



"Palm Trees" by Konstantin Bogaevsky

Palm Sunday April 2, 2023

Prelude Fantasy on "All Glory, Laud and Honor" J. S. Bach

Introit Hosanna to the Son of David

John Calkin

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

- Leader: Come, O Holy One, riding on a donkey. Come through the streets. Come into the house. Come to find a space beside us at the table.
- People: Speak to us in the shouts and in the silence. Speak to us with a wisdom greater than ours, a love deeper than ours, and a change wider than ours.
- Leader: Come, O Holy One!
- *Hymn 88 All Glory, Laud and Honor

Poetry Lesson

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."
Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.
You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Anthem

Hosanna! Bedford Bellringers

Time with the Children

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

Gospel Lesson Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."

This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Offering and Children's Offering

Anthem Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates William Mathias *Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People 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.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all. **People: And also with you.**

Communion

Invitation to the Table

People: And c Leader: We lif People: We lif Leader: Let us	ord be with you.	aise
Breaking of the Bre Anthem *Communion	ad Abide With Me Bedford Bellringers	
Prayer after Comm	union	
*Hymn 151 Cro	wn Him with Many Crowns	
*Charge and Blessing		
Benediction Response	When I Survey the Wondrous	s Cross South African
*Postlude	Dearest Lord Jesus	J. Brahms
*Please stand, if able		

Announcements

Please fill out the pew pads and pass them to your neighbor.

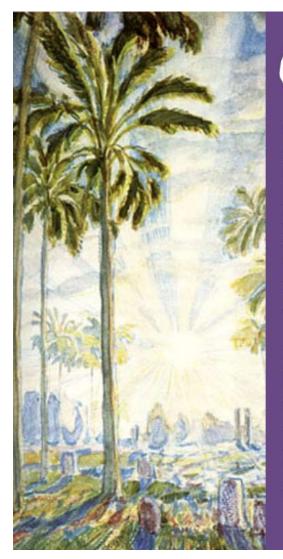
"Longing is like the Seed

That wrestles in the Ground,

Believing if it intercede

It shall at length be found."

Emily Dickinson



Cover Cirt

Konstantin Bogaevsky painted "Palm Trees" in 1908. He was Ukrainian and part of the Symbolism Art movement, that represented absolute truths through metaphorical images. They were focused on spirituality, imagination, and dreams.

I chose the work because Palm Sunday took place when Rome occupied Jerusalem. It's good to remember the parallels with Ukraine in the midst of Russia's invasion.

-CHM

Easter Flowers

Help us decorate the church for Easter! Deadline is April 2nd.

With a \$25 donation you can add flowers to the sanctuary. You may also submit a dedication that will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. You can pay by check or on our website. Dedications should be emailed or mailed to the office.





Easter Reception Volunteers Needed

We will be having our Easter Reception at 10 am, between the 9 am & 11 am services. We need volunteers to help make this a success so please sign up using the SignUpGenius on our website. There are various food items we need to make this day special.

If you have any questions please email Pat Ferguson - pkferg1@gmail.com or Marcy Carlson - marciabcarlson@gmail.com.



Holy Week & Easter 2023 Schedule



Palm Sunday April 2nd, 10 am Worship service featuring Bell Choir



Maundy Thursday April 6th, 7 pm Worship with a simple meal in Fellowship Hall



Good Friday April 7th, 9 am - 4 pm Sanctuary will be open with prayer stations for personal reflection. Please enter through the side door.



Easter Sunday April 9th, 9 & 11 am worship Reception & Easter Egg Hunt at 10 am







SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERING

SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH 10 AM DURING SUNDAY SERVICE

> RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

THE WORLD BELOVED A BLUEGRASS MASS

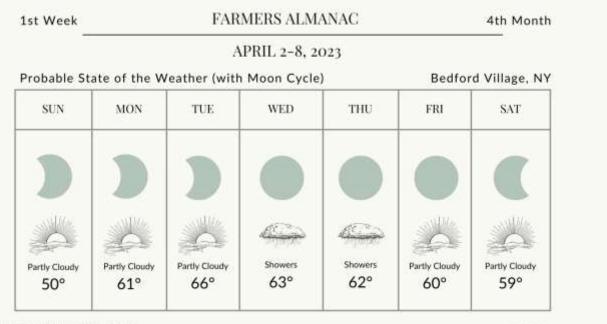
BY CAROL BURNETT

MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FERGUSON MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND

THIS WONDERFUL MUSICAL SELECTION WILL BE PLAYED WITH A 5-PIECE BLUEGRASS BAND AND FEATURES DANA KATOK AS SOPRANO SOLOIST.



Our summer mission trip to Webster Springs, WV will take place on June 25 - July 2. Please reserve your spot with Courtney!



WHAT WE ARE READING

April 7 is World Health Day. This year's theme is "Health for All," which reflects our values as a food justice ministry.

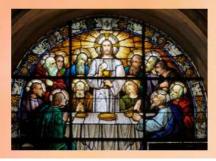
Are we able to reimagine a world where clean air, water and food are available to all? Where economies are focused on health and well-being?

WORD OF THE WEEK well-being societies



Remember Holy Week with us. Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 6th - 7 pm



On the night before he was arrested, Jesus joined with his friends for a meal. We will gather together in Fellowship Hall on April 6th at 7 pm for a service to share a simple meal.

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, April 2nd 10 am	Palm Sunday Worship, Communion, Youth Collection & Bells Play
11:30 am	Seed Starting Sunday
Monday, April 3rd	
9 am	Yoga
Tuesday, April 4th	
1 pm	Quilting
7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
7:15 pm	Bells practice
Thursday, April 6th	Maundy Thursday
10 am	Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at alanmcd@verizon.net .
7 pm	Maundy Thursday Service & Simple meal
Friday, April 7 th	Good Friday
9 am – 4 pm	Sanctuary open with prayer stations. Please enter through the side doors.
Sunday, April 9th	Easter Sunday
9 am	Worship
10 am	Reception & Easter Egg Hunt
11 am	Worship

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 at **Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org** and Jessica at **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, President Michelle Gosh,

Linda Burpee (Mission), Jessica Cunningham (Personnel), Danielle Gamar (Christian Education), Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm), Suzanne Millette (Finance), Sarah Ryan (Property & Maintenance), & Bart Tyler (Members & Friends) Moderator Reverend Carol Howard Merritt

Deacons

Chair Kim Lapple, Sarah Alley, Marcy Carlson, Kathy DiBiasi, Michele Eames, Pat Ferguson, & Diane Palmento

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