



BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Fritillaria Imperialis (Crown Imperial Lily)" by Alexander Marshal

July 9, 2023
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Ringling of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Opening Sentences** from Psalm 46

Leader: God is our sure defense, our shelter and help in trouble.
God never stands far off.

**People: So we stand unshaken when solid earth cracks and
volcanoes slide into the sea, when breakers rage and
mountains tremble in the swell.**

***Opening Hymn 467** *"How Great Thou Art"* Swedish Folk Melody
(Verses 1 and 2)

Confession

**Loving God, too often we treat life as a race. We want to
squeeze productivity out of every moment, and we fill every
minute of our schedules. We tie our worth to how much we
accomplish.**

**Forgive us, O God. For you have called us to rest, and we ignore
your voice. Help us to enjoy longer days. Lead us to find time to
breathe, relax, and connect with your creation.**

(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

Romans 7:15-20

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:16-19

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard

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**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and 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 374**

Dickinson College

"Lord, Make us Servants of You Peace"

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

*Please stand, if able

Announcements

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



Join us to celebrate with great joy the Ordination of

Courtney Steininger

To the office of Minister of the Word and Sacrament in
the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**Saturday, July 22, 2023
at 2 pm**

Reception to Follow

All are invited to dress in Red, symbolizing the spirit's work in the
ordination.

2nd Week















FARMERS ALMANAC

7th Month

JULY 9 - 15, 2022

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
  Thunderstorms 82°	  Showers 81°	  Thunderstorms 86°	  Partly Cloudy 87°	  Thunderstorms 85°	  Thunderstorms 81°	  PM Showers 82°

ON THE FARM

The pollinator garden has been thriving as it now seems to be fully established. Additionally, all of the plants in our learning garden continue to grow, and we have been able to harvest more kale, garlic, peas, and lettuces. Our tomato, pepper, squash, and cucumber plants continue to grow, though they have not yet born any fruit! Summer Sunday School continues in the garden. Check out the harvest from a couple of weeks ago below!

OTHER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 area.



WHAT WE ARE READING

"Liberation theology and ecological discourse have something in common: they start from two bleeding wounds. The wound of poverty breaks the social fabric of millions and millions of poor people around the world. The other wound, systematic assault on the Earth, breaks down the balance of the planet, which is under threat from the plundering of development as practiced by contemporary global societies. Both lines of reflection and practice have as their starting point a cry: the cry of the poor for life, freedom, and beauty ... and the cry of the Earth groaning under oppression."

-From Leonardo Boff's, *Cry of the Earth, cry of the poor*

THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST

Continue to water plants and harvest!

WORD OF THE WEEK

anthropocentrism

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Sundae SUNDAY



Today after worship

Summer at BPC

July 22 Courtney's Ordination

Aug 13 Super Soaker Sunday



rewarding potential

COLLEGE WITHIN REACH



The Rewarding Potential Scholarship June 25th celebration kicked off our fundraising efforts.

For more information, visit our website at
rewardingpotentialscholarship.org



FALL 2023 COFFEE HOUR

Everyone loves a good BPC coffee hour! It provides us all with a time to socialize, connect, and strengthen our ties as a community. In order to have coffee hour on a consistent basis, Bedford Presbyterian Church will be asking each family to co-host a coffee hour once a year. The deacons will organize the Sunday assignments for our families in August and then we will send all members the information, including the date that we are asking for their help, via email.

Some members would prefer to choose their Sunday. Great! If you would like to choose the Sunday to host, please let Kim Lapple know via email (kjlapple@gmail.com) asap. We'd ask that all requests be sent to Kim by August 1st.

VOLUNTEER AT NATIVITY FARM



Join us on Thursdays from 5-7 pm!

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, July 9th

10 am

Worship

11 am

Coffee Hour and Sundae Sunday

Monday, July 10th

9 am

Yoga

Tuesday, July 11th

12:30 pm

Lunch with Friends

Thursday, July 13th

10 am

Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at **alanmcd@verizon.net**

5 pm

Nativity Farm Work Session

Sunday, July 16th

10 am

Worship and Youth Collection

11 am

Coffee Hour and Sundae Sunday

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** & Elyssa at **Elyssa@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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