

**BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

4 Church Road, Bedford, NH 03110

Phone (603) 472-5841 Fax (603) 472-5708

www.bedfordpresbyterian.org/Facebook.com/bedfordpresbyterianchurch

**CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Karen J. Hagy, *Co-Pastor*

The Rev. John Sawyer, *Co-Pastor*

Barbara Flocco, *Music Director*

Michelle Jones, *Administrative Assistant*

The Rev. Harold G. Williams, Jr., *Pastor Emeritus*

*During worship, please refrain from taking flash photos and silence your cell phones.*

**In an emergency, call Pastor Sawyer (478-335-1628) or Pastor Hagy (603-714-5628)**

**Elder of the Day** – Laurie Storey-Manseau

**Deacon of the Day** – Kathryn Sampson

**Flowers today** are given in “loving memory of my parents, Jack and Anne Teach,” by Judy Crandall.

**BPC CALENDAR**

Sun. 3/11 10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School Classes, Nursery

11:00 a.m. Fellowship/New Member Class

Wed. 3/14 8:30 a.m. Hilltop Ringers

6-7:15 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Lenten Potluck and Bible Study

7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thurs. 3/15 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts

Sun. 3/18 10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School Classes, Nursery

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

5:00 p.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Youth Group and Confirmation Class

**Giving at Bedford Presbyterian Church** – BPC is a generous church! We give thanks that the members and friends of our congregation give of their time, talent, and treasure. Giving your gifts at BPC makes a direct impact on the ways that the love of God through the good news of Jesus Christ is shared. In order to make giving even easier, we are introducing a QR scanner code for your smartphone. Download a free QR app to your phone and scan the code (<<<<), which will take you directly to our giving website. It’s fun, fast, easy, and makes a huge difference to our ministry! Thank you!

**BPC is now a beneficiary of Amazon Smile!** [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) Smile will donate 0.5% of each purchase when BPC is selected as the charitable organization. So for every \$100 of purchases 50 cents is received. You can access [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and benefit BPC using this QR Code:



**Per Capita** is the way in which all PCUSA church members contribute to the denomination’s mission. This year’s per capita is \$47 per member! Please note “Per Capita” in memo line if paying by check.



# Bedford Presbyterian Church

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 11, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.**

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church. Our doors are open wide and we are glad you are here! Guests, we invite you to take a welcome packet found in our narthex. Disciple Doodle Boards are available in the narthex for older children to use during the service. Thank you and welcome everyone!

**GATHERING TOGETHER**

**Chimes**

**Prelude**

“I Want to Walk as A Child of the Light”

Manz

**Welcome**

Co-Pastor John Sawyer

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

**Call to Worship** (Responsive) From Psalm 107

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

God has saved us from trouble and gathered us in.

**From the east and the west, from the north and the south.**

Some wandered in desert wastes, some sat in darkness and gloom, some were sickened by sin, some were caught in a storm.

**And God gave them water to drink, light in dark times, freedom from sin, and a safe harbor.**

God turns a desert into pools of water, God raises up the needy out of distress.

**Let those who are wise consider the steadfast love of the Lord.**

Come, let us worship God!

**Let us worship God, together!**

**\*Hymn #314**

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

vs. 2 Women; vs. 3 Choir; vs. 4 Men

**Call to Confession**

Elder Laurie Storey-Manseau

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and our own hypocrisy. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth’s goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish**

ways, that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray...

### Silent Prayer

**Assurance of Pardon** (responsive) Elder Laurie Storey-Manseau  
Sisters and brothers, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### \*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

### \*Statement of Faith from the Confession of 1967 (unison)

The risen Christ is the savior of all people. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations. The same Jesus Christ is the judge of all people. His judgment discloses the ultimate seriousness of life and gives promise of God's final victory over the power of sin and death. To receive life from the risen Lord is to have life eternal; to refuse life from him is to choose death which is separation from God. All who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer. (9.10-9.11)

### ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

**Children's Message** Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

### The Lord's Prayer ("debts")

**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.**

**First Scripture Reading** Ephesians 2:1-10

**Anthem** "God So Loved the World" Stainer

**Second Scripture Reading** John 3:14-21

**Sermon** "Learning to *Belove* the Light" Co-Pastor John Sawyer  
(By Grace You Have Been Saved)

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\***Hymn #377** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

**Call for the Offering** Deacon Kathryn Sampson

**Offertory Anthem** "Be Still My Soul" (#819 in Red Hymnal)  
Senior Choir and Hilltop Ringers Sibelius arr. McChesney

### Offering

\***Doxology** (Tune: *Old Hundreth*)  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts – praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Prayer of Dedication** (unison) Deacon Kathryn Sampson  
**Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among us. Accept these offerings with the dedication of our lives and help us to be living examples of your steadfast love to the world. In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People** Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

\***The Peace**  
May the Peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
*Please greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.*

### GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\***Hymn #226** "There in God's Garden"  
vs. 2 Women; vs. 3 Men; vs. 4 Choir

\***Benediction** Co-Pastors John Sawyer and Karen Hagy  
Sisters and brothers, we have received the immeasurable riches of God's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.  
**We go forth to share this gift with all people.**  
May the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the light of the Spirit bless you and keep you in the way of truth.  
**Amen!**

**Postlude** "Go Forth and Serve" K. Lee Scott

\**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

### MyBPC and CCB Website Tutorial

Come and learn how to access MyBPC, get help downloading and signing up for the app on your phone, learn how to view your giving statement online, sign up to help usher, RSVP for events and receive reminders for important events at the Church. We will have people on hand to get you set up, answer your questions and show you how to do it all. Please join us in the Youth Lounge following the Worship Service on March 25th.

