

**\*Benediction Song** (Tune of *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending*)  
*In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
Let our lives and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain,  
There's a place of deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
In the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.*

**Postlude** "Postlude on Beach Sprint" arr. Collingsworth



**Bedford Presbyterian Church**  
**Lent: Busy-Reconnecting with an Unhurried God**  
**Lent 2 "Preparing a Table"**  
**March 17, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.**

***Taking a Breather***

*As we gather together each Sunday in Lent, we will use the first part of our service to slow down, to settle our souls so that we might reconnect with an "unhurried God."*

**Chimes**

**Gathering Music** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Thompson

**Welcome**

**Slow It Down – Threshold Moment**

Listening to the Voices

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy, Elder Manny Barreto & Elder Alicia Wooldridge

Song of Response-2X (Tune *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending*)

***Come and find the quiet center in the crowded lives we lead***

***Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:***

***Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see***

***All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be...***

**Catching Our Breath**

**Invitation to Breathe**

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

**Prayer for Clearing Out**

Table-setting God, we come today hungry for company.

**Let us make room for You.**

Draw us in to this time of worship to sit down at the place you have prepared for us.

**Let us find room for you.**

Help us clear out the calendar of our lives to make room for you and others in it.

**Let us be room for you.**

In the name of Jesus, who invites us to wholeness, let us worship the Lord!

**Amen.**

**\*Opening Song #187** "Savior like a Shepherd Lead Us"

**Peace Be With You**

Before you settle back into your seats, please take time to connect with people around you. Start a brief conversation this way, "Who do you need to connect with?" Listen for the answer and then share your answer to the question with your neighbor.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14 – CHILDREN'S PALM PARADE  
(KIDS MEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 9:45 A.M.)

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 18 – SERVICE AT 7:00 P.M.  
GUEST SOLOIST BOBBIE THOMPSON

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 – OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY APRIL 20 – 10-11:30 A.M.  
"THE EASTER STORY"

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM THROUGH FIFTH GRADE  
BRING YOUR EASTER BASKET! RSVP TO 472-5841

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21  
8:30 A.M. FAMILY WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN'S MESSAGE  
10:30 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP WITH SENIOR CHOIR AND  
HANDBELLS

### ***Taking Note***

*The second part of our service invites us to “take note” of what God is saying to us this day, through the children and people, through the music, through the prayers and through the sermon.*

#### **Hanging Out** – Co-Pastor John Sawyer

Children are invited forward for the Children’s Message as the choir sings the following:

***Take time to be holy, speak oft with the Lord;***

***Abide in him always and feed on his Word.***

***Make friends of God’s children, help those who are weak,***

***Forgetting in nothing, his blessing to seek.***

#### **Reconnecting with Scripture:** Psalm 23 KJV

Elder Manny Barreto

*The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

#### **Senior Choir Anthem**

“The Lord is My Shepherd”

Chilcott

Sarah Murai, Soprano

#### **Focusing on the Main Thing as You Lean into Your Week** Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

The 23rd Psalm is a great comfort to us as we imagine the green pastures and still waters. It also recalls the dark valleys and calls us into the not so easy practice of sitting down at the table with our enemies. An unhurried God is present with us in the good time AND the difficult times and invites us to be radically present to each other in the same way. Have we been too busy to really be present to one another? Especially in the difficult times, is it really working HARDER (which can isolate us) that will bring us out of our discomfort? What can you take away from today’s service that will help you be present to God and the people you love and help you find comfort and peace?

#### **Song of Response # 802** “The King of Love my Shepherd Is”

vs. 1 & 6 All; vs. 2 Men; vs. 3 Women; vs. 4 Choir; vs. 5 omit

### ***Taking Care***

*The third part of our service is our response to having listened for God’s Word.*

*We take care to quiet our souls, focus through prayer, offering what is really important, really essential, to lives lived with faith and we listen to the Divine Spirit that is moving on our lives.*

#### **“Time Out” in the Prayer Chair**

Co-Pastor John Sawyer

#### **\*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.**

#### **Notice What’s Important by Calling for the Offering**

Deacon Kathryn Sampson

#### **Offertory**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

arr. Hayes

#### **\*Doxology** (*Tune of OLD 100th*)

***For time to savor God’s good gifts. For space to breathe and hearts to lift.***

***For ways to reach out and to give. We offer thanks and vow to live!***

#### **Prayer of Dedication** (Unison)

**Great Shepherd, we thank you for finding us and bringing us to this time of prayer. As you illumine our lives with insights and possibilities, we reach out to share your love through our tithes and offerings and our investments of time and energy in tasks you call us to do. All this we offer now for your blessing. Let us dwell with you and serve you wherever we go. Amen.**

### ***Taking it Out***

*The final movement of our service is a time of committing to take a bit of this serenity and peace out into the busy world. We are reminded to “keep the main thing the main thing.”*

#### **\*Song # 769**

“For Everyone Born”

#### **Invitation to Lenten Practices**

So, when you get home, find a chair that will be your Prayer Chair for Lent. We have today’s prayer ready for you to use. And if you were not at the Ash Wednesday Service, check out the insert about the Lenten daily practice of the Prayer Chair and God’s Box you can do at home. The Church’s God Box will be available throughout the Lenten season whenever you need to add to it.

