



BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"The Good Shepherd" by Henry Ossawa Tanner

April 30, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Introit *God is love, G. Thalben-Ball*

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Though the way is long is the road is rough,

People: We will trust in the One who leads us.

Leader: Though the direction is unfamiliar, and the outcome is unknown,

People: We place our lives in God's loving care.

Leader: For God brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls.

People: God gives us hope and peace.

***Opening Hymn 171** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Confession

Loving God, forgive us for the times when we do not take care of ourselves. We are perfectionists and we don't give ourselves a break. We over-work and live under too much stress. We neglect to eat and put off sleep. We do not rest and become burnt-out. We isolate and become depressed. We do not nurture our souls.

Have mercy on us, and help us to eat, sleep, and rest. Open us to the beauty of nature, and feed our spirits.

(Silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

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

People: And also with you.

***Passing of the Peace**

You may stand and greet one another.

Time with the Children

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

Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Lesson

John 10 1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again, Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Offering

***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**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and Lighting Candles

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long...

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.

***Hymn 540** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

***Charge and Blessing**

***Benediction Response** *A Parting Blessing* J. Jerome Williams

***Postlude**

*Please stand, if able

Announcements

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

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

**Cottage School Volunteer
Basketball Clinic with
Temple Sharaay Tefila
Youth Group**

April 30th - 3 pm

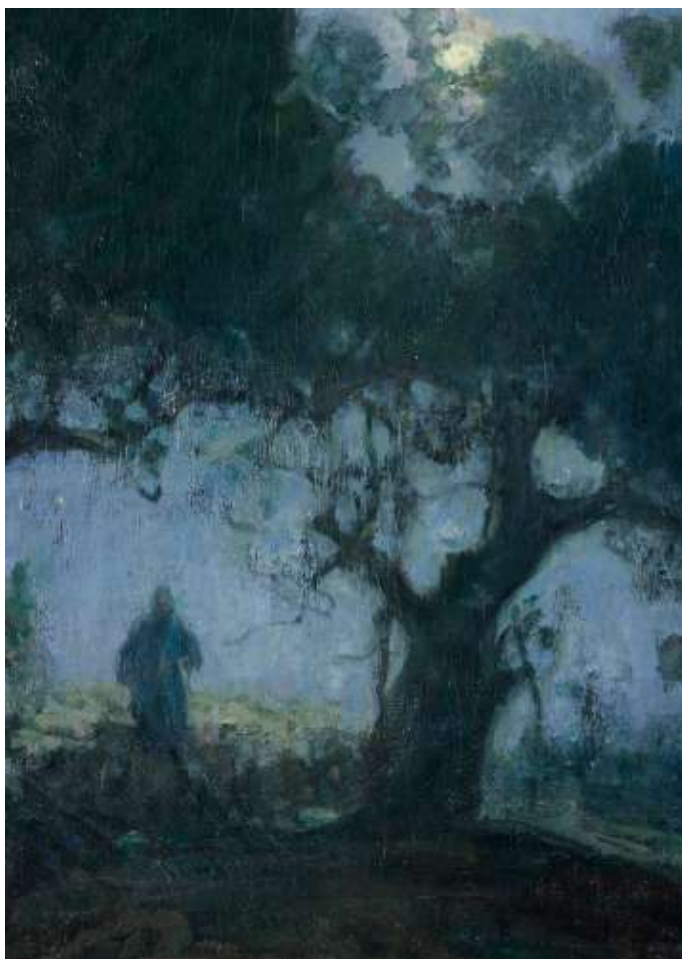
**Summer Mission Trip to
Webster Springs, WV**

**June 25 - July 2
RSVP to Courtney by April 30**





Today's flowers
are dedicated to
our wonderful
Director of Music,
John Lettieri.



Cover Art

Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859 -1937) was the first African-American painter to gain international acclaim. His father was a Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) and an abolitionist. His mother was enslaved, until she escaped through the underground railroad.

