



BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“With and Against” by Wassily Kandinsky

May 28, 2023
Pentecost

Prelude

Stephanie Pizza, Flute and Michelle Moeller, Oboe

Ringling of the Bells

Introit

O Come Quickly, Holy Spirit

Datanglah

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** from Acts 2:1-4

Leader: When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

People: Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Leader: They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

People: All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

***Opening Hymn 127**

"Come, O Spirit"

Union Harmony

Confession

O God, you poured out your Spirit upon the gathered friends, creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community. We confess that we do not notice the Spirit moving among us. We do not listen for your grace. We forget to speak of your love. Have mercy on us. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit.

(Silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

***Passing of the Peace**

You may stand and greet one another.

Time with the Children

The children are welcome to stay for the service or they may leave for Sunday Spirit.

Historical Narrative

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'

But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall
be saved."

Anthem

Come Down, O Love Divine

John Leavitt

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Offering

Offertory

Hymn to the Holy Spirit

Martin How

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn 129**

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among US

Ebenezer

***Charge and Blessing**

Benediction Response *God of Creation (Benediction)* M. Thangaraj

***Postlude**

Stephanie Pizza, Flute and Michelle Moeller, Oboe

*Please stand, if able

Announcements

Please fill out the pew pads and pass them to your neighbor.



Many thanks to Jeremy McEvilly for contributing your beautiful voice to the choir each week. Special thanks as well to Michelle Moeller, our oboe soloist, Stephanie Pizza, our flute soloist, and Virginia Leeman, our substitute organist for accompanying our choir.

Senior Luncheon

June 1st and 29th

12:30 pm

Bring your bag lunch and join us as we connect with each other and make new friends.

You don't need to be a member of Bedford Presbyterian Church to attend.



Graduation Celebration

Join us to celebrate BPC's high school graduates. They will be presented with gifts during worship, and there will be a special coffee hour immediately following.

June 4th, 10 am worship





Pentecost Sunday

Celebrate the Holy Spirit during worship!!



Featuring special music from instrumentalists, a children's procession, and more!

VOLUNTEER AT NATIVITY FARM



Join us on Thursdays from 5-7 pm!

Mark your calendars!!

Congregational Meeting



June 4th, immediately following worship.

Agenda

Election of Elders & Deacons for the Fall 2023 Term

Congregational Updates

RECURRING EVENTS AT BPC

Lunch with Friends – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of every month at 12:30 pm.

Quilting- Every Tuesday at 1 pm.

Bible Study – Every Thursday at 10 am via Zoom.

Coffee Hour – Sundays after worship at 11 am. Please sign up to host.















Flower donations for Sunday Worship. Please sign up to dedicate flowers.

Please go to our website or call the church office for more information.

MAY 28 - JUNE 3, 2022

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
						
Partly Cloudy 74°	Partly Cloudy 83°	Sunny 73°	Mostly Sunny 80°	Partly Cloudy 87°	Partly Cloudy 87°	Rainy 84°

ON THE FARM

This week we have been tending to our new pollinator garden, although buying new plants has taken a pause until next week. The greenhouse we bought has finally arrived and we have begun to build it. We have made a lot of progress with clearing out the overgrown garden in the back of the Church, which will eventually turn into a pumpkin/squash garden. Finally, we have been researching some composting techniques to create a three-bin composting system for the Church.

OTHER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please follow our new Nativity Farm instagram: @nativityfarm_BPC

Our volunteer hours at the farm are Thursday evenings from 5pm to 7pm. Please join us! If you are unable to volunteer during that time, let Courtney know or volunteer at any of the other Westchester Local Food Project gardens in the are.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Propagate

WHAT WE ARE READING

"If a healthy soil is full of death, it is also full of life: worms, fungi, microorganisms of all kinds ... Given only the health of the soil, nothing that dies is dead for very long."

Wendell Berry

"Compost is made out of food scraps, brown leaves, and other organic matter that might look dead; however, all of these items, when combined properly, can generate soil that will nourish new life. Easter promises that death does not have the final word and Jesus reminds us, "Do not be afraid," even in times of confusion or that seem filled with darkness. Resurrection and new life are the heart of our faith and cycles of nature."

Brenna Davis

THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

Finish the greenhouse and pollinator garden, finish clearing out the squash garden.

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, May 28th

10 am

11 am

Pentecost

Worship

Coffee Hour

Monday, May 29th

9 am

OFFICE CLOSED

No Yoga

Tuesday, May 30th

1 pm

Quilting

Thursday, June 1st

10 am

12:30 pm

5 pm

Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at **alanmcd@verizon.net**

Senior Luncheon

Nativity Farm Work Session

Sunday, June 4th

10 am

11 am

Trinity Sunday

Worship, Communion and Youth Collection

Graduation Celebration & Congregational Meeting

Bulletin & Weekly E-NEWS Announcements

To sign up for our weekly E-NEWS that has live links to all of our announcements, please go to the BPC website at **bedfordpreschurch.org** and select either **'Contact'** at the top **or E-NEWS** just below it. To have information entered into the Bulletin and/or the E-NEWS, please email Jessica at **Office@bedfordpreschurch.org** by the end of the day Tuesdays for entry into that week's media.

Our Leadership

Session

Clerk of Session Brian Hiller-Dupont, President Michelle Gosh,
Linda Burpee (Mission),
Jessica Cunningham (Personnel and Stewardship),
Danielle Gamar (Christian Education),
Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm),
Suzanne Millette (Finance), Sarah Ryan (Property & Maintenance),
& Bart Tyler (Members & Friends and Stewardship)
Moderator Reverend Carol Howard Merritt

Deacons

Chair Kim Lapple, Sarah Alley, Marcy Carlson,
Kathy DiBiasi, Michele Eames, Pat Ferguson, & Diane Palmento

Staff

The Reverend Carol Howard Merritt, Pastor
Courtney Steininger, Director of Christian Education & Youth
John Lettieri, Director of Music
Elyssa Michaels, Director of Congregational Life & Digital Ministries
Jessica DeAlto, Office Manager
The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

Office@bedfordpreschurch.org ~ www.bedfordpreschurch.org
P.O. Box 280 ~ 44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506
914-234-3672