

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 18, 2020



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude

Andante Religioso

F. Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship from Psalm 96

O sing to God a new song; sing to God, all the earth.

Strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

let the field triumph, and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

before our God.

Hymn 429

Lord You Give the Great Commission

Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.

For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:15-22

Holly Conetta

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?"

They answered, "The emperor's."

Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Sermon

"The Power of Imitation"

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Minute for Mission

Crop Walk

Charlotte Cape

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed by 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.

(Many people say the Lord's Prayer with "trespasses" or "sins" instead of "debts." Please feel free to pray in any form that makes you feel the most comfortable.)

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Chaconne

Louis Couperin

Announcements for the Week of October 18 – October 24, 2020

Parents!

We would love to send the children of the church a packet with lessons and activities. We want to be sure that our information is up to date. Please email the name and grade of your child (children) to the church office so we can make sure that they are on our list. Thank you! Office@bedfordpreschurch.org

Virtual Coffee Hour

Join us virtually on **Sundays at 10:30 am**. Find the Zoom link on our website or in the weekly ENEWS.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our new Elders & Deacons who were voted in at our Special Congregational Meeting held on October 11, 2020.

Elders: Michelle Gosh & Suzanne Millette

Deacons: Kathy DiBiasi, Kim Lapple & Natasha Mast

With much gratitude

We would like to extend our thanks to our outgoing Elders, **Laurie Fancher** and **Lara DiCorpo** who served on the Session for the last 6 years - helping us thoughtfully navigate through a challenging transition and the many difficult decisions posed by the Coronavirus. Also, many thanks to our outgoing Deacons, **Angela Sour**, **Suzanne Millette** and **Jessica Cunningham** . . . all part of the behind the scenes team of workers and planners. The tireless efforts and energy of all of you have contributed in so many ways to BPC!

Upcoming Events - under the tent, after worship service

October 24 Halloween Costume Party for adults and children. Decorate your car trunk, enjoy an outdoor Halloween movie and there will be prizes! More details to follow.

November 1 All Saint's Day Remembrance

Dial a Sermon

We have developed a new service that is available for those that do not have access to a computer or smartphone but would like to hear the sermon from Sunday's worship service. The process is very simple. Just dial **914-205-4683** and you will hear this week's sermon. Please share the above information anyone you think will benefit from this service.

On Line CROP walk

This year the Northern Westchester CROP walk (**our 26th!**) will be an on-line event. The CROP walk supports hunger relief both near and far with our partnership with the Community Center of Northern Westchester and the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry.

We are hoping to have as many people as possible join us for the FaceBook Live walk event on **October 18th at 2pm**. We will all "walk together" along with live content during the walk to bring us together as a community. However, if the timing does not work for you, or if you cannot join us on-line for other reasons, the walk can be done anywhere or at anytime you want.

We hope that many of you will register to walk and fundraise. However, the BPC team will also welcome donations if you are unable to join as a walker. To register or donate, please go to: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/nwestchesterny/BPC>

How you can help

Grocery Delivery Assistance/Volunteerism Opportunity

In these difficult times, Lila Cummings recommends "Hope Delivers." If you are in the Katonah area and need assistance with grocery delivery, or if you want to volunteer to help those who are vulnerable with grocery deliveries, please go to: <https://www.hopedelivers.com/>

Neighbor's Link

The mission of Neighbors Link is to strengthen the whole community by actively enhancing the healthy integration of immigrants. To support this ministry, please go to the BPC website, click on 'Donate' at the very top and then select *Neighbors Link* from the 'Fund' drop down.

Amazon Smile

If you would like Amazon to donate to Bedford Presbyterian Church, please start each Amazon shopping session by logging onto **AmazonSmile.com** and selecting BPC as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. Continue to use your existing Amazon username and password. It's just that simple!!

Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry

We want to remember our brothers and sisters who are food - insecure. Please consider a donation by going to the BPC website, clicking on 'Donate' at the very top and selecting *Interfaith Food Pantry* from the 'Fund' drop down.

Generosity

The pandemic has disrupted all of our lives, but we continue to serve in a surprising variety of ways. This includes serving God through our generosity.

Most of us at BPC write checks to financially support the congregation. The Finance Committee is regularly checking the mail and making deposits. Please send your contribution to the church at: **P.O. Box 280, Bedford NY 10506.**

Also, giving online is remarkably simple and convenient. Please go to the BPC website, click on 'Donate' at the very top, and select from the 'Fund' drop down where you want your donation applied.

The Reverend Carol Howard Merritt, Pastor

John Lettieri, Director of Music

Elyssa Michaels, Director of High School & Middle School Youth Groups

Jessica DeAlto, Office Manager

Sunday Virtual Worship Service 10:00 AM

**Email: Office@bedfordpreschurch.org www.bedfordpreschurch.org
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