

# BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Return to Europa" by Hale Woodruff

*"This sanctuary called Earth, is filled with God, quivering in the forests, vibrating in the land, pulsating in the wilderness, and shimmering in the rivers."*

# 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## September 26, 2021

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life, the name of the Christ, the pulse of life, and the name of the Spirit, the breath of life.

**People: Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.**

Leader: This sanctuary called Earth, is filled with God, quivering in the forests, vibrating in the land, pulsating in the wilderness, and shimmering in the rivers.

**People: Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.**

### \*Opening Hymn 473 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

1 For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.

### Refrain

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.

**2** For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light. (Refrain)

**3** For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and mind's delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight. (Refrain)

**4** For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild. (Refrain)

**5** For Thy Church, that evermore  
Lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love. (Refrain)

### **Confession**

**Gracious God, we confess that we have become alienated from the Earth and estranged from the life and land in our garden planet. We have killed living soils with excessive chemicals. We have turned fertile fields into lifeless salt plains. We have cleared rich lands of wild life. We are sorry.**

(Silent confession)

**Amen.**

## **Pardon**

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

**People: And also with you.**

**Sung Response (368)**

I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

## **Time with the Children**

Alison Cape

*The children can leave for Sunday Spirit.*

## **Epistle Lesson**

*James 5:13-18*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

## **Gospel Lesson**

*Mark 9:38-41, 49*

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever

gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another.”

**Sermon**                      *Gratitude as Spiritual Saltiness* Dr. Diana Butler Bass

**Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

**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**

**\*Hymn 554**                      *Let All Things Now Living*

**1** Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God our Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
By guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, Pure light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Til shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.

2 By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,  
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine,  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,  
With glad adoration a song let us raise,  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving  
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

### **Charge and Blessing**

### **Postlude**

***We welcome Tyler Walker as our guest organist this morning and  
thank him for his musical offerings.***

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



## 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.

This week's flowers are dedicated by  
*Brian, Don and Brandon Hiller-Dupont*



ON THIS YOUR  
INSTALLATION  
DAY, WITH  
LOVE AND  
GRATITUDE  
FROM YOUR  
BPC FAMILY!



# Coffee Hour Sign Up

Coffee hour is held every Sunday after the church service. We ask that every family sign up for two Sundays throughout the year to help provide coffee and light snacks. Please go to the following sign up genius to pick your dates and get more information.

If you have any questions please contact us.

Access the following link or you can also find it in our E-NEWS or on our website.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c45a9a92aa6fb6-bpccoffee>





Welcome  
DIANA  
BUTLER  
BASS

.....

Join us Sunday, Sept. 26th at 10am and 3pm to hear Dr. Diana Butler Bass speak at Rev. Carol's Installment. Dr. Bass is an award winning author, historian of Christianity and advocate of progressive Christianity. She will be speaking about her book Grounded.



"CHRISTIANITY DID NOT  
BEGIN WITH A  
CONFESSION. IT BEGAN  
WITH AN INVITATION  
INTO FRIENDSHIP, INTO  
CREATING A NEW  
COMMUNITY, INTO  
FORMING RELATIONSHIPS  
BASED ON LOVE AND  
SERVICE."

