

# BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Ascension" by Father Georges Saget  
from the Altar Mural at Keur Moussa Abbey in Keur Moussa, Senegal

# Seventh Sunday of Easter

## May 29, 2022

Prelude

*Psalm-Prelude II.*

Herbert Howells

Ringing of the Chime

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: The shadows of the morning are deep,

**People: But the Sun is rising.**

Leader: When the Dayspring arrives, who will we be?

**People: We are water-washed and Spirit-born. We are anointed,  
beloved and free!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Siyahamba*

See end of bulletin

Confession

**Call to Confession**

**Creating God, in selfishness and insecurity, we have traded your healing for our hatred, your calling for our comfort, your truth for our traditions, your covenant for our conventions. We have traded your definition of neighbor for our own silos and presumptions. Forgive us, we pray. Speak to us again of your love and the love we are called to share.**

(Silent confession)

**Pardon**

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

**People: And also with you.**

**Sung Response 106 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks**

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.**

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:**

**Jesus has died and has risen. Alleluia, alleluia...**

**Time with the Children**

*The children may leave for Sunday Spirit.*

**First Reading**

*Psalm 133*

How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life forevermore.

**Gospel Lesson**

*John 17:20-26*

“I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”

**Sermon**

*Prayer for the World*

Courtney Steininger

**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**

**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 369**

*I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

**Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**

*Trumpet Tune*

G. P. Telemann

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

## Featured Upcoming Events



**JUNE 5, 2022**

**JOIN US DURING WORSHIP TO HONOR ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED WITH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION THIS PAST YEAR.**

**WE WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN RECEIVING BIBLES THIS YEAR.**

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

06 | 12

JOIN US DURING WORSHIP TO SUPPORT OUR CONFIRMANDS AS THEY BECOME MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.

AFTER WORSHIP, JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR NEWEST MEMBERS.



## Music at BPC

**Joyful Noise Children's Choir** - Please contact Don Hiller-Dupont at [dondupont@outlook.com](mailto:dondupont@outlook.com).

**Adult Choir** - Please contact John Lettieri at [john@bedfordpreschurch.org](mailto:john@bedfordpreschurch.org).

**Bedford Bellringers** - Please contact Heidi Michaels at [hmichaels425@gmail.com](mailto:hmichaels425@gmail.com).

## Mission Activities



### RSVP for the Summer Mission Trip

POINT PLEASANT,  
WEST VIRGINIA  
JULY 2-JULY 9, 2022

TO RESERVE YOUR  
SPOT, EMAIL  
COURTNEY

## Hour Children Seeking Local Host Families This Summer

After a two-year hiatus, Hour Children, which provides family service programs to incarcerated women and their families, will once again be offering a summer visiting program for children whose mothers are incarcerated at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. Not surprisingly, many of the mothers and children Hour Children serves, particularly those from upstate, have not seen each other during the pandemic and have suffered deeply from the loss of connection.

Local host families, who are critical to the success of this program, are needed for the following dates to be responsible for the child/children's wellbeing:  
July 17-20, July 24-27, August 7-10 & August 14-17.

For further information, please contact **Emily Kerr**, Bedford Hills Program Manager, at **615-636-7396** or [ekerr@hourchildren.org](mailto:ekerr@hourchildren.org).

## Ongoing Activities

**Bible Study** - Please contact Alan McDougall at alanmcd@verizon.net for the Zoom link or for more information. Class is held every Thursday between 10 - 11 am.

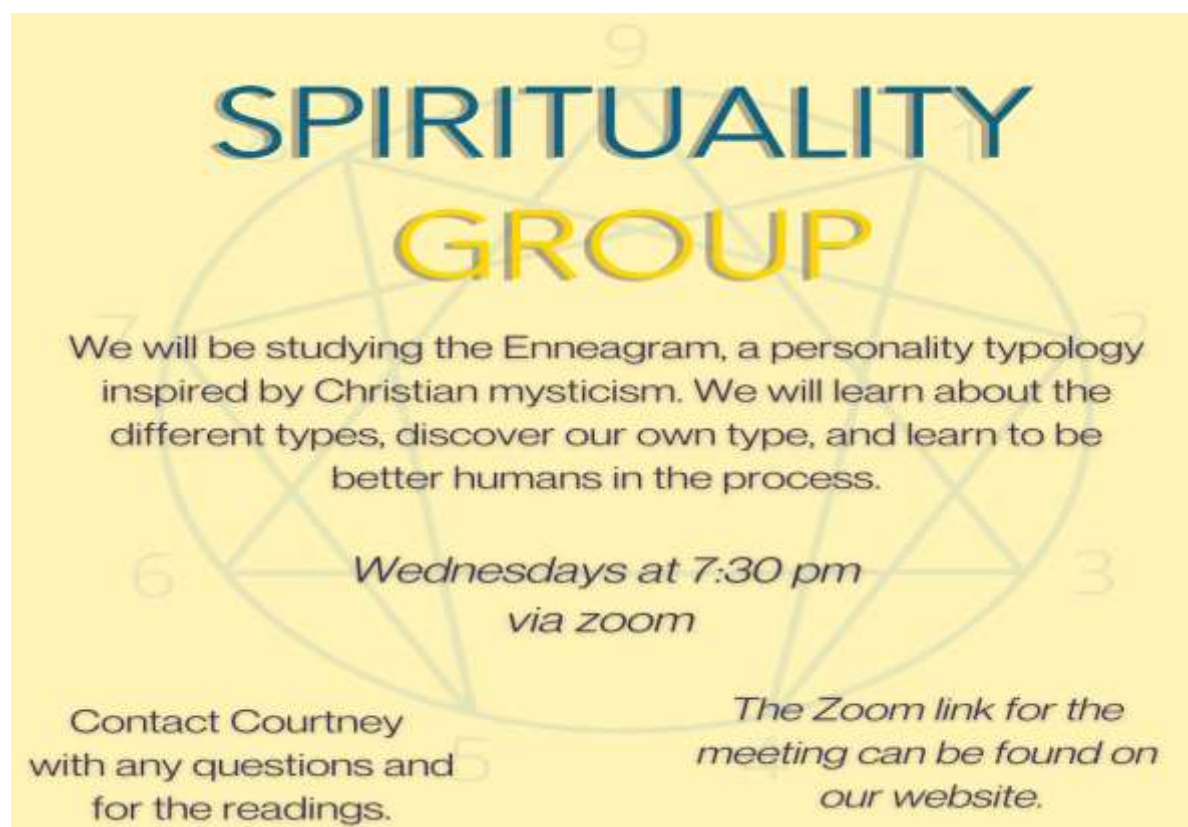
**Coffee Hour** - Please contact Sarah Alley or Michele Eames with any questions. You can go to our website to sign up and access contact information.

