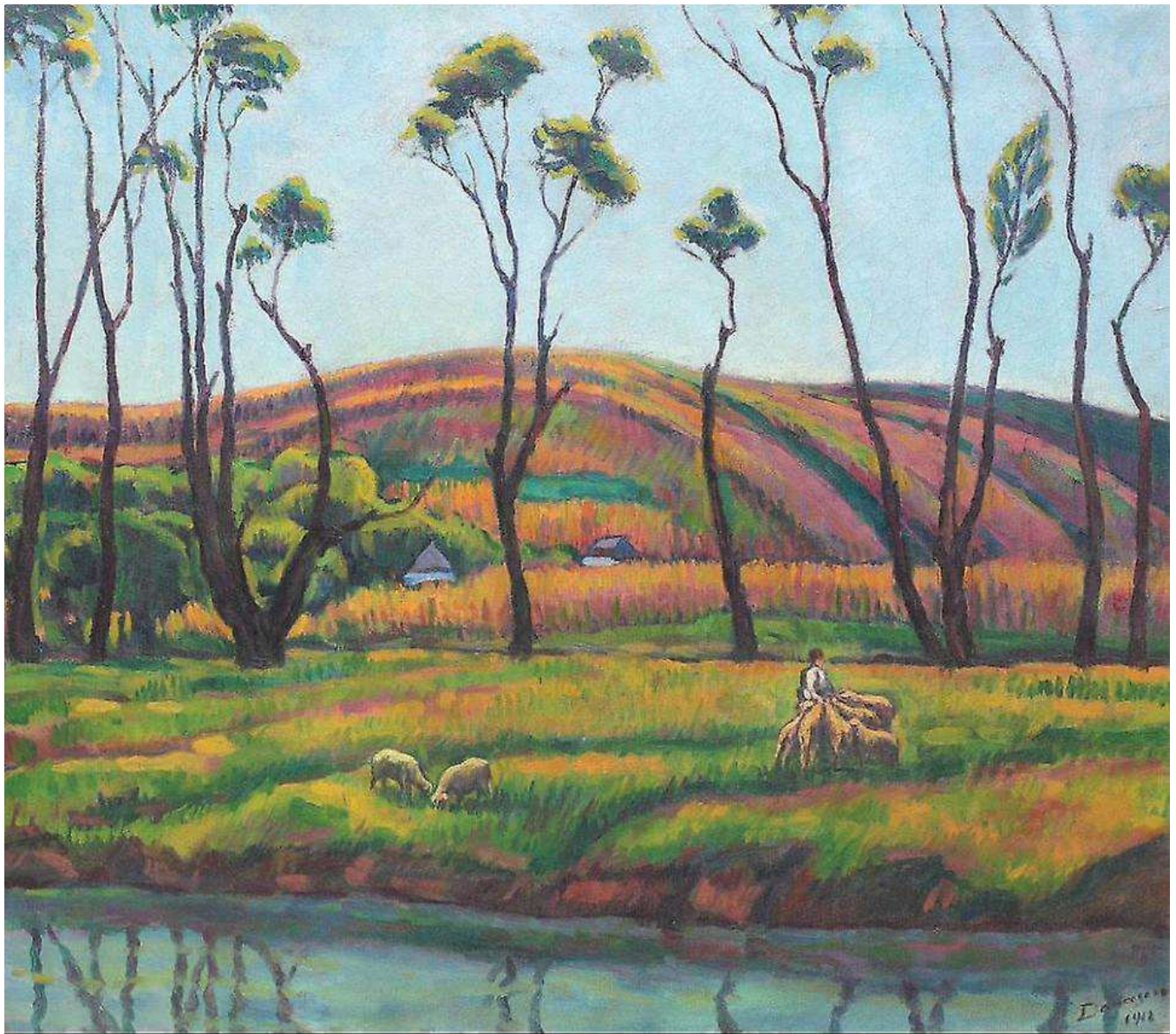




BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Shepherd and Sheep at Vlaici” by Nicolae Darascu

Ordinary Time
September 11, 2022

Prelude	<i>Recit de Nazard</i>	L. N. Clerambault
Introit	<i>Come All Ye People</i>	Traditional Zimbabwe

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are welcomed in this thin place, where earth and heaven embrace, where past interweaves with future, where people gather expectantly.

People: This is a thin place, where hopes are renewed, where peace is revived, where love is refreshed.

Leader: This is a thin place, where fresh words are heard, deep wisdom revealed, daring promises proclaimed.

