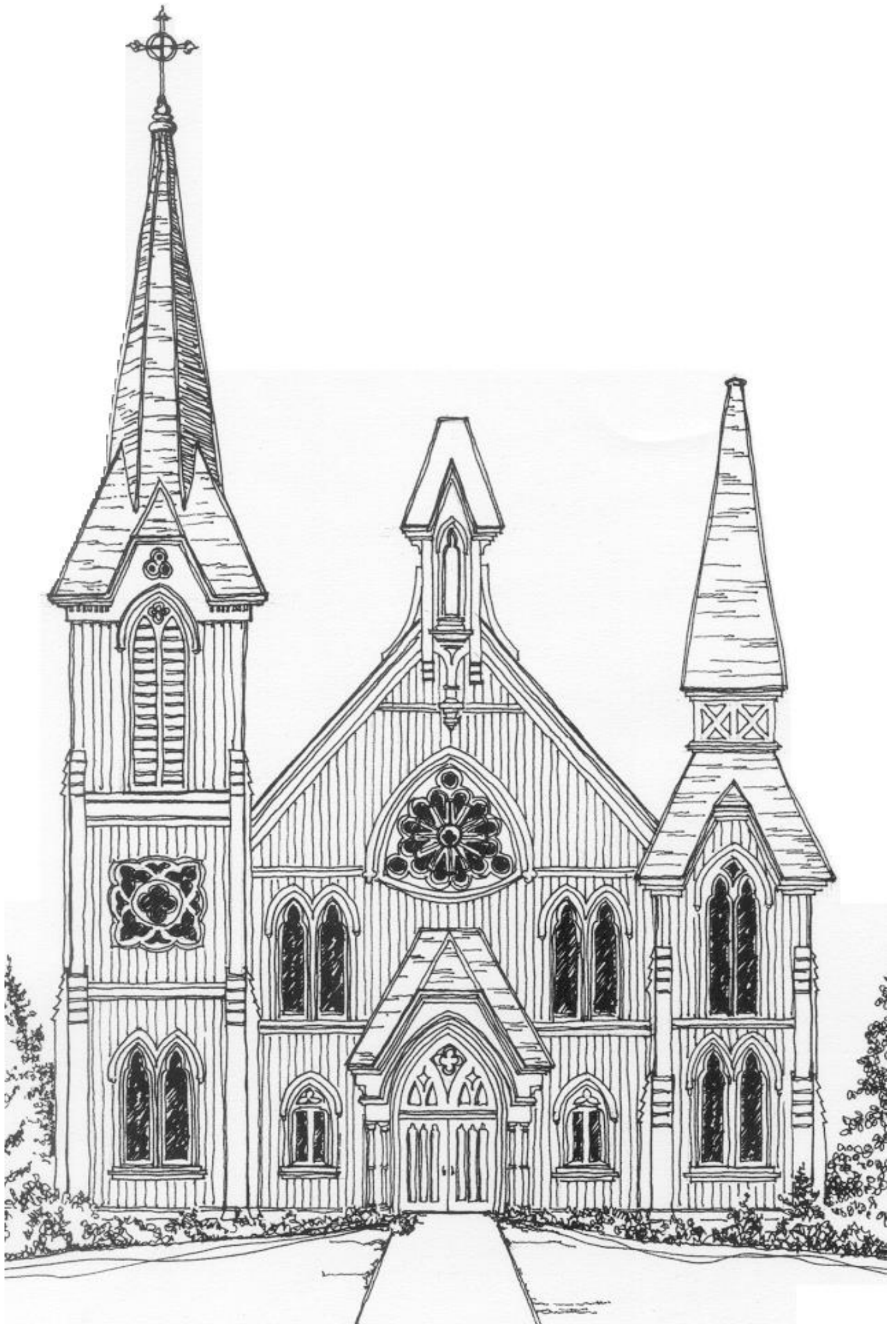


BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service for the Lord's Day ~ March 8, 2020

Given the health risk associated with the Coronavirus,
we ask that you refrain from hugging and shaking hands.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE *O God, Thou Faithful God*

J. Brahms

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

INTROIT *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

Anonymous

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Psalm 145:8-9*)

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

***HYMN 455** *All creatures of our god and king (vss. 1, 5, 6)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and creating God, we confess and come before you today as people who are separated from one another by fear, prejudice, and ignorance. By our language, actions and even by our facilities we declare insiders and outsiders in our lives and in our church. Forgive us and create in us the vision of opening our hearts, minds, and doors as wide as the love of God, so that no one is left outside. Help us to reach beyond ourselves to discover the joy of community. Give us the patience to discover that all people have gifts and abilities to share with our community of faith. We pray in Jesus name. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting!

