



# BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Desert Cross" by Judi Forney

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prelude

*Our Father*

G. Bohm

Ringing of the Bells

Introit

*Lord Have Mercy*

Swee Hong Lim

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Opening Sentences**

Leader: God loves us with a steadfast love.

**People: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!**

Leader: God loves us so much god gave us the Son.

**People: Let us believe and have eternal life!**

Leader: God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.

**People: Let us have faith to receive this grace!**

**\*Opening Hymn 85**    *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Confession and Pardon

**Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by your saving activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put all our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people.**

Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

Amen. Hear the loving truth of God: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned.

Believe the promise of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

**Sung Response 303** *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

**Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll, While the tempest still is high:  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, Till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

*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**

*Numbers 21:4-9*

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put

it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

**Anthem**

*Ave Verum Corpus*

C. Saint-Saens

**Gospel Lesson**

*John 3:14-21*

“And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**Sermon**

Rev. Courtney Steininger

*“God’s Reconciling Work”*

**Offering**

**Offertory Anthem** *Create in Me A Clean Heart*

J. Berger

**\*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**

Holy source of all that is good, you have shown us yourself in abundance and mercy, in grace and abiding care. Knowing of your enduring providence, we may come to you with the concerns that weigh heavily on us...

**O cosmic Birther of all radiance and vibration! Soften the ground of our being and carve out a space within us where your Presence can abide. Fill us with your creativity so that we may be empowered to bear the fruit of your mission. Let each of our actions bear fruit in accordance with our desire. Endow us with the wisdom to produce and share what each being needs to grow and flourish. Untie the tangled threads of destiny that bind us, as we release others from the entanglement of past mistakes. Do not let us be seduced by that which would divert us from our true purpose, but illuminate the opportunities of the present moment. For you are the ground and the fruitful vision, the birth, the power and the fulfillment, as all is gathered and made whole once again. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 275**

*God of Our Life*

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**\*Sung Response**

*The Peace of the Earth*

John Bell

**\*Postlude**

*Fugue in e*

J. S. Bach

\*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.*

## Easter Flowers

*Decorate the church for Easter*

With a \$25 donation you can add beautiful flowers to the sanctuary. We welcome you to submit a dedication that will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

You can pay by check or on our website. Dedications should be emailed or mailed to the office. Deadline is March 17th.



Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month!

## LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

12:30 pm - Chapel Room

A teal background with a decorative border of white rabbits and carrots. In the center is a large white egg containing the text. To the left and right are smaller white circles with text. The bottom of the image features a row of colorful flowers.

Help needed for the

**EASTER RECEPTION**

GO TO THE WEBSITE OR ENEWS TO FIND THE SIGN UP.

March 31  
10 am -  
between  
the  
services

Please  
check the  
sign up for  
the items  
needed.

## Holy Week & Easter Schedule

**3/24 - Palm Sunday**

Easter Egg Dying

**3/28 - Maundy Thursday**

7 pm Service

**3/29 - Good Friday**

Sanctuary open

9 am - 3 pm

Labyrinth in the

Chapel Room

**3/31 - Easter Sunday**

9 am & 11 am services

10 am - Reception &

Easter Egg Hunt

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Today begins Daylight Savings.

Please remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Smoke detectors save lives!!!!



# Easter Activities for the Kids

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH -  
11 AM - EGG DYING

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST -  
10 AM - EGG HUNG



In case of inclement weather, please check the BPC website for notices regarding delayed openings and Sunday Worship.

Monday thru Friday, BPC follows the Bedford Central School District's determination on school closings and delays.

## Quilting



Tuesdays 1 - 4 pm  
Chapel Room

Learn as you go  
from other quilters.



Youth Group  
**MIDNIGHT  
RUN**



S a t u r d a y , M a r c h 2 3 r d



With Temple Shaaray Tefila

Adults from BPC are invited to chaperone and drive, as well as donate snacks, sandwiches, and hygiene supplies.

Please contact [courtney@bedfordpreschurh.org](mailto:courtney@bedfordpreschurh.org) to sign up to donate.



