

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Do Not Hold Onto Me He Qi
Heqiart.com

Easter Sunday
April 17, 2022

Prelude

S. Karg-Elert

Wondrous King, All-Glorious, Sovereign Lord Victorious
Two Trumpets, Timpani and Organ

Introit

Easter Rejoicing

Jonathan Willcocks

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: On this Easter morning,
the brightness of God's glory shines,
Because death could not conquer,
And the tomb could not imprison.

**People: Let no shadow of the grave terrify us,
And no fear of darkness turn our hearts.**

Leader: As Jesus shared our frail human flesh,
May we share immortality in the Spirit.

People: Let us worship God!

***Opening Hymn 123**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Confession

Call to Confession

Almighty God, you shattered the power of sin and death, and yet we remain prisoners to our doubt and fears. We overlook the poor and the hungry. We pass by those who mourn. We do not hear the cries of the oppressed and we remain indifferent to calls for peace. We abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, O God. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, so that we might know the joy of abundant life.

(Silent confession)

Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

Sung Response *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. *Refrain.*
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain.*

Time with the Children

The children may leave for Sunday Spirit.

Hebrew Bible Lesson *Isaiah 65:17-25*

For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it
 an infant that lives but a few days,
 or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
 and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
 they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
 they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
 and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain,
 or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
 and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
 while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
 the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
 but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
 on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.

Anthem

An Easter Greeting

Martin How

Gospel Lesson

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He

saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sermon

Seeing for the First Time

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Hymn 118

The Day of Resurrection!

Prayers of the People and the 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.

Offering

Anthem *Light's Glittering Morn Bedecks the Sky* Horatio Parker
Baritone Solo: Joseph Gansert

*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 104** *Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

*Charge and Blessing

***Sung Response** James McGregor
The Right Hand of the Lord Has Triumphed!

***Postlude** *Toccata from Organ Symphony V* C. M. Widor



Easter Flower Dedications

Rick & Anne Bentzen - In gratitude for the blessings of family, friends and health.

Hope and Bob Black - Welcoming spring, and remembering all those in the world who are suffering, especially those in Ukraine.

Bing & Marcy Carlson - In memory of Barney and Teddie Carlson & in memory of Lou and Elberta Buerger.

The Flynn Family - Dedicated to Lynn Porter

Kathy DiBiasi - In memory of my mom and dad, Liz and Frank Files.

Michelle Gosh - In loving memory of Marie Mahar.

Carla Hawryluk - Peace to all.

Marilyn Hermansen - In Loving memory of Roy Hermansen.

Brian and Don Hiller-Dupont - In loving memory of Brian's mother, Phyllis.

The Fastert Family - In memory of Henry Fastert, and in honor of Patricia Fastert and Robert & Elizabeth Harbin.

From Sue McMahan

Jean Palmer - In memory of loved ones who have gone away.

The Sayer Rosenthal Family - In loving memory of our parents, John and Ebba Sayre.

Jeff & Sharon Seidell - Dedicated to our parents who continue to live in our hearts.

Andrew Strawcutter - With love and gratitude for Dorothy, my mom, born 4/12/1922.

Andrew & Celine Zatarga - In memory of Barbara Celine Zatarga, and Rudy & Yvette Devoti.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

YOU SHALL BE CALLED
REPAIRERS
of the BREACH

— Isaiah 58

Special Collection Today

PHOTO: © SCOTT CLAUSE - USA TODAY NETWORK

PROVIDING RELIEF FROM
NATURAL DISASTERS,
FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY,
AND SUPPORT FOR THE
POOR AND OPPRESSED.

FEATURED UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIVITY FARM

Saturday, April 23

11am - 1pm

Potluck Lunch + Garden Workshop

Join us outside on the farm, behind the church, for some good food while we put the finishing touches on the learning garden.

All are welcome. Bring your friends and family for lots of fun!



Congregational Meeting

NEW DATE

Sunday, May 22nd - 11 am



Save the Date: Summer Mission Trip

POINT PLEASANT, WEST VIRGINIA

JULY 2 - JULY 9, 2022

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT, EMAIL

COURTNEY@BEDFORDPRESCHURCH.ORG

Documentary Screening of The Interview + Panel Discussion About Parole Justice in NY



MONDAY MAY 9 AT 7PM

The Bedford Playhouse Theater

The Interview asks viewers to confront their feelings about justice and mercy, while revealing the heavy toll our current legal system takes on incarcerated people and their families.

