

# **BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



18th Sunday in  
ORDINARY TIME



**Sunday, August 1, 2021**

## Prelude

## Welcome, Announcements, and Greetings

### Call to Worship from Psalm 51

Andrew Strawcutter

Leader: God desires truth in our inward beings. God teaches us wisdom  
in our secret heart.

**People: We hear joy and gladness. Our very bones rejoice.**

Leader: For God has created within us clean hearts and  
renewed our spirits.

**People: Let us worship God.**

**\*Hymn 298**      *There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy*

**1** There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
Which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgment given.

**2** For the love of God is broader  
Than the measures of the mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful,  
We would gladly trust God's word;  
And our lives reflect thanksgiving  
For the goodness of our Lord.

## **Call to Confession**

Loving God, too often we refuse to admit when we are wrong. We do not know how to live with our guilt and our shame, so we make excuses, we blame other people, and we lie to ourselves.

Give us courage to face our mistakes, so that we might make amends with our loved ones. Help us to let go of the burden of our shame and learn to live in your forgiveness and love. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew our spirits.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

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

**People: And also with you.**

### **Sung Response** Precious Lord, Take My Hand (404)

Precious Lord, take my hand,  
Lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand, precious Lord,  
Lead me home.

### **Hebrew Bible Lesson** 2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him."

Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun."

David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."

Nathan said to David, "Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die."

## **Gospel Lesson**

*Mark 6:1-13*

Andrew Strawcutter

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."

Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

**Sermon**                      *"Forgiving Yourself"*   Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

**Offering**

**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.**

**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...

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion**

**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 426**

*Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

**1** Lord, speak to me, that I may speak  
In living echoes of Thy tone;  
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek  
Thine erring children lost and lone.

**2** O lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
The wandering and the wavering feet;  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.

**3** O teach me, Lord, that I may teach  
The precious things Thou dost impart;  
And wing my words, that they may reach  
The hidden depths of many a heart.

**4** O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,  
Until my very heart o'erflow  
In kindling thought and glowing word,  
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

**5** O use me, Lord, use even me,  
Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where;  
Until Thy blessed face I see,  
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**

**\*Please stand if you are able**

*We wish to thank Michael Fennelly for  
playing the organ for this morning's service.*

## 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](http://bedfordpreschurch.org) and select either '**Contact**' at the top *or E-NEWS* just below it.



The BPC Quilting Group welcomes everyone to come and learn about the many joys of quilting. Feel free to come anytime between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm.

Tuesday dates alternate with Rev. Carol's Lunches under the tent. No experience necessary and you will learn as you go. Creating a quilt together for the Mistletoe Mart is the perfect antidote for coming out of the pandemic!

Reconnect or meet new members of BPC and socialize while you quilt. Quilting is very relaxing and excellent for your mental health! There is something for everyone to do, so don't be shy. Quilting at BPC has been a tradition since the 1970's. It's a great learning experience for all ages.

RSVP to:

- Jeanne Morrison at [Rjmorr145@verizon.net](mailto:Rjmorr145@verizon.net),
- Karen Ulanowski at [karen.ulanowski@gmail.com](mailto:karen.ulanowski@gmail.com), or
- Anne Bentzen at [r.bentzen@verizon.net](mailto:r.bentzen@verizon.net) to join or inquire with any questions.

Come and go as you are able. RSVPs appreciated. We'll be in the Chapel Room. See you on **August 3rd, 17th and 31st.**





## Calling all children!

At Bedford Presbyterian Church, we LOVE music. We believe every child should have the chance to sing and find their voice. We are asking children of all ages to join us in singing throughout the year. All the songs will be posted on-line well in advance of our singing and we will rehearse the song the morning of our sharing. Simple!

Our first song will be performed on **Sunday, September 12th** which is also our

Welcome Back Picnic. Don Hiller-Dupont will lead Joyful Noise. He is an active member at BPC and a Music Educator for the Chappaqua Central School District. Please email Don with any questions at

**[dondupont@outlook.com](mailto:dondupont@outlook.com)**



## LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 12:30 pm  
Under the tent

Join Reverend Carol for a socially distanced lunch under the tent on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. Just bring your lunch and a chair. Start time is 12:30 pm and there is no sign up needed. Tell your friends!  
**The next lunch is July 27th.**



# FRESH FOOD DRIVE

## Sunday Morning

Thank you for your incredible generosity last Sunday. We had a table overflowing with vegetables and we raised \$246 for the families at Neighbor's Link.