People: In Jesus Christ, God calls us by name, claims us in love, and brings us hope!

***ASCRPTION OF PRAISE Hymn 280**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

***PASSING OF PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN and CHILDREN'S OFFERING

*This year's children's offering is designated to **Heifer Project** and **Laundry Love**. Children should come forward for the Time with the Children with their offering. Adults who wish to contribute to the children's offering will have an opportunity during the Anthem following the Time with the Children.*

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

***or "Our Creator**

ANTHEM *There is a Balm in Gilead*

Spiritual arr. H. Helvey

THE PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READING *Acts 8:24-40*

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

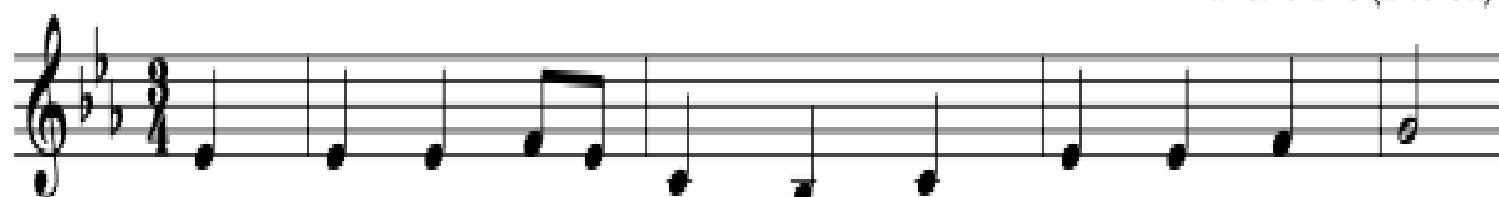
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Are We There Yet?*

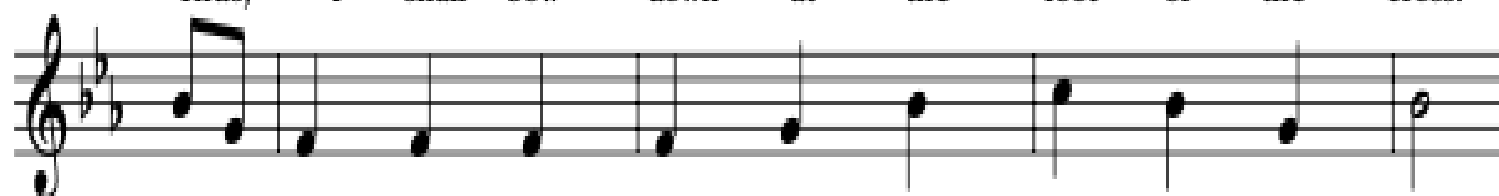
J. Patrick Vaughn

I Lift Up My Heart

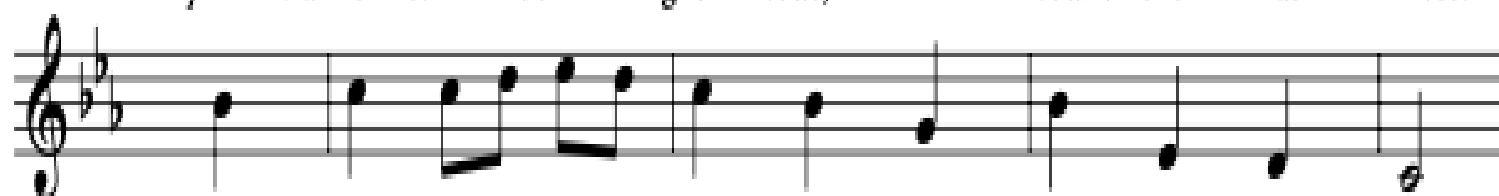
Words, Paul Janssen
Tune: Slane (altered)



I lift up my heart, Lord, in awe and in praise,
I do not love all whom you claim as your own.
Your love is a mys - t'ry I can not ex - plain.
Lord, how may I shield you? How hon - or your name?
Thus, I shall bow down at the foot of the cross.



