



# BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Artichoke" by William Morris

# August 20, 2023

## Ordinary Time

### Prelude

### Ringing of the Bells

### Welcome and Announcements

**\*Opening Sentences** from Psalm 145

Andrew Strawcutter

Leader: Great are you God. From generation to generation, we proclaim your works, we recount your mighty deeds.

**People: Gracious and merciful is the Lord, slow to anger, full of love. God is good in every way, merciful to every creature.**

**\*Opening Hymn 467**

*How Great Thou Art*  
(verses 1 and 2)

Swedish Folk Melody

### Confession

God, we have done harm in what we have thought and said. When we grow tired, we lose our tempers. When we are full of shame, we lie to our loved ones. When we need to be in control, we manipulate others. When we are careless, we pollute the earth. When we do not accept mercy, we despise ourselves.

Forgive us and help us to renew our lives, with the knowledge of your steadfast love. Help us to show your mercy from generation to generation. Through Jesus Christ, we pray.

(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.*

## **Hebrew Bible Lesson**

*Deuteronomy 4:5-9*

Andrew Stawcutter

“See, just as the Lord my God has charged me, I now teach you statutes and ordinances for you to observe in the land that you are about to enter and occupy. You must observe them and perform them, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’ For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?”

“But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.”

## **Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 15:10-18*

Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.”

Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?”

He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit."

But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us."

Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles."

**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 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.**

**\*Hymn 298**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* Dutch Melody

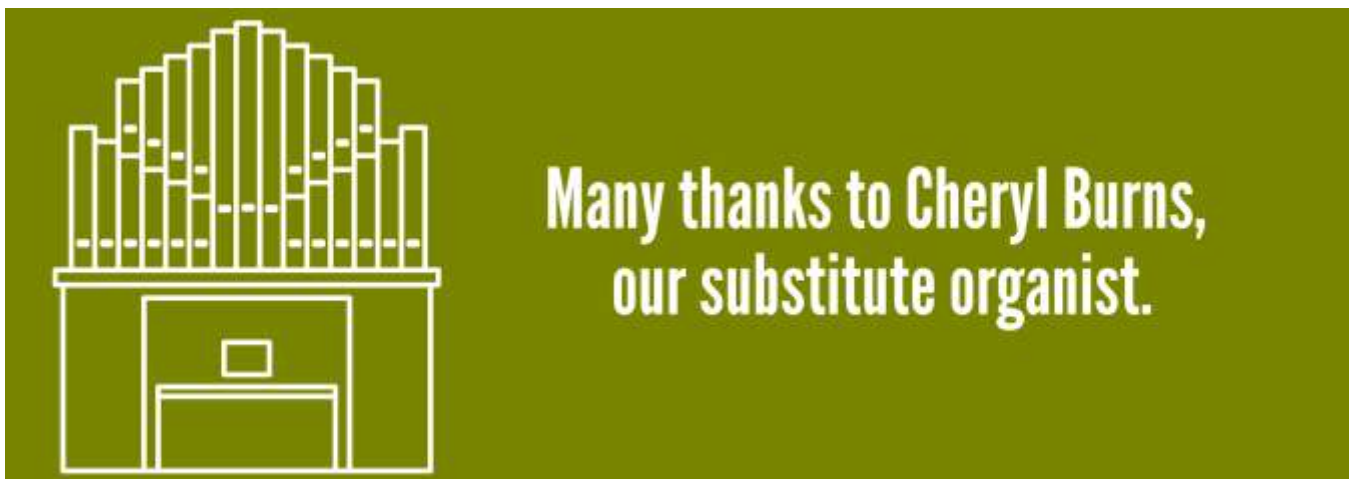
**\*Charge and Blessing**

**\*Postlude**

\*Please stand, if able

### **Announcements**

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



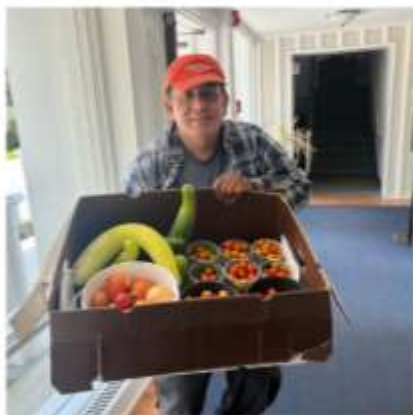
*Lift every voice and*

**Ring!**



Please let Courtney know if your child would like to ring in worship on Welcome Back Sunday! Rehearsal will take place at 9:30 before worship on September 10th!