After a spiritual struggle, Tanner began to depict more religious themes. His palette of turquoise and indigo (which is used here) is referred to as "the Tanner Blues."

-CHM



May Day Celebration

Sunday, May 7

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.

Senior Luncheon



May 4th at 12:30 pm

Join us for lunch and the opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of friends, old and new. Everyone is invited, so bring a friend who is not a member of BPC if you'd like.















Maintaining our connections is so very important.

Please bring your bag lunch and come whenever you can.

APRIL 30 - MAY 6, 2022

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
						
Rain 58°	Partly Cloudy 62°	PM Showers 56°	PM Showers 58°	Mostly Cloudy 58°	Showers 63°	Partly Cloudy 68°

ON THE FARM

We continue to hold workdays each Thursday afternoon. All of the rain this week has been incredibly beneficial to the cold hardy plants that have been planted so far.

We have so much more weeding to do in the coming weeks, and we are very excited for our May projects of beginning fence construction, as well as, planting in the rest of our beds!

OTHER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please follow our new Nativity Farm instagram: @nativityfarm_BPC

Our volunteer hours at the farm are Thursday evenings from 5pm to 7pm. Please join us! If you are unable to volunteer during that time, let Courtney know or volunteer at any of the other Westchester Local Food Project gardens in the are.

WORD OF THE WEEK

monoculture

WHAT WE ARE READING

What might it mean to shepherd nature?

"We are all part of the integrated web of life on Mother Earth and are called as stewards of the planet that sustains all life. By taking care of the earth, we take care of ourselves. When we can find our connection to the Earth in the quiet stillness of our hearts, we can cultivate that connection in our homes, neighborhoods and beyond. Together we can pass on a thriving Earth to our children, from whom we borrowed it in the first place."

Celebrate Creation! - Earth Shepherds

THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

Continue to clear the garden; water and monitor our seedlings; direct sow cold hardy crops; and add compost to the soil.

VOLUNTEER AT NATIVITY FARM



Join us on Thursdays from 5-7 pm!

COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER'S **7TH ANNUAL MOMS FOR MOMS DRIVE**

May 1 through May 15, 2023



Please help local mothers who turn to CCNW for support by donating to our drive for diapers, wipes, baby food and feminine care products!

Moms for Moms has collected over 10,000 pounds of diapers and wipes over the last 6 years!

WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF:

- Diapers (sizes 4, 5 & 6)
- Baby Food
- Baby Wipes
- Feminine Care Products

Purchase online through our Amazon wishlist by scanning the QR code and have it delivered directly to the Center, or drop your donations in person at the Center's donation room!



COMMUNITY CENTER
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER
30 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

84 BEDFORD ROAD
KATONAH, NY 10536
COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG
914-232-6572

RECURRING EVENTS AT BPC

- **Yoga – Every Monday between 9 and 10 am**
- **Lunch with Friends – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of every month at 12:30 pm**
- **Quilting- Every Tuesday at 1 pm**
- **Bible Study – Every Thursday at 10 am via Zoom.**
- **Coffee Hour – Sundays after worship at 11 am. Please sign up to host.**
- **Flower donations for Sunday Worship. Please sign up to dedicate flowers.**

Please go to our website or call the church office for more information.

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, April 30th

10 am Worship
11 am Coffee Hour

Monday, May 1st

9 am Yoga

Tuesday, May 2nd

1 pm Quilting

Thursday, May 4th

10 am Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall
 at **alanmcd@verizon.net**
12:30 pm Senior Luncheon
5 pm Nativity Farm Work Session

Sunday, May 7th

10 am Worship, Communion & Youth Collection
11 am Coffee Hour

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

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 and Stewardship),
Danielle Gamar (Christian Education),
Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm),
Suzanne Millette (Finance), Sarah Ryan (Property & Maintenance),
& Bart Tyler (Members & Friends and Stewardship)
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

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