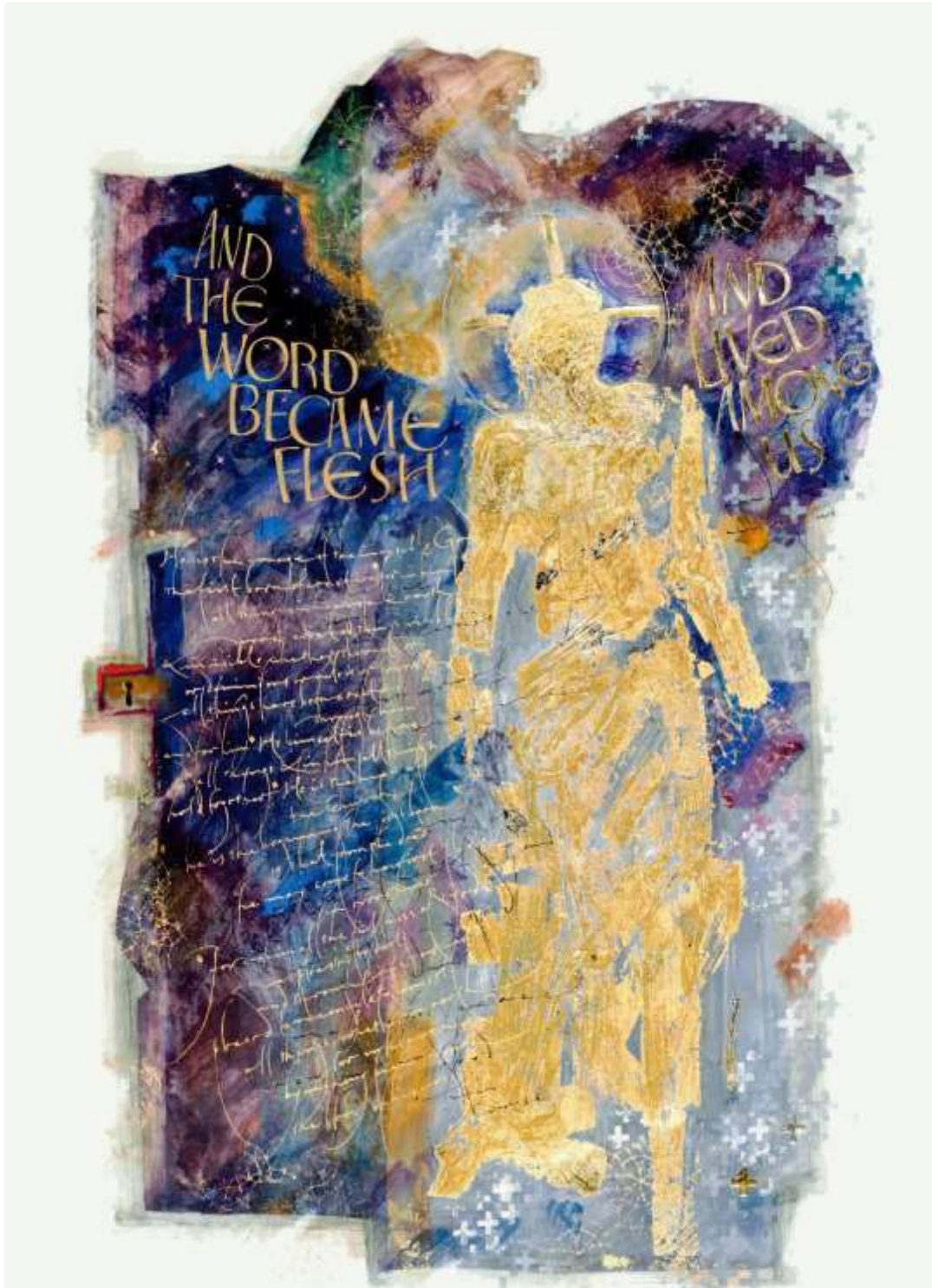


BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"The Word Made Flesh" by Donald Jackson

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: In the beginning was the Word of God;

People: and the Word became flesh to live among us.

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God,

People: and blessed is Jesus Christ our Savior.

Leader: The Lord will gather the people from their exile;

People: God will turn their sorrow into joy.

* Opening Hymn #22 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Prayers of Confession

Everlasting God, we know how easy it is to forget your presence and power in our lives. Focused on our daily planners, we do not pay attention to the night sky and the stars that glitter. Surrounded by the sounds of anger, violence, and hate, we have trouble listening to your whispers of hope and grace.

Forgive us. There is no one who can hold a candle to you when it comes to mercy and hope. Lift us to our feet so we may walk with you; fill us with your strength so we may serve your people; touch us with your healing so we may proclaim to everyone the Word that became flesh in Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear now our silent prayers of confession:

(Silent confession)

Amen.

Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

Time with the Children

The children can leave for Sunday Spirit.

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Psalm 147:12-20

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

For God strengthens the bars of your gates;

God blesses your children within you.

God grants peace within your borders;

God fills you with the finest of wheat.

God sends out his command to the earth;

his word runs swiftly.

