



BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"In the Patio VIII" by Georgia O'Keeffe

May 7, 2023
5th Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Introit

God is Love

G. Thalben Ball

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: You prepare a place for us, in your home.

People: Draw us into yourself,

Leader: Through water splashed, bread broken, and wine poured.

People: When our hearts are troubled, may we know you more completely.

***Hymn 485**

To God Be the Glory

Call to Confession

Confession

Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty, and you will restore all things to yourself. You formed us in your likeness. We confess that your image is often damaged by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war, and greed. Forgive us when we do not see the holiness in others. Help us to work for a new creation in Jesus Christ, so that we might live in justice, love, and peace.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Time with the Children

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

Poetry Lesson

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.
Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

Gospel Lesson

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Offering

Offertory *There is a Balm in Gilead*

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

**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**

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We lift up our hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise...

Breaking of the Bread

*Communion

Cello Suite IV

Bourrée
Kate Branch

J.S. Bach

Prayer after Communion and 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 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

Amen IV

James McGregor

*Please stand, if able

Announcements

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



May Day Celebration

After worship today, we will have a maypole out front for the kids. This Welsh and Scottish folk tradition is said to represent the lengthening of the days as summer approaches.



Cover Art

Georgia O'Keeffe is the Mother of American Modernism. She owned two homes. Her summer home is on Ghost Ranch, and the Presbyterian Church runs it.

I chose this painting to illustrate Jesus' words, "In my father's house, there are many rooms." It reminds me of O'Keeffe's adobe house and the view of the sky.

Currently, there is an exhibit of O'Keeffe's work at the MOMA. It's entitled with O'Keeffe's words: "To see takes time."

-CHM

Mark your calendars!!

Congregational Meeting



**June 4th, immediately
following worship.**

COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER'S
7TH ANNUAL MOMS FOR MOMS DRIVE

May 1 through May 15, 2023



Please help local mothers who turn to CCNW for support by donating to our drive for diapers, wipes, baby food and feminine care products!

Moms for Moms has collected over 10,000 pounds of diapers and wipes over the last 6 years!

WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF:

- Diapers (sizes 4, 5 & 6)
- Baby Food
- Baby Wipes
- Feminine Care Products

Purchase online through our Amazon wishlist by scanning the QR code and have it delivered directly to the Center, or drop your donations in person at the Center's donation room!



COMMUNITY CENTER
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER
30 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

84 BEDFORD ROAD
KATONAH, NY 10536
COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG
914-232-6572

VOLUNTEER AT NATIVITY FARM



Join us on Thursdays from 5-7 pm!

RECURRING EVENTS AT BPC















- Yoga – Every Monday between 9 and 10 am
- 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 7 - 13, 2022

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
						
Partly Cloudy 71°	Partly Cloudy 73°	PM Showers 67°	Partly Cloudy 64°	Partly Cloudy 68°	Partly Cloudy 72°	Partly Cloudy 75°

ON THE FARM

We continue to hold workdays each Thursday afternoon. All of the rain this week has been incredibly beneficial to the cold hardy plants that have been planted so far. We are so grateful it dried out enough to mow the grass between the lawns at least!

We have so much more weeding to do in the coming weeks, and we are very excited for our May projects of beginning fence construction, as well as, planting in the rest of our beds!

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 area.

WHAT WE ARE READING

"You shall not pollute the land in which you live, for blood pollutes the land, and no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed in it, except by the blood of the one who shed it. You shall not defile the land in which you live, in which I also dwell, for I the Lord dwell among the Israelites."

-Numbers 35: 33-34

What do we do to defile the land in which we live? Even if we are not engaging in war, how do we contribute to violent systems that oppress others?

THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

Continue to clear the garden; water and monitor our seedlings; direct sow cold hardy crops; and add compost to the soil.

WORD OF THE WEEK

symbiosis

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, May 7th

10 am

Worship, Communion & Youth Collection

11 am

Coffee Hour

Monday, May 8th

9 am

Yoga

Tuesday, May 9th

12:30 pm

Lunch with Friends

1 pm

Quilting

Thursday, May 11th

10 am

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

5 pm

Nativity Farm Work Session

Sunday, May 14th

10 am

Worship

11 am

Coffee Hour

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