

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Storm at Belle-Ile" by Claude Monet

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 17, 2021

Prelude

"Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho"

African-American spiritual arr. for organ by Fela Sowande

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

God created all the nations and races of the world to live together in peace and harmony.

We are made to be family.

There is strife in the human family. Injustice abounds and we are a divided people.

We have been called to let justice roll down like waters.

We must passionately work to bridge the gulf between us, overcome the injustice, and restore community.

May God give us the strength to love.

Let us worship God.

Hymn 369

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Verses 1, 2, 3

Hebrew Bible Lesson

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Bruce Thompson

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again."

So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 10:16-23

Whitney Thomson

Jesus said, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Sermon

"The Strength to Love" Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Martin Luther King, Jr. Video

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.

(Many people say the Lord's Prayer with "trespasses" or "sins" instead of "debts." Please feel free to pray in any form that makes you feel the most comfortable.)

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

"Reprise of "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho"

African-American spiritual arr. for organ by Fela Sowande

Announcements

Beginning in January of 2021, we will no longer be including Announcements along with the Order of Worship on our website each week. All announcements will be included in our weekly E-NEWS that goes directly to your email inbox every Thursday. The benefit of the E-NEWS is that there are 'live' links that bring you directly to websites/documents that are referenced in our announcements.

To sign up for our E-NEWS, please go to the BPC website at **bedfordpreschurch.org** and select either '**Contact**' at the top **or E-NEWS** just below it.

The Reverend Carol Howard Merritt, Pastor

John Lettieri, Director of Music

Elyssa Michaels, Director of High School & Middle School Youth Groups

Jessica DeAlto, Office Manager

Sunday Virtual Worship Service 10:00 AM

Email: Office@bedfordpreschurch.org www.bedfordpreschurch.org

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