God gives snow like wool;

he scatters frost like ashes.

God hurls down hail like crumbs—

who can stand before his cold?

God sends out his word, and melts them;

he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

God declares his word to Jacob,

his statutes and ordinances to Israel.

God has not dealt thus with any other nation;

they do not know his ordinances.

Praise the Lord!

Gospel Lesson

John 1:10-18

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks

ahead of me because he was before me.’”) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

Sermon

“Word Became Flesh”

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

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

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 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.

*Closing Hymn #327 *"O word of God Incarnate"*

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A CHANGE

JOIN US FOR SERVICE SUNDAYS (4TH SUNDAY OF
THE MONTH)!

OUR INITIAL SERVICE SUNDAY WILL BE JANUARY 23RD. WE
WILL GATHER TOGETHER AFTER CHURCH TO WORK ON A
SERVICE PROJECT TOGETHER. WE WILL BE PREPARING FOR
OUR UPCOMING MIDNIGHT RUN, PUTTING TOGETHER BAGS
FOR THE WOMENS PRISON, ETC.



SECOND SUNDAY SOUP



We will be having Second Sunday Soup on
Jan. 9th, Feb. 13th and March 13th! We are
looking for volunteers to make soup for each
of these weekends. Please email Sarah Ryan
to sign up at Sarahryan237@gmail.com.



Northern Westchester
Refugee Resettlement Initiative
resetwestchester@gmail.com

Through ReSET* we have adopted a family of 5 who will be arriving in Northern Westchester this weekend! Bedford Presbyterian Church, along with other organizations have come together to help the family.

This is an ongoing mission that will need the help of many. Volunteers of all types of involvement are needed and welcomed. If you would like to volunteer email resetwestchester@gmail.com.

We currently need gift cards to Acme, Target or Khol's so that we can help the family settle and get everything they need. Gift cards can be dropped off at the church office or email Elyssa to coordinate other arrangements.

*Bedford Presbyterian Church, Temple Beth El, Temple Shaaray Teflia, Antioch Baptist Church & other local organizations have joined together to form an initiative called ReSET (Northern Westchester Refugee Resettlement Initiative). ReSET will play a direct role in helping refugees establish new homes in Northern Westchester.

JOYFUL NOISE CHILDREN'S CHOIR



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 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!

Don Hiller-Dupont, leads Joyful Noise. Please email Don with any questions at dondupont@outlook.com.

Parents, please join the Joyful Noise's Google Classroom through the website!

Join the
Bedford Bellringers



The Bedford Bellringers have been playing together for over 60 years at BPC. The Bellringers play 3-4 times a year and rehearse on Tuesday evenings, for a few weeks prior to performances. If you are interested in playing with the bells or have any questions, please contact **Heidi Michaels** at hmichaels425@gmail.com.

*Communion is being held during
today's worship service.*

BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday, 10 -11 am via zoom

Please contact Alan McDougall at alanmcd@verizon.net for the Zoom link.

All are welcome.



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 both Elyssa and Jessica by the end of the day Tuesdays for entry into that week's media.

Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org Office@bedfordpreschurch.org

Upcoming Events at a Glance

- **Monday, January 3rd - Yoga**
- **Thursday, January 6th – Bible Study**
- **Sunday, January 9th – Sunday worship**

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church

A Worshiping Community

Shortly after the founding of the town of Bedford in 1680, plans were made to build a multi-purpose "meeting house" for town gatherings and religious services. In its first years, the church was Anglican and Congregational, but became Presbyterian by 1720 under the pastorate of Rev. William Tennent.

Today, Sunday morning worship at BPC is grounded in progressive Presbyterian tradition. Our values are exemplified by our short mission statements:

- *Love Your Neighbor*
- *Teach Our Children*
- *Never Stop Learning*



More than Just Sundays.

Opportunities to participate in outreach abound at BPC. BPC was a co-founder of the Emergency Shelter Partnership in which local churches and synagogues provide shelter for homeless people during the winter months. The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry is another organization we have a strong, ongoing partnership with. Additionally, we participate in Midnight Runs, and our high school youth participate in work trips both domestically, to Appalachia and internationally. We believe that living our faith means involving ourselves in social justice work.

For additional information about Bedford Presbyterian Church, visit us online at: www.bedfordpreschurch.org or call us at 914.234.3672



Bedford Presbyterian Church 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
Edwin & Ellida Acevedo, Building & Grounds Maintenance
The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

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

Office@bedfordpreschurch.org ~ www.bedfordpreschurch.org
P.O. Box 280 ~ 44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506
914-234-3672

Our Leadership

Session

Clerk of Session Brian Hiller-Dupont, Linda Burpee,
Alison Cape, **President Jeanne Collins**,
Michelle Gosh, Alan McDougall, & Suzanne Millette
Moderator Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Deacons

Chair Don Hiller-Dupont, Sarah Alley, Marcy Carlson,
Kathy DiBiasi, Michele Eames, Pat Ferguson,
Kim Lapple, Natasha Mast, Rebecca Rivard, & Sarah Ryan