



Bedford Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021 at 10 AM

Worship-at-a-Distance Format

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

“Morning Has Broken”

Lynn Wahle and Peggy Brown, Handbell Duo

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor John Sawyer

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Worship (Responsive from Psalm 147)

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

Praise the Lord!

How good it is to sing praises to our God.

For God is gracious and it is right to sing a song of praise to the Lord.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers the outcasts.

The Lord determines the number of the stars and gives them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

Let us worship God, together.

Hymn # 657 (see below) “Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness”

GLENDON

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

God, you are everlasting, the Creator of all that is. Your understanding is beyond measure. We confess to you that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

In your compassion, forgive us, for we place our hope in your steadfast love.

Amen.

Praise the Lord! Our God heals the brokenhearted and binds up our wounds. God takes pleasure in those who place their trust in God’s grace. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Hallelujah! Amen.

Sung Response

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me;

And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me;

And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end, without end, Amen. (Repeat 2x)

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

Children’s Sermon

Pastor John Sawyer

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Pastor John Sawyer

Listen now for the Word of God. **Our ears are open. . .**

. . . The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"All the All Things
(By All Means Necessary)

Pastor John Sawyer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn # 157 (see below)

"I Danced in the Morning"

LORD OF THE DANCE

Affirmation of Faith – from the Confession of Belhar (10.3)

Deacon Kevin Avery

We believe. . . that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity. . . We believe that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

Call for the Offering

Deacon Kevin Avery

Offertory

"The Lord's Prayer"
Lynn Wahle, Handbell Soloist

Malotte

*At this time, you are invited to offer your tithes and offerings,
by writing a check and putting it in an envelope to the church,
or through our church's online giving website
(<https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/giving/one-time-gifts-pledges/>),
or by scanning this QR code and making a donation.*



*Your giving has a direct impact on the ministry and mission
of Bedford Presbyterian Church!
Thank you!*

Song of Response

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit, One.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**We sing to you, God, with thanksgiving, making melody to you with our praise.
Use these gifts to spread your gospel near and far, for the sake of your Son, Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Invitation to the Table**

Pastor John Sawyer

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

At this time in the service, you are invited to use any bread that you have along with any beverage (preferably grape-based) to participate in the Lord's Supper. As Presbyterians, we believe that the Holy Spirit connects us to one another and to the Table at God's heavenly feast no matter where we are.

Prayers After Communion and The 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.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn # 529 (see below) "Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether"

UNION SEMINARY

Charge and Benediction and Peace

Pastor John Sawyer

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And with you.

Closing Song

NORTHUMBRIA MORNING BLESSING

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home, rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home, rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude



Liturgists and Leaders in today's worship service –

The Reverend John Sawyer, Pastor

Barbara Flocco, Music Director

Elder Alicia Wooldridge, Liturgist

Deacon Kevin Avery, Liturgist

Lynn Wahle and Peggy Brown, Special Musicians

Marc Murai, Elder Mike Chen, and Kirk Wilson Technical Assistance

Information on ways to access audio and video versions of today's service can be found at www.bedfordpresbyterian.org.

**Notice is hereby given for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
TODAY, Sunday, February 7, at 11:15 AM on Zoom.**

**The purpose of this meeting will be to hear about present and future ministries of BPC
and vote on the Pastor's Terms of Call.**

**Please see the link and/or phone number that was sent to you in the Hilltop Crier and/or
look for the letter that was sent to your home mailbox,
telling you how to access the meeting.**

657 Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness

(Psalm 147)

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (D)
 Refrain F Dm Gm7 C F



Sing to God, with joy and glad - ness, hymns and

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (Bm) (Em7)
 Dm Gm7 F Dm Gm7



psalms of grat - i - tude; with the voice of praise

(A) (D) (Bm) (Em7) (D)
 C F Dm Gm7 F *Fine*



dis - cov - er that to wor - ship God is good.

(Bm) (Em7) (A) (F#) (G)
 Dm Gm7 C A B^b



1 God u - nites the scat - tered peo - ple, gath - ers
 2 Such is God's great power and wis - dom, none can
 3 God with clouds the sky has cur - tained, thus en -
 4 God's dis - cern - ment nev - er fa - vors strength or

(Em) (F#) (F#7) (Bm) (Em7) (A)
 Gm A A7 Dm Gm7 C



those who wan - dered far, heals the hurt and bro - ken
 cal - cu - late or tell; keen is God to ground the
 sur - ing rain shall fall; earth, re - spond - ing, grows to
 speed to lift or move; God de - lights in those who

The five songs of praise that conclude the biblical psalter (Psalms 146–150) all begin and end with “Hallelujah!” That ecstatic Hebrew word is expanded here into the refrain that opens and closes this paraphrase of Psalm 147, an appropriate frame for its theme of thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING

to Refrain

(D) (G) (Em7) (A) (D)
 F B \flat Gm7 C F

spir - its,
 wick - ed
 or - der
 wor - ship,

tend - ing
 and with
 food for
 trust - ing

ev - ery
 hum - ble
 crea - tures
 in God's

wound and
 folk to
 great and
 stead - fast

scar.
 dwell.
 small.
 love.

157 I Danced in the Morning

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The
4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †

(Em) (A)
Gm C

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me, †

(Em) (A7) (G) (D)
Gm C7 Bb F

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
came with me and the dance went on.
left me there on a cross to die.
I am the dance and I still go on.
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

This 20th-century ballad-like retelling of the life of Christ, though written for this Shaker tune, has many similarities with the pre-Reformation carol "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day." Such narrative carols were common both at Christmas and as part of medieval mystery plays.

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

Refrain

(F#m) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (D) (Bm)
 Am Dm Am Dm F Dm

Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

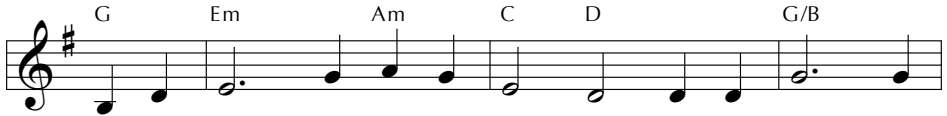
(Em) (A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)
 Gm C F Dm F C7 F

Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be,

(Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 Gm C7 F Bb F

and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether 529



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Here we touch your gar - ment's hem.
 lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
 lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This communion text calls attention to the inherent sacramental nature of all meals and the communal dimensions of all human interaction. The tune, originally composed for an anthem setting of this text, honors the institution where the composer was trained and later taught.