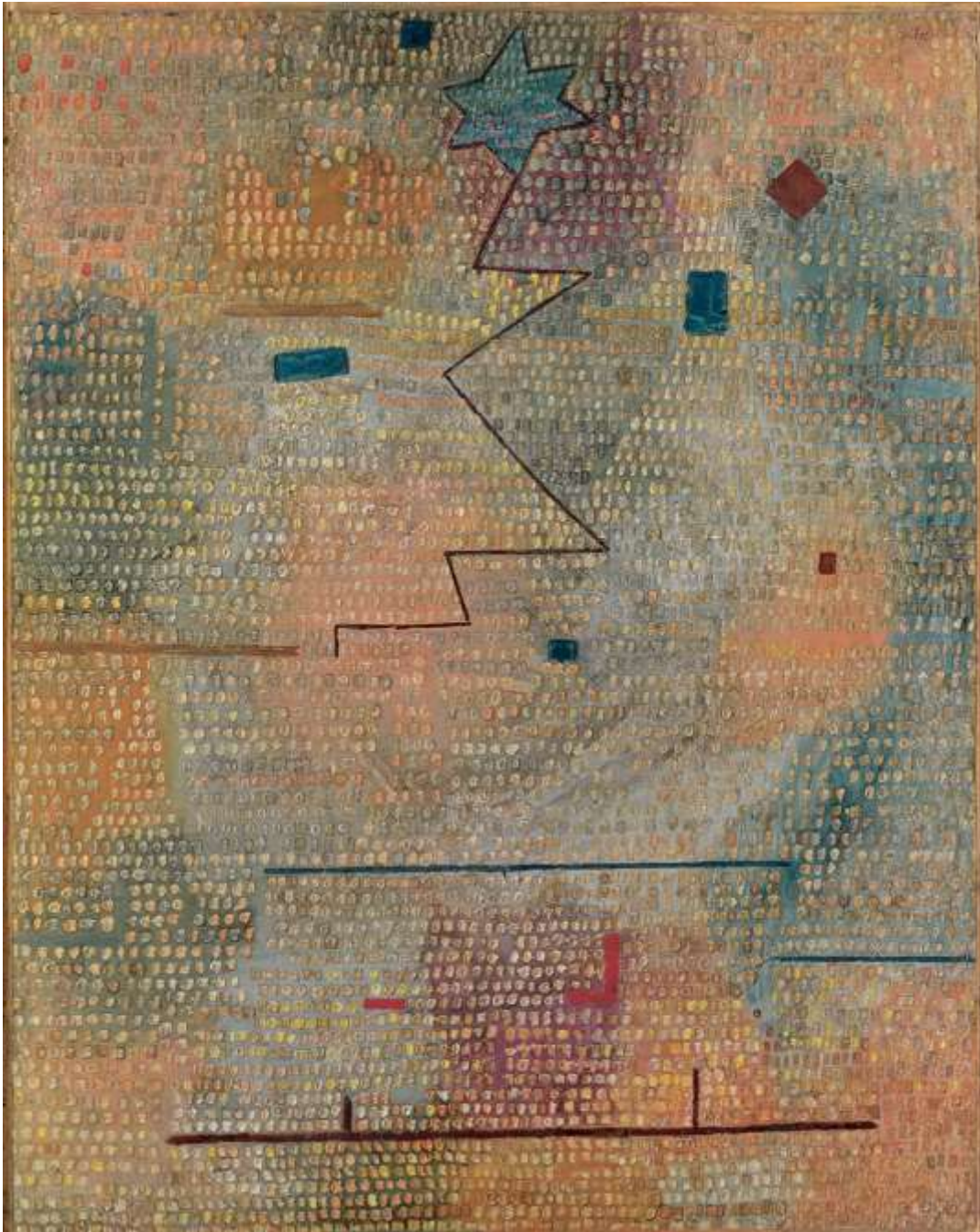




# BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Rising Star” by Paul Klee.

**January 14, 2024**  
**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

**Prelude**

Johann L. Krebs

*How Brightly Shines the Morningstar*

**Introit**

James P. Harding

*Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning*

**Ringing of the Bells**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Opening Sentences from Psalm 139**

Leader: Oh God, search me and know me. Wherever I sit or stand, you read my inner most thoughts.

**People: Whenever I walk or rest, you know where I have been. Before a word slips from my tongue you know what I will say.**

Leader: Where can I hide from you? How can I escape from your presence? I scale the heavens, you are there. How deep are your thoughts! How vast their sum.

**People: All this overwhelms me. It is too much to understand!**

**\*Opening Hymn 436**     *We Are Your People*

**Confession**

*Loving God, you have promised us mercy and a new life. Yet, we fail to live as forgiven people. We hold on to destructive habits and hold grudges. We allow our past to hold us hostage. We are reluctant to welcome newness.*

*In your kind love, have mercy on us. Free us from our shame. Let us live as your people.*

[Silent confession]

**Assurance of Pardon**

## **Sung Response Hymn 66, verse 5**

**Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.  
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

### **\*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**      *1 Samuel 3:1-10*

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me.

" But Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." So, he went and lay down.

The Lord called again, "Samuel!"

Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time.

And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore, Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So, Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

### **Anthem**

African American Spiritual arr. Luboff  
*All My Trials*

### **Gospel Reading**

*John 1:43-51*

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."

Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?"

Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."

Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."

And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

**Sermon**

Rev. Carol Howard

**Offering**

**Anthem**

F. Mendelssohn

*There Shall A Star From Jacob Rise Up*

**\*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**

**Communion**

**Invitation**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: We lift up our hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

**Breaking the Bread**

**\*Communion**

**Anthem Solo**

African American Spiritual

*Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees*

Jeremy McEvelly, Baritone Solo

## Prayer after Communion

Eternal Life-giver,  
Focus your light within us.  
Create your reign of unity now,  
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.  
Help us love beyond our ideals  
and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.  
Animate the earth within us,  
So that we might feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all.  
Untangle the knots within  
so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other.  
Don't let surface things delude us,  
But free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.  
Out of you, the astonishing fire,  
Returning light and sound to the cosmos. Amen.

**\*Hymn 525**

*Here I Am, Lord*

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**Benediction Response**

*Sevenfold Amen*

John Stainer

**\*Postlude**

*Fantasy on an Introit for the Epiphany*

M. Durufle

\*Please stand, if you are able.

## Announcements

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

### Child Care Available

*In addition to Sunday Spirit for elementary school kids, childcare is provided during worship for kids not yet in kindergarten. Please contact Courtney for more information.*

# Martin Luther King Jr. Day Service

January 14th - 4 pm  
Antioch Baptist Church,  
Bedford Hills

2024 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Events

We invite you to participate in the annual observances of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The 54th Annual Interfaith Community Worship Service will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

On Monday, January 15th we will hold the 37th Annual Educational Seminar. Our 2024 theme is, "Civil Rights: Looking Back, Marching Forward." The Interfaith Community service will feature music from the youth and adult community choirs and inspiring liturgy led by local clergy.



## SECOND SUNDAY SOUP



**Second Sunday Soup, today after worship!**

**Our next Second Sunday Soups are Feb. 11 & Mar. 10!**

**We need 2 volunteers for each!**

**If you are interested helping please email Elyssa.**

# Mistletoe Mart Organizational Meeting

Sunday, January 21st following  
the service in the Conference Room

This is an opportunity to decide how to allocate the funds from the 2023 Mart and to brainstorm new ideas and organize the 2024 Mart. Your help and ideas are greatly appreciated. Please come and bring your ideas, concerns, expertise and support. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to contribute your ideas and/or time, please email Julia Newton at [julianewton@yahoo.com](mailto:julianewton@yahoo.com).

## Quilting

Tuesdays 1 - 4 pm  
Chapel Room



Learn as you go  
from other quilters.



# Children's Offering

Collected on the 1st and  
3rd Sunday of the Month

At the end of each year, the children vote on how to gift the money collected to gifts in the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

In 2023, they donated \$1,189.50 for:



- Emergency Life Packs
- Fishing Kits
- Rainwater Catchment System
- Water Filters
- Pair of Goats
- 8 Chickens
- Farming Tools



*Join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month!*

## LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

12:30 pm - Chapel Room

# EMERGENCY SHELTER PARTNERSHIP

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 3, 2024



We are looking for volunteers to sign up for our  
March dates of ESP.

Go to the website or enews to sign up.

Email Elyssa with any questions.  
[Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org](mailto:Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org).

**In case of inclement  
weather, please check  
the BPC website by  
9 am Sunday morning  
for any updates  
regarding worship  
service.**

## 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](http://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](mailto:Office@bedfordpreschurch.org) and Elyssa at [Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org](mailto:Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org) by the end of the day Tuesdays for entry into that week's media.

## Upcoming Events at a Glance

### Sunday, January 14th

10 am	Worship and Communion
11 am	Second Sunday Soup

### Monday, January 15th Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – OFFICE CLOSED

9 am	No Yoga
------	---------

### Tuesday, January 16th

1 pm	Quilting
------	----------

### Thursday, January 18th

10 am	Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at <a href="mailto:alanmcd@verizon.net">alanmcd@verizon.net</a> .
-------	--

### Sunday, December 21st

10 am	Worship and Youth Collection
11 am	Coffee Hour, Session Meeting & Mistletoe Mart meeting

# Our Leadership

## Session

**Clerk of Session, Michelle Gosh, President Brian Hiller-Dupont,**

Anne Bentzen, Linda Burpee (Mission),  
Jessica Cunningham (Personnel and Stewardship),  
Amy Drabek, Danielle Gamar (Christian Education),  
Ashley Glod-Hayes, Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm),  
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, Andres Mejía,  
Diane Palmento, and Lisa Sayre

## Staff

The Reverend Carol Howard, Pastor

The Reverend Courtney Steininger, Minister of Christian Education

John Lettieri, Director of Music

Jessica DeAlto, Administrative and Financial Manager

Elyssa Michaels, Director of Congregational Life & Digital Ministries

The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

Office@bedfordpreschurch.org www.bedfordpreschurch.org  
P.O. Box 280, 44 Village Green, Bedford, NY 10506  
914-234-3672