

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, November 15, 2020

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude

Voluntary in G

Henry Purcell

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship from Psalm 90

The Mast Family

O God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth, before you formed the earth,
From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past.
So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
Let us worship God!

Hymn 414

As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought Vs. 1, 2

Hebrew Bible Lesson

Judges 4:1-7

Jason Welsch

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died.

So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim.

Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.

She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents.

In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.

But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'

But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received

what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Sermon

"Scarcity and Abundance"

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Stewardship Minute

Stewardship season continues! This time of leadership transitions and COVID precautions means that we are reimagining much of our ministry. So we are thinking about God's words in Isaiah: "I am about to do a new thing. Can you perceive it?" You should have received your pledge cards in the mail last week. We ask that you make a pledge by **November 22nd**, by returning your card or pledging on-line by going to our website at **www.bedfordpreschurch.org**. Please prayerfully consider how you might use your time, gifts, and resources for the new things that God is doing among us!

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.

(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

Trumpet Voluntary

Henry Purcell

Announcements for the Week of November 15 – 21, 2020

Virtual Coffee Hour - *Will not be held on November 15th*

Join us virtually **most** Sundays at **10:30 am**. Coffee Hour will not be held on those Sundays when there are special events after worship. Find the Zoom link on our website or in the weekly E-NEWS.

Fall Food Drive

BPC and our Youth Group will be collecting food and non perishable items for the **Interfaith Food Pantry** in Mount Kisco. During these hard times this is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to our neighbors to support them.

Date:

Sunday, November 15th.

Time:

Items can be dropped off between 11am - 1pm

Where:

Bedford Presbyterian Church - Drive into the back parking lot. Please drop off at the first door on the corner (the youth room).

Items: (**Bold items are what are most needed**)

- **48 ounce bottles of oil**
- **2 pound boxes of sugar**
- **2 pound boxes of flour**
- **Cans of evaporated milk**
- Cans of black beans
- Canned tuna or salmon
- Quaker Oats
- 2 pound bags of rice (brown or white)
- 32 oz. containers of shelf stable milk (like Parmalat)
- Canned Corn
- Canned Fruit
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Cereal
- Cans of soup

Mistletoe Mart 2020 News

After much deliberation, and with heavy hearts, the Mistletoe Mart Committee has decided that due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be able to celebrate the season with our time-honored tradition of the Mistletoe Mart. We are still brainstorming ideas to help our church community celebrate the season. Keep a look-out for more information! If you would like to join our brainstorming sessions, email julianewton@yahoo.com so that you can receive a link for the zoom meeting. Our next brainstorming session is scheduled for **November 18th at 10:00 am.**

Upcoming Events

November 15 Food Collection

November 22 Congregational Meeting

When will the building be open? What are we doing for Christmas? What are our future plans? There are so many questions! **Let Us Know What You Think** - We would love to understand how everyone is feeling about current and future BPC engagement and activities. Your opinions are incredibly valuable as we navigate this unique time. Please complete our short survey by **November 21st** using the link below. This information will be presented and discussed at the Congregational Meeting.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GKQNPB5>

November 22 Interfaith Thanksgiving Virtual Service - 4:00 pm.

Hosted by Temple Sharaay Tefila, and in partnership with Bedford Presbyterian Church, Antioch Baptist Church, The Westchester Youth Alliance and the Northern Westchester Interfaith Community. **All are Welcome!**

A link to the service will be in next week's E-NEWS and bulletin.

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**

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 with anyone you think will benefit from this service.

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/>**

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.

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.

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
44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506 914-234-3672**