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

**Quilters** - Please contact Anne Bentzen at r.bentzen@verizon.net or Karen Ulanowski at karen.ulanowski@gmail.com for information.

**Spirituality Group** - Please contact Courtney Steinger 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** - Please contact Bobbe Stultz at bobbestultz@gmail.com. Classes are held every Monday at 9 am in Fellowship Hall.

A graphic for the Spirituality Group featuring a large, faint Enneagram symbol in the background. The symbol is a circle with nine points and connecting lines. The text is centered and reads:

**SPIRITUALITY**  
**GROUP**

We will be studying the Enneagram, a personality typology inspired by Christian mysticism. We will learn about the different types, discover our own type, and learn to be better humans in the process.

*Wednesdays at 7:30 pm  
via zoom*

Contact Courtney with any questions and for the readings.

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

# CARD WRITING REQUESTS



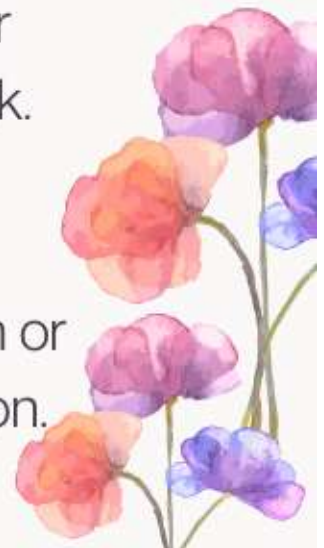
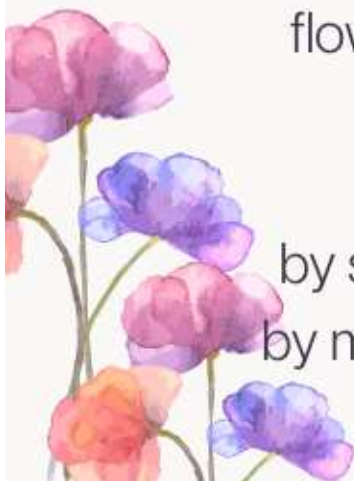
If you know of anyone who could use a card from the church for any reason please reach out to Kate Branch (Katebranch@gmail.com) or Rebecca Rivard (rebeccarivard@me.com).

## FLOWER DONATIONS

Only one Sunday left to sponsor flowers before the summer break.

- June 29th -

You can make a donation by sending a check to the church or by making a secure online donation.





## **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, May 30<sup>th</sup> - OFFICE CLOSED - No Yoga.**
- **Wednesday, June 1st - Spirituality Group at 7:30 pm.**
- **Thursday, June 2nd - Bible Study at 10 am.**
- **Sunday, June 5th - Sunday Worship, Communion, and Christian Ed Sunday at 10 am.**
- **Monday, June 6th - Yoga at 9 am.**
- **Sunday, June 12th - Sunday Worship and Confirmation Sunday 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  
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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

# Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

(We Are Marching in the Light of God)

Ps. 89:15.

South African freedom song; transl. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya -  
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are

hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
 march - ing in the light of God. We are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -  
 kha - nyen' kwen - khos', We are march - ing, march - ing, we are  
 light of God. the light of God.

Oo, si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
 ham - ba, ham - ba,  
 march - ing, Oo, march - ing, we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Last time, end*

This South African song and fourteen others were first recorded and published in 1980 by the Church of Sweden Mission and the singing group "Fjedur" after a visit they made to South Africa. The subsequent 1984 collection *Freedom Is Coming* brought the songs to a worldwide audience.

Tune: SIYAHAMBA Irr.  
 South African song