# AFTER CHURCH

August 15

Super Soaker Sunday  
(kids bring a towel)



# YOGA RETURNS TO BPC



Every Monday  
between 9am-10am  
in Fellowship Hall

**Beginning Monday August 2nd, Yoga returns to BPC.**

Join Kripalu Yoga Instructor Bobbe Stultz every Monday between  
9:00 am and 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

The cost is \$20.00 per class.

For more information, contact [bobbestultz@gmail.com](mailto:bobbestultz@gmail.com).

---

**THE MOUNT KISCO**

---

**INTERFAITH**

---

**FOOD PANTRY**

---

The Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry is looking to fill a part-time paid Office Administrator position. If interested, details about the position and application are available at: [mountkiscofoodpantry.org](http://mountkiscofoodpantry.org).

# PUB THEOLOGY

Join a group of people with diverse faith backgrounds for an exchange of ideas. We are still meeting virtually via Zoom the second Tuesday of each month at 8pm. All are welcome. Please contact Sharon Seidell at [sps1256s@gmail.com](mailto:sps1256s@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**The next meeting is Tuesday, August 13th.**



The Bible Study group meets 10:00 am - 11:00 am Thursdays via Zoom and anyone interested is welcome. Please contact Alan McDougall at [alanmcd@verizon.net](mailto:alanmcd@verizon.net) for the Zoom link.



Earlier this year, BPC hosted an inspiring discussion on Food and Faith with Derrick Weston, a pastor and food justice activist. As one of the founding congregations, BPC has long been a supporter of the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry. During the pandemic, the financial support provided by our congregation was so generous, even while opportunities for volunteering were put on hold for safety reasons.

Now, happily the Pantry returns to its prior "choice" model welcoming guests in to select food and produce. This has created opportunities for us to volunteer at food distributions once again. To complement this, a few of us put our heads together to find additional ways to advocate for food justice in our community. Initially we have partnered with a local nonprofit organization, Intergenerate, to help tend their "giving gardens." Organic vegetables are grown in underused gardens on properties in the area. The harvest is distributed through a number of organizations including Neighbor's Link. Fresh, local produce is always much appreciated! If you are interested in volunteering for either of these initiatives helping our neighbors deal with food insecurity, or if you have additional ideas, please contact Sharon Seidell at: [sps1256s@gmail.com](mailto:sps1256s@gmail.com).



Donating flowers couldn't be easier! Simply contribute \$50.00 to the church flower fund and create your own dedication line to run in the Sunday bulletin. Then, after worship, you or the person you're celebrating can take the flowers home!

If you are interested, please use the SignUpGenius on our website to submit your dedication and use the dedicated link to make your secure online donation. Checks and dedications can also be mailed to the BPC office.

Please sign up no later than one week prior to the Sunday you want to sponsor flowers to ensure that your dedication gets placed in the bulletin.



## ***Upcoming Events at a Glance***

- **Sunday, August 1st** - Communion during worship service
- **Monday, August 2nd** - Yoga returns to BPC
- **Tuesday August 3rd** - BPC Quilting Group
- **Thursday, August 5th** - Bible Study
- **Sunday, August 8th** - Worship with us in person in the sanctuary at 10:00 am, or *virtually* by going to the link on our website.  
***Childcare available.***
- **Monday, August 9th** - Yoga at BPC
- **Monday, August 9th** - Final Book Club in person
- **Tuesday, August 10th** - Lunch with Friends
- **Tuesday, August 10th** - Pub Theology
- **Thursday, August 12th** - Bible Study
- **Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>** – Super Soaker Sunday

## **Bedford Presbyterian Church Staff**

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  
Edwin & Ellida Acevedo, Building & Grounds Maintenance

Sunday Worship Service in person and virtual at 10:00 am

Email: [Office@bedfordpreschurch.org](mailto:Office@bedfordpreschurch.org) ~ [www.bedfordpreschurch.org](http://www.bedfordpreschurch.org)  
P.O. Box 280 ~ 44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506  
914-234-3672