Your mer - cy a - stounds me, both now and al - ways.
I of - ten would will - ing - ly cast a first stone.
Your mys - t'ry a grace that I can not con - tain.
Do you de - sire guard - ians to keep you from shame?
My claims to be right - eous, I'll count them as loss.



These won - ders be - fore me I hum - bly con - fess:
But o - p'ning my eyes, I'm be - gin - ning to see,
Your grace is a bless - ing that I'll nev - er earn,
Or are you so reck - less - ly, fierce - ly my friend
Lord, o - pen my heart and trans - form me, I pray,



Your mer - ci - ful love, and my own love - less ness.
If you re - ject sin - ners, you've no room for me.
Your bless - ing, a wide - ness I'll nev - er dis - cern.
that you would give all for me? All, to the end?
that I may be worth - y of your broad - 'ning way.

THE SENDING

MOMENT for MINISTRY

Sharon Seidell – Mt. Kisco Food Pantry

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake*

John Hilton

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

- or -

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.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***HYMN 436** *We Are Your People*

***BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

R. Warner

POSTLUDE *Toccata in e*

J. Pachelbel

**Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.*

****Adapted from Southeastern United Methodist Agency for Rehabilitation (SEMAR)**

Announcements for the Week of March 8th – 14th

Woman 2 Woman Sponsors Photo Exhibit at the Katonah Village Library

The Town of Bedford is home to more than 1,000 women who are incarcerated at Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities, yet most of us know very little about the women who live behind those walls. Please join Woman 2 Woman and the Katonah Village Library as we present *Inside & Out*, a selection of Sara Bennett's extraordinary photographs of women currently serving or released from lengthy sentences at these prisons. The exhibit **will run through April 30th**.

Before becoming a photographer documenting women with life sentences, Bennett worked for eighteen years as a public defender with a specialty in representing battered women and the wrongly convicted. She hopes her work "will shed light on the pointlessness of extremely long sentences, arbitrary parole denials, and what to do with a redeemed life."

In conjunction with the exhibit, W2W is also organizing two evening panel discussions. "**Mothers in Prison**", on **Wednesday, April 1st**, will feature women who were incarcerated at Bedford Hills and Taconic and the stories of how they raised their children while inside. "**Getting Out: Parole and Re-Entry**", on **Wednesday, April 22nd**, will feature Robert Dennison, a retired Chairman of the New York State Parole Board, and several formerly incarcerated women, all of whom will be discussing the process and the need for reform. **Both events will be from 7-9 pm at the Katonah Village Library.**

Woman 2 Woman was founded at Bedford Presbyterian Church in 2013. During these past seven years, we have connected more than 100 women from this community with women incarcerated at Bedford Hills and Taconic. There is much to be proud of. Please come celebrate with us at the opening! All are welcome. For further information, please contact **Nancy Gernert**: nancygernert@gmail.com or at **914-763-0750**.

In-Touch Ministry

Did you know that there are some members of our church who are confined to their homes and are unable to attend services on Sunday? At Second Sunday Soup on March 8th we will have some blank cards on the tables so that attending members can communicate their thoughts to those who cannot be with us. The names of some of our members who are unable to get out and socialize will be available along with the cards for you to write your thoughts and news. The cards will then be mailed out over time by the BPC Care Team. If you have any cards you would like to donate, please bring them in.



BPC DINNER/SQUARE DANCE

Sunday, March 29th

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Bedford Presbyterian Church (Fellowship



It will be a casual evening of food, music and simple square dancing! We will have a well-known Dance Caller teach a few steps and some popular line dances, too! This event will be enjoyable for all ages and a wonderful way to come together as a church community.

For further information contact **Don Hiller-Dupont:**
briananddon143@gmail.com.