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### Interested in Exploring Membership at BPC?

Join us for good conversation and lunch where you can learn about all things Presbyterian and BPC!

TODAY: Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00AM - Downstairs in the Youth Activity Room

Together, we will get to know each other better and we learn about our faith, church membership, ways to get involved at BPC, what BPC's identity, values, and ministry goals are, how to join the church and the importance of stewardship in our lives. If you wanted to know more about what it means to be Presbyterian, this is the class for you!

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### Mission Opportunities

**Helping Hands** - Please consider volunteering with Helping Hands on the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. On each of these Saturdays we will be working on projects at the Dismas House in Manchester. Contact George Reese at 714-4317 or at georeese@msn.com.

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### BPC Variety Show - April 15 at 6:30 PM

Do you juggle? Do you sing? Can you dribble a basketball? Can you play a musical instrument? Can you do a magic trick? Do you have a hidden talent that's just waiting to be seen? WE WANT YOU!!!

Do you want to see your talented BPC family in action for a night of fun entertainment? WE WANT YOU, TOO!!!

On Sunday, April 15, join us for the BPC Variety Show at 6:30 PM! It's going to be a fun night of celebrating the talents of our congregation AND will be a fundraiser for our upcoming Youth service project called "Rise Against Hunger." Tickets are \$10 per person (\$20 per family) and all proceeds will go to feeding hungry people around the world.

Sign-ups to perform in the Variety Show are on the bulletin board outside the Church Office or feel free to contact John Sawyer ([jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org](mailto:jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org)). We have a limited number of slots, so sign up soon!

### Meet Your Deacon at Coffee Hour on 3/25, Palm Sunday!

Did you know that you are part of a BPC flock and that you have a Deacon who is shepherd to your flock?

On Palm Sunday, March 25th, come to 10AM worship and hear a Minute for Mission about the Deacon's call to care and compassion at BPC and then join the Deacon's for a delicious coffee hour! At coffee hour, you will learn which Deacon shepherd's your flock so that way when you receive outreach calls from the Deacon's, you will personally know your Deacon! We hope to strengthen ties of friendship and caring through our Deacon shepherding/flock program. Please know you are prayed for and cared for by BPC's Board of Deacons!

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### Adult Ministry Offerings

#### New Testament Bible Study

Wonderful Wednesday Night Bible Study and Potluck: Offered Wednesday Nights in the Fellowship Hall from 6-7:15 continuing 3/14, 3/21, and 3/28. Last fall, our faithful crew finished up our Wednesday Night study of the Old Testament! Starting Wednesday, February 21 we will have the joy of beginning our consideration of the New Testament! Everyone is invited to join in! Bring a dish to share and we will dive right into the following topics:

3/14 Early Traditions about Jesus

3/21 Mark – Suffering Son of God

3/28 Matthew – Jesus The Messiah

#### Lenten Book Club

In March, all members of this book club will read Philip Newell's, *A New Harmony: The Spirit, the Earth, and the Human Soul*, a wonderful, inspiring book regarding a more holistic harmonious approach to life, which emphasizes the Celtic approach to the oneness of humanity and creation. Then on Sunday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the Living Room, we will gather together for a meeting to discuss the book with Marcia Morgan who will facilitate. Books will be available at the end of February in the office for \$10.00 and a sign-up sheet will be outside the office soon! See Pastor Karen for more information.

**\*\*Please Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th!!!**

## **Lent and Easter Happenings!**

### **Palm Sunday, March 25th.**

Kids are invited to join in the palm parade in worship! Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:50 a.m.

### **Children's Ministry Easter Event and Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 31st from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at BPC! 0-5th Grade Invited!**

There will be stories to tell, scripture and songs to share, crafting fun to create, an egg hunt to celebrate, and of course, yummy snacks all in the hopes of helping us to learn more about the meaning of Easter!

Bring your Easter baskets and wear a homemade hat or bonnet! A prize will be awarded to the most creative hat/bonnet!

Please RSVP to the office by emailing [mjones@bedfordpresbyterian.org](mailto:mjones@bedfordpresbyterian.org).

### **8:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 1st, Family Worship**

Confirmands will be welcomed into membership with songs, prayer, and celebration! No Sunday School or Nursery this day.

### **10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 1st, Traditional Worship**

Brass with Senior Choir and the Hilltop Ringers. No Sunday School or Nursery this day.

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