



Bedford Presbyterian Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020 at 10 AM

Worship-at-a-Distance Format

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" Vaughan Williams/Callahan

Welcome and Announcements Pastor John Sawyer

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Worship (Responsive from Psalm 66) Elder Kathy Loveless

Bless the Lord, all people of the earth!

Let the sound of our praise be heard.

God has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

We have been tested and tried, but God has brought us to a spacious place.

Come and hear, all you who fear the Lord, and we will say what God has done for us.

We cried aloud to God and we praised the Lord.

And God answered us. God listened.

Bless the Lord, because God's love for us is steadfast.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

Let us worship God, together.

Hymn # 407 (see below) "Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers" NUN DANKET ALL 'UND BRINGET HER'

Prayer of the Day

Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ's love in the world.
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

Special Music "Come Down, O Love Divine" Vaughan Williams
Louise Cramer, soprano

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading John 14:15-21

Listen now for the Word of God.

Our ears are open. . .

Second Scripture Reading 1 Peter 3:13-22 Pastor John Sawyer

. . . The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Do the Right Thing”
(Easter Encouragement – Part 5)

Pastor John Sawyer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn # 822 (see below)

“When We Are Living”

SOMOS DEL SENOR

Affirmation of Faith – from the Brief Statement of Faith (11.4)

Deacon Deb Sferrazza

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. . . In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” Amen.

Call for the Offering

Offertory

“When My Soul Goes Home”

Maddux

*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!*

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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 Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Loving God, we give you thanks that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commands. Bless these gifts and use them to reveal your love in Jesus Christ to all nations. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (“debts/debtors”)

Pastor John Sawyer

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 # 757 (see below) "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

KINGSFOLD

Charge and Benediction and Peace

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

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Page



Liturgists and Leaders in today's worship service –

The Reverend John Sawyer, Pastor

Mrs. Barbara Flocco, Music Director

Elder Kathy Loveless, Liturgist

Deacon Deb Sferrazza, Liturgist

Louise Cramer, Soloist

Elder Marcia Morgan, Technical Assistance

Mr. Bill Jennings and Mr. Mark Murai, Bedford Community Television

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

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers 407

1 Spir - it di - vine, at - tend our prayers, and make this
 2 Come as the light. To us re - veal our emp - ti -
 3 Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sac - ri -
 4 Come as the dove and spread your wings, the wings of
 5 Spir - it di - vine, at - tend our prayers. Make a lost

house your home. De - scend with all your
 ness and woe. And lead us in those
 fi - cial flame. Let our whole soul an
 peace - ful love. And let the church on
 world your home. De - scend with all your

gra - cious powers. O come, great Spir - it, come!
 paths of life where all the righ - teous go.
 of - fering be to our Re - deem - er's name.
 earth be - come blest as the church a - bove.
 gra - cious powers. O come, great Spir - it, come!

The subtle changes between the first and last stanzas here are important; they reveal how the gift of the Holy Spirit transforms and widens our concern from ourselves to the world around us. The tune is named for the text it first set, "Now let all thank and bring honor."

When We Are Living 822

Pues si vivimos



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

1 *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,*
 2 *En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar*
 3 *En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,*
 4 *En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá*



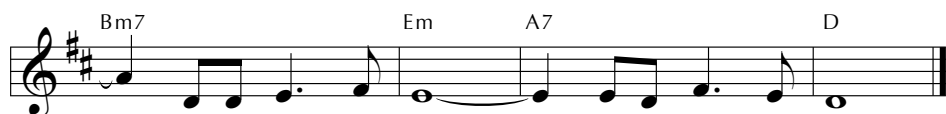
and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
y bue - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be - long to God; we be - long to God.
so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7–8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.

TEXT: Stanza 1, anon.; English trans. Elise S. Eslinger, 1983;
 stanzas 2–4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983; English trans. George Lockwood, 1987
 MUSIC: Spanish melody; arr. Barbara C. Mink, 1988

English Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Spanish Text Sts. 2–4 © 1983 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Music Arr. © 1988 Barbara C. Mink (admin. Community of Christ)

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
 10.10.10.10

757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.