ReSET Westchester, Inc.  
[www.resetwestchester.org](http://www.resetwestchester.org)

**ReSET Westchester needs help!!**

As ReSET continues to resettle refugees, we find ourselves in a crisis, scrambling to find housing options.

Can you help our team make phone calls to potential landlords?

Do you know anyone who may have a space that could house a family (any size)? It could be temporary or longer term.

We would appreciate any connections or help that our community can provide. Together we can help these families start their new lives here on a more positive note after all the trauma they have been exposed to.

Please contact Elyssa Michaels or Linda Burpee to help.



**COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER**  
30 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors

communitycenternw.org

*Research shows that for low-income children, a college degree is one of the most important factors affecting the likelihood of upward income mobility and long-term success.*

## SUPPORT A STUDENT'S EDUCATIONAL DREAMS!

Recognizing this startling reality, the Community Center launched our Dowling Educational Scholarship Program in 2008. This scholarship program was established to provide encouragement and financial assistance to local qualified individuals of limited means to help them continue on their educational journey and achieve their goals.

Please consider donating to our Dowling Educational Scholarship fund and help change the life of a local student looking to continue their education and secure a brighter future.

Thanks to the generosity of the following members of BPC's congregation, 20 of our neighbors without homes of their own found warm shelter, delicious dinners, hot showers, portable takeaway food, and loving hospitality through the chilly week of February 26 - March 3rd. The Emergency Shelter Partnership (ESP) is sustained by the person-to-person collective care of congregations like ours at Bedford Presbyterian Church, and that takes individual commitment.

We are deeply grateful for everyone's participation and invite anyone interested to join in the effort next season. To participate, contact either ESP Coordinator, Elizabeth Messinger at [ehjmessinger@gmail.com](mailto:ehjmessinger@gmail.com) (914-980-0059) or BPC's Director of Congregational Life, Elyssa Michaels at [elyssa@befordpreschurch.org](mailto:elyssa@befordpreschurch.org).

### ESP January volunteers 🍷:

Sarah Alley  
Tate Atkinson & Tracy Tegtmeier  
Brett Beeson  
Anne Bentzen  
Bob Black  
Jon Brandi & The Arc  
Westchester  
Linda Burpee  
Kathy DiBiasi

Nancy Gernert  
Ashley Glod-Hayes  
H.C.C. Power of  
One/Unity Club  
Barbara Kanner  
Frieda Kautsky  
Kim Lapple  
Elizabeth Messinger  
Elyssa Michaels

Judy Newton  
Anne Payne  
Chris & Kathy Perry  
Cecelia Rosenblum  
Sarah Ryan  
Inger Savitt  
Lisa Sayre  
Andrew Strawcutter  
Emily Waggenheim



## 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, March 10th**

10 am

11 am

#### **4th Sunday in Lent / Daylight Savings**

Worship

Second Sunday Soup

#### **Monday, March 11th**

9 am

Yoga

#### **Tuesday, March 12th**

12:30 pm

1 pm

Lunch with Friends

Quilting

#### **Thursday, March 14th**

10 am

Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at [alanmcd@verizon.net](mailto:alanmcd@verizon.net).

#### **Sunday, March 17th**

10 am

11 am

4 pm

#### **5th Sunday in Lent**

Worship and Youth Collection

Coffee Hour and Session Meeting

Skylark Concert

# Our Leadership

## Session

**Clerk of Session Michelle Gosh, President Brian Hiller-Dupont** (Worship),  
Anne Bentzen (Vision), Linda Burpee (Mission),  
Jessica Cunningham (Personnel),  
Amy Drabek (Nominating Committee & Nativity Farm),  
Danielle Gamar (Christian Education),  
Ashley Glod-Hayes (Friends & Members),  
Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm),  
Sarah Ryan (Property & Maintenance),  
& Bart Tyler (Finance)  
Moderator Reverend Carol Howard

## Deacons

**Chair Kim Lapple**, Sarah Alley,  
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

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