

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas by Caravaggio

Second Sunday of Easter
April 24, 2022

Prelude *Basse de Trompette and Dialogue* Louis Marchand

Introit *Christ is Risen* J. Noyon

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus breathes peace and inspires us to pursue it,

People: So, we gather to embody God's desire for peace.

Leader: We hear creation's cry for justice and healing.

People: We join with oppressed people as they long for liberation.

Leader: We embrace the wholeness of all of God's people.

People: Let us work to make peace a reality.

***Opening Hymn 108** *Christ is Alive!*

Confession

Call to Confession

God, we long for peace in our lives, and yet we spark with anger and simmer with resentments. We become overwhelmed with the cries of justice. We feel powerless as we see the reports of war. Teach us the ways of peace. Give us wisdom to pursue wholeness and healing in our lives, though your Spirit. Amen.

(Silent confession)

Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

Sung Response

Song of Hope

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

Refrain:

**Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

Time with the Children

The children can leave for Sunday Spirit.

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Psalm 3:13-18

Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding,
for her income is better than silver,
and her revenue better than gold.
She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare with her.
Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honor.
Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.
She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;
those who hold her fast are called happy.

Anthem

This Joyful Eastertide

Charles Wood

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews,

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon

Breathing Peace

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Joys and Concerns

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

A. Lotti

Regina Coeli/O Queen of Heaven, Rejoice, Alleluia

***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 111**

Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing!

***Charge and Blessing**

***Sung Response**

Peace is My Last Gift to You

James McGregor

***Postlude**

Lynnwood Farnum

Toccata on "O Sons and Daughters"

Today's flowers are given by Inger Savitt, in celebration of spring and in memory of her father, Bo Hassel, who loved gardening.



FEATURED UPCOMING EVENTS

FRESH FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, May 1st



May Day Celebration

Sunday, May 1st

After worship we will have a maypole out front for the kids. This Welsh and Scottish folk tradition is said to represent the lengthening of the days as summer approaches.

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

NATIVITY FARM

NEW DATE!

Saturday, May 21st

11 am – 1 pm

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

MUSIC at BPC

Joyful Noise - Please contact Don Hiller-Dupont at dondupont@outlook.com.

Adult Choir - Do you love to sing?

Please contact: John Lettieri at john@bedfordpreschurch.org.

Join the Bedford Bellringers - Please contact Heidi Michaels for more information. Hmichaels425@gmail.com.

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

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

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 between 10 – 11 am.

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

Coffee Hour - Please go to our website to sign up to help with coffee hour after worship. Contact Sarah Alley or Michele Eames with any questions.

Communion - Join us on the first Sunday of every month during worship.

Flower Donations - Please visit our website for information on how you can sign up to sponsor Sunday Worship Flowers.

Quilters - Join the quilters every Tuesday in the Chapel at 1pm.

Spirituality Group - Please contact Courtney with any questions at courtney@befordpreschurch.org. The group meets via zoom every Wednesday at 7:30 pm and the meeting link can be found on our website.

Yoga - Every Monday at 9 am in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Bobbe Stultz for more information or for details at bobbestultz@gmail.com.

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 25th** - Yoga at 9 am. **OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, April 26th** - Lunch with Friends at 12:30 pm & Quilting at 1 pm.
- **Wednesday, April 27th** - Spirituality Group at 7:30 pm.
- **Thursday, April 28th** - Bible Study at 10 am.
- **Sunday, May 1st** - Sunday Worship & Communion at 10 am. Fresh Food Drive/Maypole.
- **Saturday, May 21st** – New Date - Nativity Farm Open Work Day anytime between 11am and 1 pm.

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

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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