We are asking folks to sign up for entrees, side dishes, desserts and beverages.

To sign up on our Sign-Up Genius, please this past week's E-NEWS for the link, or contact the church office and the link can be emailed to you. **914-234-3672.**

BPC's 2020 Children's Bible Study

~ We need 1 more student ~

Without 1 more student enrolling we won't be able to hold this wonderful Bible Study Class this year.

Introduction to the Bible class is being offered this spring and Matt Valenti will be the instructor.

The class will be 8 lessons, scheduled from Mid-March through May, with the exact dates being solidified in coming weeks. Lessons will be on Sunday mornings during worship following the Time with Children (participants will be in the Bible Study class instead of Sunday Spirit). Children in 3rd grade or higher are welcome to enroll, with the expectation being that participants will attend each class. At the end of the class, participants will receive their own Bible. If you would like to enroll your child or have any questions, please contact:

Matt Valenti: matt_valenti@yahoo.com

Sunday Flowers

Today's flowers are given by

Carla Hawyrluk,

In honor of her sister's 91st birthday... and going strong.

Did you know?

The doctrine of the Trinity celebrates the social nature of God. The God of Moses and Jesus is a relational God ever inviting all people into community!

Second Sunday Soup

A great big thank you to

Shirani Ponnambalam and Sarah & Conor Ryan

for hosting today's Second Sunday Soup.

Midnight Run Quickly Approaching!

Thank you to everyone who continues to help restock the needed items for our next Midnight Run! The list of the many items still needed are listed on the sign up genius.

This week we are asking for men and women's coats.

Please bring items that are in new or gently used condition and place them in the box by the building's entrance, closest to the Chapel stairs,
by March 25th.

Please go to the following link to sign up for items on the sign up genius.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D44A4A823A2FB6-midnight>

The above link was listed on our latest E-NEWS, where you will be able to just 'click' on the link.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

Only 4 more slots left to fill!!

**April 5th, April 26th,
May 31st & June 21st**

Donating flowers couldn't be easier! Simply contribute \$50 to the church flower fund and create your own dedication line to run in the Sunday bulletin. Then, after worship, you or the person you're celebrating can take the flowers home! If you are interested, please contact:

Michele Eames at mdeames@optimum.net or **914-715-3223** with any questions. There will also be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall following worship services.

Interfaith Food Pantry

Putting Faith in Action



Events for the Week

Today, March 8

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10:00 AM | Worship (Sanctuary) | Rev. J. Patrick Vaughn |
| 11:00 AM | Second Sunday Soup (Fellowship Hall) | |
| 11:15 AM | Deacon's Meeting (Conference Room) | |
| 4:00 PM | REBEL Concert | |
| 5:00 PM | WYA Team Leadership Meeting (Conference Room) | |
| 7:45 PM | HSYG (Fellowship Hall) | |

Tuesday, March 10

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------------|--|
| 9:30 AM | Senior Group Exercise (Fellowship Hall) | |
| 10:30 AM | Adult Bible Study (Conference Room) | |
| 1:00 PM | Quilting (Chapel) | |
| 7:15 PM | AA Men & Women (Fellowship Hall) | |

Thursday, March 12

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------|--|
| 9:30 AM | Senior Group Exercise (Fellowship Hall) | |
| 7:15 PM | AA Men & Women (Fellowship Hall) | |
| 7:30 PM | Choir Practice (Sanctuary) | |

Friday, March 13

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| 9:00 AM | Yoga (Chapel) NO YOGA TODAY | |
| 6:45 PM | AA Women (Chapel) | |

Saturday, March 14

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|
| 7:15 PM | AA Men & Women (Fellowship Hall) | |
|---------|----------------------------------|--|

The Reverend Dr. J. Patrick Vaughn, Interim Pastor

The Reverend Heather Brown-Huston, Minister for Congregational Life

John Lettieri, Director of Music

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

The Reverend Leslie Mott, Coordinator for Spirituality and Practice

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM

Church School & Childcare 10:00 AM

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

44 Village Green Bedford, NY 914-234-3672

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9 am – 3 pm

NYS Notary Public available during Office Hours