of generosity put us in a posture of humility, submission, and open hands, in order that we can participate in the good work of Christ and his church. We believe generosity is the mechanism to fight against the idols of greed and consumerism. We acknowledge that God does not need our money - and that He will accomplish his perfect will - working all things for our good and His glory. By participating in this practice, we get to experience the joy of giving and the meeting of our needs through God's generous supplication.

HEAD LINES

1) Finance Update

BPC's Generosity Principles:

- 1) God will not love you any more or less based on the amount of money you give to the church. Therefore, part of the task for the individual is to avoid the dual threats of pride and shame because of how much money one gives to the church.
- 2) Church members and attenders who are in financial straits must not feel guilty about an inability to tithe; indeed, they should let the church know of financial hardship so the church can help.
- 3) Our generosity is a response to the generosity of God toward us in Christ, who "though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that we by his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:9).
- 4) Christian churches have a long history of taking peoples' money for purposes that may or may not be glorifying to God. We understand that churches asking for money must be received with a grain of salt.
- 5) The church, in spite of its imperfections, is the visible body of Christ; therefore, it is the closest approximation we have in this world of being generous toward God (Mal. 3:8). Thus, we must not make the mistake of identifying God with the church; neither should we make the mistake of denying the deeply intimate connection of God with the church.
- 6) Generosity is the most effective spiritual discipline against the extremely powerful false idol of money.
- 7) Every person and family's financial situation is different; their giving must be done out of the freedom of his or her conscience: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). The goal is to be faithful to what God is calling us to do.
- 8) As a general rule of thumb, the historic Christian practice is to give away 10% of income. Anyone for whom this seems difficult can start smaller and grow to his or her goal.
- 9) At BPC, we practice generosity in our own budget. We aim to put 25% of our general tithes and offerings to external ministries (Ministry of Deed).

HEAD LINES

2) Missionary Highlight: The Moore Family

It's an exciting new chapter for Brian and his family in Freiburg, Germany! After months of prayer, preparation, and perseverance, Christ Church Freiburg officially launched this past Sunday. The journey hasn't been without challenges—building a core team, securing a space, and navigating logistics—but through it all, God's faithfulness has been evident.

The launch service drew about 40 people, far exceeding expectations and filling the room with worship, joy, and gratitude. One of the most meaningful moments came as the congregation shared their first communion together, celebrating unity in Christ and the birth of a new gospel-centered community in the heart of Freiburg. Adding to the joy, Brian's longtime mentor, Phil Stogner, and his wife, Wendy, joined for the occasion. Their presence was a powerful reminder of God's ongoing provision through faithful partners in ministry.

Back at home, life for the family is settling into a steady rhythm as the kids return to school. Madeline (5th), Julia (4th), Emma (1st), and Andrew (Kindergarten) are adjusting well. A highlight for Emma was receiving her Schultüte, a colorful German cone filled with treats and school supplies to celebrate the first day of school — a fun local tradition that turned nerves into joy.

Prayer Requests:

- That God would continue to build His church in Freiburg
- For new outreach initiatives and connections with locals this fall
- For a permanent home in Freiburg — housing searches continue
- For the children's faith and protection, especially as Madeline and Emma begin new schools

Brian and his family express deep gratitude: "Thank you for sending us, praying for us, and partnering in the gospel. God is truly at work here in Germany!"

HEAD LINES

3) Sunday Night Worship

Join us next Sunday, November 2nd at 7:00pm for our next monthly Sunday Night Worship service. There will be an extended time for worship through music and prayer, with more time for contemplation around the Lord's Supper and the reading of the Apostles Creed. There will also be people from the prayer team ready to pray for anyone in need of prayer. We hope that you will come and be encouraged!

(If you need childcare, please register in advance using the link on the Events section of the BPC app or website.)

4) Mid-Century Moderns Gathering

Mid-Century Moderns is a group at BPC made up of those who have raised kids, gained wisdom and experience, and are now either empty nesters or parents of college-age children. We love our community! We pray for our kids and grandkids, care for our parents, serve the church through discipleship groups, and enjoy building meaningful friendships within a smaller circle of our church family.

Our next gathering will be at the Flanigans' house (2826 Cravey Trail NE, Atlanta, GA 30345) at 6:30pm on Saturday, November 15th. The Flanigans will provide the entree and everyone else can please bring sides and desserts. We look forward to seeing you all!

Any questions? Call/email Cissy Flanigan at 770-605-3602 or cissydavid@comcast.net.