Buy tickets: bit.ly/interview-tickets



People's Campaign
Parole Justice



NYCLU
ACLU of New York

MUSIC

Joyful Noise Children's Choir



Please contact Don Hiller-Dupont with any questions at dondupont@outlook.com.

Join the Bedford Bellringers



Contact Heidi Michaels at hmichaels425@gmail.com.

ADULT CHOIR

Do you love to sing?

Contact John Lettieri at john@bedfordpreschurch.org for information.

MISSION ACTIVITIES



Northern Westchester
Refugee Resettlement Initiative
resetwestchester@gmail.com

We are excited that through ReSET Westchester, we now are helping three refugee families!

We are currently looking for financial donations to help support the families and organization. *A link is available on our website to donate. Checks can be made payable to Neighbors Link (ReSET on memo line) and dropped at the church.*

This is an ongoing mission that will need the help of many. Volunteers of all types of involvement are needed and welcomed. There are many committees within ReSET ranging from education, finance, youth, housing, etc. We also need drivers to bring the families to their appointments and such. We would love to have you involved! If you would like to volunteer email resetwestchester@gmail.com.

Email Elyssa Michaels or Linda Burpee with any questions.



Annual Prom Drive

Our Prom Drive is underway! Each year, the Center helps our students offset the financial burden of attending prom by offering them access to formal wear they need for prom night.

Thanks to the generous donations of dresses, tuxedos, shoes & accessories from the community, our students can confidently attend their prom in style.

Items we are collecting:

- Long & short dresses
- Tuxedos & suits
- Men's & women's dress shoes
- Purses & clutches
- Jewelry
- Bow ties, cummerbunds & neck ties
- New make up

Bring donations to the Community Center:

Tues, Weds, Fri: 10 am - 4 pm,
Thurs: 12 pm - 6 pm & Sat: 10 am - 1 pm

Do you know someone who needs help with prom clothing? Call us at 914-232-6572 ext. 110

All calls are confidential

84 Bedford Rd, Katonah, NY



DROP OFF YOUR FOOD SCRAPS

Compost needed for Nativity Farm's soil health

No meat or dairy!

Compost bin is located on the playground side at the back of the paved parking lot.



CARD WRITING REQUESTS



If you know of anyone who could use a card from the church for any reason please reach out to Kate Branch (Katebranch@gmail.com) or Rebecca Rivard (rebeccarivard@me.com).

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday
10 - 11 am via zoom

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



FLOWER DONATIONS

We have many Sundays available for Sunday flower sponsors. Please sign up no later than one week prior to the Sunday you want to sponsor to ensure that your dedication gets placed in the bulletin. Checks can be sent to the church office or you can make your \$50.00 secure online donation on our website.



Join the quilters every tuesday at
1 pm in the Chapel

SPIRITUALITY GROUP

*During Lent, we will continue working through various spiritual practices from Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*.*

Please contact Courtney with any questions

*Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
via zoom*

The Zoom link for the meeting can be found on our website.

Communion is held the first Sunday of every month during worship.

**Yoga is held every Monday at 9 am in Fellowship Hall.
Please call the office for details.**

COFFEE HOUR IS BACK!

We are excited that we can now hold Coffee Hour again! We are excited to be able to have the interpersonal connections once again after the service. We are looking for volunteers to sign up to bring a few food items and to make the coffee. Please go to the website to sign up.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Alley or Michelle Eames.

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 Elyssa (Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org) and Jessica (Office@bedfordpreschurch.org) by the end of the day Tuesdays for entry into that week's media.

Upcoming Events at a Glance

- **Monday, April 18th** - Yoga at 9 am. **OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, April 19th** - Quilting at 1 pm.
- **Wednesday, April 20th** - Spirituality Group at 7:30 pm.
- **Thursday, April 21st** - Bible Study at 10 am.
- **Saturday, April 23rd** – Nativity Farm Open Work Day anytime between 11am and 1 pm.
- **Sunday, April 24th** - Sunday Worship at 10 am.

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
The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

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, Sarah Ryan
& Bart Tyler
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