*A huge thanks to all who have cooked for the  
food pantry!*



On July 26, we were able to make 87 meals for the food pantry. We ramped it up on August 9th, and we were able to make 92 meals with 11 volunteers!



# Cooking for the food pantry

SERVES: OUR COMMUNITY  
PREP TIME: JUST SHOW UP

Next session: Wed, Aug. 23rd

Continues every  
other Wednesday.

1 - 3 pm

BPC Kitchen

1) Help us prep food from

Nativity Farm with the  
Westchester Local Food Project

2) Socialize while we cook

3) Serve our community!



# BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

JOIN US AS WE PRAY FOR  
OUR STUDENTS AND  
TEACHERS TO HAVE A  
GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

# JOYFUL NOISE

We would love to have kids of all ages join us to sing throughout the year. Songs will be posted online and then rehearsed the morning of the performance. Our first performance this fall will be September 17th.

Contact Don Hiller-Dupont for more information.



## Writing the River

A Pilgrimage and Writer's Workshop to Israel and Palestine.

April 2-13, 2024

Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and the Sea of Galilee.

Learn more here:



















AUG 20 - 26, 2023

Probable State of the Weather (with Moon Cycle)

Bedford Village, NY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
						
Sunny 84°	Partly Cloudy 86°	Mostly Cloudy 80°	Mostly Sunny 78°	Mostly Sunny 78°	Partly Cloudy 77°	Partly Cloudy 77°

**ON THE FARM**

Our beans are ready to harvest. Additionally we continue to harvest our tomatoes, zucchini, and cucumbers to use in our cooking for the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry. Our peppers are also quickly ripening and should become ready to harvest in the next couple of days! We continue to hand pollinate our corn, and look forward to our next round of produce in our corn, as well as our squashes. We are also beginning to plant fall bean crops as we move towards fall!

**OTHER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please join us for cooking every other Wednesday at 1pm in the church kitchen!

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.

We will also have a cooking event every other Wednesday through the rest of the growing season. If you don't want to support Nativity Farm with labor in the garden, please come chop vegetables and help us prepare meals for the Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry!

**WHAT WE ARE READING**

Wednesday marks the International Day of Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition. As we think about abolition, ecology, and spirituality, we entertain ideas of liberation, of eschatology, and our history. Consider the following quote from Dr. Nik Heynan of the University of Georgia:

*A driving notion of abolition ecology builds on direct action traditions that began in the abolitionist movement against slavery, were core tactics during the Civil Rights Movement and continue today through Black Lives Matter –because as human history shows rights are seldom just granted; they are won through struggle. Building upon DuBois, toward abolition ecology is an effort to take abolitionist ideas created through hard-fought struggles to better organize around the racialized questions of who gains from and who pays for, who benefits from and who suffers from particular processes of political ecological change.*

**THIS WEEK'S TO DO LIST**

Continue to water plants and harvest!

**JOIN US**

# **WELCOME BACK SUNDAY**

**Sunday, September 10 is our annual  
Welcome Back Sunday. We will  
Bless the Harvest and then have our  
Welcome Back Picnic.**



**Sunday, September 10th**



**BEDFORD**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## 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.

### Upcoming Events at a Glance

#### Sunday, August 20th

10 am	Worship
11 am	Lemonade on the Lawn

#### Monday, August 21st

9 am	Yoga
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#### Wednesday, August 23rd

12 pm	Cooking with the Interfaith Food Pantry
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#### Thursday, August 24th

10 am	Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at <b>alanmcd@verizon.net</b>
5 pm	Nativity Farm Work Session

#### Sunday, August 27th

10 am	Worship
11 am	Lemonade on the Lawn

# **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

## **Deacons**

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

## **Staff**

The Reverend Carol Howard, Pastor

The Reverend Courtney Steininger, Minister of Christian Education

John Lettieri, Director of Music

Jessica DeAlto, Office Manager

Elyssa Michaels, Director of Congregational Life & Digital Ministries

The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

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