— DIANA BUTLER BASS,  
CHRISTIANITY AFTER  
RELIGION: THE END OF  
CHURCH AND THE BIRTH OF  
A NEW SPIRITUAL  
AWAKENING

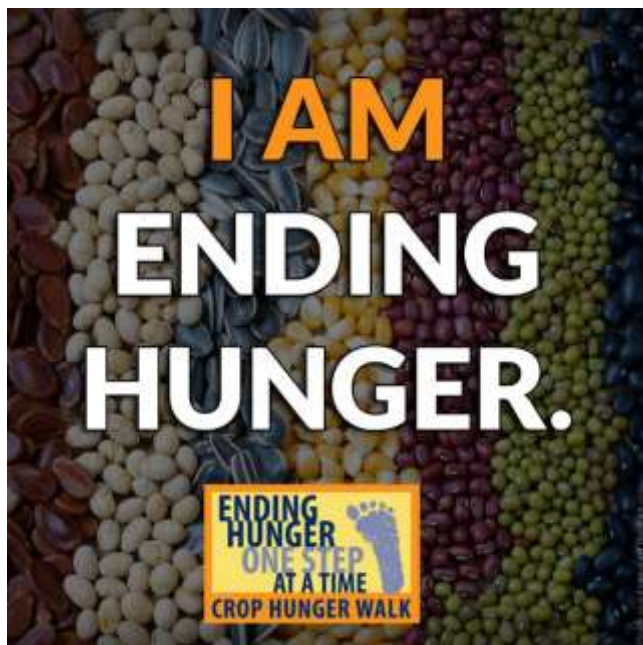
**Congratulations to the following members who were installed  
on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> during worship services.**

**New Session Member**

Blakely Brodbeck

**New Deacons**

Sarah Alley  
Marcy Carlson  
Pat Ferguson



The Northern Westchester Crop Walk is happening OCTOBER 17th.

**If you would like to join our team and collect sponsors please go to our website and find the link for the Crop Walk or scan the QR Code below.**

**Click on the blue "join the team" button at the bottom.**



If you cannot join the team, your sponsorship would be much appreciated. Please donate at the Crop Walk link (click on the orange "donate now" button), or if you prefer give cash or checks (made out to Church World Service) to Charlotte or Alison Cape.





*Join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month!*

## LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

Tuesdays 12:30pm behind the church. Bring a chair.

**The next lunch is September 28th.**



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



## **Volunteer Opportunity**

The **Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry (MKIFP)** is seeking a volunteer to act as Treasurer. The primary role would be to work with a bookkeeper and an outside accountant in addition to tax reporting, budgeting and banking, but there is flexibility in the role to be tailored to individual strengths. Prior experience in either finance or accounting is preferred.

The Pantry has a number of events marking Hunger Awareness Week. Oz Pearlman, a well known mentalist will perform at the Bedford Playhouse on September 30th. On **October 6th** from 6 – 7:00 pm there is a free virtual discussion with Katie Martin, author and educator on the future of Food banks. Details, links, information and signups can all be found on the MKIFB's website.

If you are interested or have questions please contact Sharon Seidell, [sps1256s@gmail.com](mailto:sps1256s@gmail.com).



## Calling all children!

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!

Look for the link to a **Joyful Noises Google Classroom** in our weekly E-NEWS.

Don Hiller-Dupont, an active member at BPC and a Music Educator for the Chappaqua Central School District, leads Joyful Noise. Please email Don with any questions at [dondupont@outlook.com](mailto:dondupont@outlook.com).

The date of our next performance is **Sunday, October 3rd** and the rehearsal will be at 9:30 am the morning of the service.

# **CHOIR**

*Do you love to sing?*

**OUR CHOIR IS MEETING AGAIN! WE  
WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US! ALL  
SINGERS MUST BE VACCINATED AND  
MASKED TO SING. CONTACT JOHN FOR  
MORE INFORMATION.**

## Upcoming Events at a Glance

- **Sunday, September 26th** - Reverend Carol's Installation
- **Monday, September 27th** –Yoga
- **Tuesday, September 28th** – Lunch with Friends
- **Thursday, September 30th** - Bible Study
- **Sunday, October 3rd** - Worship with us in person in the sanctuary at 10:00 am, or *virtually* by going to the link on our website.  
***Childcare available.***
- **Sunday, October 3rd** – World Communion Sunday and Welcome to Courtney Steininger! Children's Choir Performance during worship.
- **Monday, October 4th** –Yoga

## Bedford Presbyterian Church Staff

The Reverend Carol Howard Merritt, Pastor  
John Lettieri, Director of Music  
Elyssa Michaels, Director of Congregational Life & Digital Ministries  
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