



BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"The Hospitality of Abraham" by Andre Rublev

June 18, 2023
Third Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude *Toccata for Flute* Pietro Yon

Introit *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts* G. Thalben-Ball

Ringling of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Opening Sentences** from Psalm 116

Leader: I am filled with love, for God hears me. The Holy One
bends to my voice whenever I call.

People: Kind and faithful is the Lord, gentle is our God.

Leader: The Holy One shelters the poor and raises me from
the dust.

People: Rest once more, my heart, for you know our God's love.

***Opening Hymn 482** Lobe Den Herren
"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

Confession

Loving God, forgive us for all the times when we do not love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Sometimes we become selfish and greedy, disregarding the needs of others. We puff ourselves up with pride.

Other times we do not love ourselves enough. We allow people to mistreat us. We criticize ourselves and we refuse to forgive ourselves.

Help us, O God, to be wise as serpents and gentle as doves. Make us generous and curious with others. Teach us how to be loving and merciful to ourselves.

(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.

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant."

So they said, "Do as you have said."

And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

And he said, "There, in the tent."

Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?"

The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."

But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid.

He said, "Yes, you did laugh."

Anthem

Day by Day

Martin How

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:5-14, 16

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

"I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Offering

Minute for Mission

Rewarding Potential Scholarship

Offertory

Preamble

Louis Vierne

***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 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 462**

"Christ Whose Glory Fills the Sky"

Ratisbon

***Charge and Blessing**

Benediction Response

Amen II

James McGregor

***Postlude**

Tuba Tune

C. S. Lang

*Please stand, if able

Announcements

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

*Today's flowers are donated by
Marcy and Bing Carlson in
celebration of FATHER'S DAY
and our 60th Anniversary.*



SUNDAY SCHOOL



is moving outside starting
June 25th. Please have your
child wear clothes that can
get dirty.





Cover Art

"The Hospitality of Abraham" (also known as "The Trinity") is Rublev's most famous painting. Rublev imagined the three visitors as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They are sitting next to the Oak of Mamre. The eyes bear witness and their heads are bent in humility. The figures are constructed in a circle, so that our eyes continue to travel among the three. Their hands are in the position of blessing (with three fingers out). The Father's fingers point to the Spirit. The Son's fingers point to the chalice. And the Spirit's fingers point to a hole in the table. Inside the hole, resides the whole world (including you and me).



Many thanks to
Virginia Leeman, our substitute
organist, for accompanying and
leading our choir.

ADOPT A CUCUMBER!

Sponsor a cucumber plant at Nativity Farm!

If your plant produces the largest cuke (by weight), you will receive that cucumber and a \$75 gift card!

**Today is the last day to
sponsor a cucumber
for \$20.**

Proceeds go to Nativity Farm.



Senior Luncheon

June 29th at 12:30 pm,
in the chapel room.

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.



3rd Week

FARMERS ALMANAC

6th Month

JUNE 18 – 24, 2023

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
Partly Cloudy 76°	Showers 75°	AM Showers 75°	AM Showers 76°	Showers 76°	Showers 79°	Partly Cloudy 80°

ON THE FARM

We have been working on constructing a fence to protect all of the plants we have been growing. The crops we planted before the final frost date are ready for harvesting, and we have already begun to donate our Nativity Farm mixed greens (lettuce, arugula, and kale) to the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry.

All of our cucumbers have been planted and those that are sponsoring cucumbers have received updates about their plants! Otherwise, we continue to work on beautifying our grounds!

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.

WORD OF THE WEEK

polyculture

WHAT WE ARE READING

June 19th, or Juneteenth, is a day to celebrate the emancipation of slaves in the United States. To that end, NF seeks to lift up voices from HEAL Food Alliance, a national multi-sector, multi-racial coalition of 55 organizations, including the National Black Food and Justice Alliance.

Food is our most intimate and powerful connection to each other, to our cultures, and to the earth, and to transform our food system is to take one giant step towards healing our economy, our bodies, and our environment.

We believe that all people and all communities should have the right and the means to produce, procure, prepare, share, and eat food that's nutritionally and culturally appropriate, free from exploitation of themselves and any other people, and to be in their full power in harmony with the rest of the natural world.

THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

Continue to water plants, harvest, build fencing

N | F



Join us in supporting
a community-funded effort that helps Fox Lane
High School students overcome financial barriers
and realize their hopes and dreams of
attending college.

Sunday, June 25

5 pm – 7 pm

Student Speakers begin at 5:30 pm

Pound Ridge Village Green

(Rain location: Conant Hall)

77 Westchester Avenue, Pound Ridge

For more information, visit our website at

rewardingpotentialscholarship.org

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, June 18th

10 am

11 am

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Worship and Youth Collection

Coffee Hour

Monday, June 19th

9 am

6 pm

Juneteenth – OFFICE CLOSED

Yoga

Visioning Team Meeting in Chapel Room

Tuesday, June 20th

1 pm

Quilting

Thursday, June 22nd

10 am

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

5 pm

Nativity Farm Work Session

Sunday, June 25th

10 am

Worship

11 am

Coffee Hour and Session 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

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