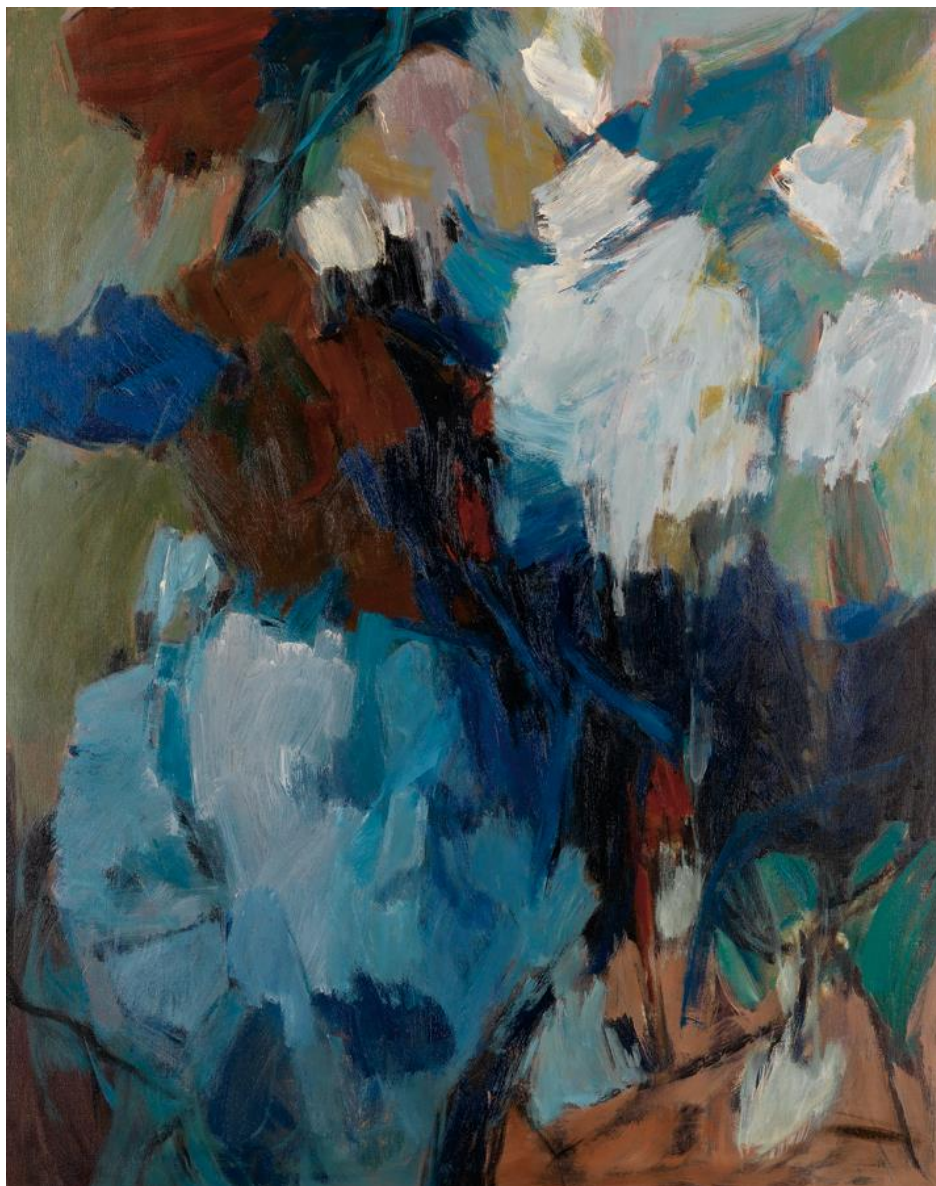


BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Painting is from "Gathering Storm" by Hale Woodroff

Sunday, February 7, 2021

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 7, 2021**

Prelude

Rhosymedre

R. Vaughan Williams

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship from Psalm 147

Sing praise to God, for God is gracious.
God gathers the outcasts,
Heals the brokenhearted, and
Binds the wounds.

God covers the heavens with clouds,
Prepares rain for the earth,
And makes grass grow on the fields.
God gives food to the animals,
And to the young ravens when they cry.

Let us worship God.

Hymn 285

God You Spin the Whirling Planets

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Isaiah 40:21-31

Bart Tyler

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is God who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:29-38

Diana Tyler

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. Jesus came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him.

When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."

He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."

Sermon

"Deserted Places"

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Souper Bowl of Caring

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.

(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

Now Praise the Lord, My Soul

D. Buxtehude

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
44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506 914-234-3672**