People: This is a thin place, where God shapes us, the Christ remakes us, and the Spirit inspires us.

***Opening Hymn 464** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Confession

Call to Confession

Loving God, our failings are too real to hide. Our wrongs are too deep to undo. Our guilt is too heavy to bear. We do not feel as if we can face you, so we wander off, and lose our way.

And yet, even in our deepest shame, you search for us, night and day. You call out our names, hoping that you might bring us back. When we turn to you, you embrace us with all joy and forgiveness. Help us

to receive your grace, and restore us into your abundant life, through your Spirit.

(Silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

Sung Response

**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.**

Anthem

My Lord, What a Morning African American Spiritual
Charity Clark, Contralto

Time with the Children

The children are welcome to stay for the service or they may leave for Sunday Spirit.

Epistle Lesson

I Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Anthem

Lord, I Trust Thee

G. F. Handel

Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So, he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Anthem

In the Fold

Anton Dvorak

Charity Clark, Contralto

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn 589

Our Father, Which Art in Heaven

Offering

Offertory

Jubilate Deo in B Flat

C. V. Stanford

***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 420**

God of Grace and God of Glory

***Charge and Blessing**

Benediction Response

Sevenfold Amen

J. Stainer

***Postlude**

Toccata in B

E. Gigout

**Please stand, if you are able.*

A special thank you to our guest soloist, Charity Clark.

Announcements



Welcome Back Picnic

Today after
worship.



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, September 18th
at 11 am.

In person at the church.

We will be electing new Elders
and Deacons, and there will be
a finance update.



Sunday Night Service

a simple meal, a simple service,
& great community

begins September 18 at 6 pm

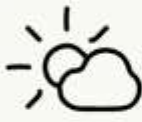
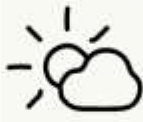


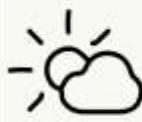


come as you are

2nd Week

SEP 11- SEP 17, 2022

9th Month

Weather: Bedford, NY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						
Cloudy. High 81F.	Mostly cloudy skies. High near 80F.	Cloudy with occasional showers. High near 77F.	Overcast with rain showers at times. High 77F.	Partly cloudy early. High 77F.	Partly cloudy. High near 80F.	Partly cloudy skies. High 78F

SCRIPTURE... So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. - Luke 15:3-7

QUESTION... We are all familiar with the parable of the Lost Sheep. When we read this story ecologically, we are reminded that this section of the Gospel of Luke is about human inter-relationships. As the parable continues, there is emphasis put on rejoicing. What does it mean to live out a theology of abundance as we restore what was lost? As we gather together? As we give to those in need?



THIS WEEK AT NATIVITY FARM... We continue to care for our fall crops!

NATIVITY FARMERS' ALMANAC



Quilters' Basting Party

Tuesday, September 13th between 10 - 4 pm and Wednesday, September 14th from 10 am until completion in the Chapel Room. Everyone can baste! No prerequisites. Come get a sneak peak and add your energy to the next Mistletoe Mart quilt.

Regular quilting begins September 20th and continues every Tuesday from 1 - 4 pm. Learn as you go from seasoned quilters.

Friends & Membership Development Committee

We're happy to announce a new Committee, Friends & Membership Development, which began work just a few months ago. It's chaired by Elder Bart Tyler and includes Judy Newton and Jason Welsch. Our goal: to increase both our membership and participation in BPC's worship, education and mission activities.

First steps:

- Carol will call attention to the attendance and importance of on-line worshipers each worship service.
- Carol will periodically remind us of the necessity of more hearts and minds in our midst to keep our congregation strong, relevant and even more effective.
- A monthly Meet and Greet for Visitors and New Members will be held during coffee hour.
- In addition to ushers we will also be scheduling greeters to identify, acknowledge, welcome and see to the care of visitors who come to worship.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas to aid us in our work! Please feel free to contact us: Judy: julianewton@yahoo.com; Bart: barttyler@yahoo.com; Jason: janemcw@aol.com.



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

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS RETURNS!

Starting September 27th at 12:30 pm.

BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday
10 - 11 am via zoom

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

All are welcome.



Upcoming Events at a Glance

- Monday, September 12th** Yoga at 9 am.
- Thursday, September 15th** Bible Study at 10 am. Please contact Alan McDougall at alanmcd@verizon.net.
- Sunday, September 18th** Sunday Worship at 10 am, Congregational Meeting at 11 am, and Sunday Night Service at 6 pm.

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.

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 Reverend Carol Howard Merritt

Deacons

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

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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