#### **\*Blessing for the Unhurried Life**

May you find green pastures and still waters along your way. May you set tables and talk to loved ones about the deepest things you know. May your life be emptied of meaningless rambling and be filled with meaningful encounters. And may you be reacquainted daily with an unhurried God who is calling you to dive deeply into love.

**Let us go now to love and serve the Lord!**

**Rise Against Hunger**  
**Tonight, Sunday, March 17 - 6 PM**

Rise Against Hunger is a world-wide organization that sends food to people who are food insecure. They work with churches and other organizations who host events at which thousands of meals are packed for future use. Last year, members of the BPC Youth Group and some adult helpers packed 10,000 meals in a couple of hours.

This year, YOU are invited to join us do do the same tonight at 6 PM in the Fellowship Hall. See you there! :)

**TAKE HOME PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR YOUR WEEK – LENT 2**

Unhurried Good Shepherd, what a healing balm it is to know we can trust you with our lives. Thank you for your care for you restore our souls, give us peace, and bring us hope in our tomorrows.

This week please help us to slow down...to stop our busy, busy lives... to find a quiet place to seek you...

We are so grateful for your great love for us. Lead us. Guide us. Assure us that we are safe under your care.

Thank you that goodness and mercy follow us and with you, we have nothing to fear.

Help us to extend love, care, and compassion to members of your flock who are on the journey with us and are in need.

Through our welcome and hospitality this Lent, grant that we may enlarge your flock, adding to the fold.

We give thanks for the assurance we will dwell with you forever.

Amen.

**23rd Psalm**

*The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; though anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**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.*

*Please help us take care of our new carpet!*

*Water and baby bottles are A-ok; coffee, tea, and food please keep away.*

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

**Elder of the Day** – Manny Barreto

**Deacon of the Day** – Kathryn Sampson

**Flowers today are given** “in loving memory of my daughter, Kimberlie” by Diane Italia.

**BPC CALENDAR**

Sun. 3/17	10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship, Adult Education 6:00 p.m. Rise Against Hunger
Wed. 3/20	8:30 a.m. Hilltop Ringers 6-7 p.m. Dinner and Discussion 7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. 3/21	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Sun. 3/24	10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship

\*\*\*\*\*

**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 to our giving website. It's fun, fast, easy, and makes a huge difference to our ministry!

**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:



**SUNDAY MORNING LENTEN BOOK STUDY**  
**The Cross in Our Context: Jesus and the Suffering World**

Crosses. We see them all over the world. We even wear them around our necks. We know the cross is somehow central to our Christian faith. But have we studied its deeper meaning for our everyday lives, for the church, politics and ethics and human destiny? Here is your chance to do so, in our Lenten Book Study, with Douglas Hall's book, **The Cross in Our Context: Jesus and the Suffering World**, facilitated by our own Bob Godbout, Ph.D.

Much of Christendom today has adopted a "theology of triumphalism", in line with our general cultural attitude of endless progress and "positive thinking" but sadly, blind to much of our suffering world. Yet we believe in and worship a "suffering God"! In this class, we will explore the importance and radical relevance of the cross of Christ in our present context, where neglect of the cross puts our lives out of balance, even approaching a kind of cultural pathology.

Books (used) are available now – \$5 minimum donation. Pick up outside the offices on the table.

Bob Godbout is qualified to lead us into Hall's theology, with higher degrees in philosophy, psychotherapy and theology. Bob will provide a study guide for Hall's book. Join us for this relevant Lenten study: Sundays, March 17, 24, 31; April 7 & 14 at 11:00 a.m. downstairs in the Living Room.

\*\*\*\*\*

**LENTEN WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER AND DISCUSSION CONTINUES!**  
**BRING A DISH TO SHARE AT 6 P.M. AND JOIN US IN A LIVELY DISCUSSION OF**

**How can we re-read Jesus' provocative parables?**

*Short stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi* takes you back in time and explains how original audiences understood Jesus' parables. Professor Amy Jill Levine's interpretations show how the parables still challenge and provoke contemporary readers two thousand years later.

The *Short Stories by Jesus* DVD contains six video sessions. The sessions are:

1. Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son
2. The Good Samaritan
3. The Pearl of Great Price
4. The Mustard Seed
5. The Laborers in the Vineyard
6. The Widow and the Judge

We will meet on Wednesday evenings 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10, and 4/17 from 6-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! Please contact the pastors for more info!

**Children's Ministry News just for You!**



Palm Sunday

**Palm Sunday – April 14**

Kids meet in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 to receive your palms and get ready for the Palm Parade at the 10 a.m. worship! Kids will process in on the first hymn and sit up front until the Children's Message then head off to Church School. Nursery is available.



**Saturday, April 20 – 10-11:30 a.m.**

“The Easter Story”

A Children's Ministry Easter Program for Little Ones through Fifth Graders!

Join us for story, scripture, song, crafts (we will be making Easter hats/crafts), fun, and great snacks and of course the Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your Easter basket.

RSVP to the office is a must, please email Michelle, [mjones@bedfordpresbyterian.org](mailto:mjones@bedfordpresbyterian.org) or call 472-5841 and talk with Michelle.

Together we will learn all about the true meaning of Easter! Join us for this fun, faithful event!



**Easter Sunday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. Family Worship and 10:30 Traditional Service**

There will be a Children's Message at the 8:30 a.m. Service. The 10:30 Service will feature the Senior Choir and Handbells. There is no Sunday School on Easter but Nursery will be offered at both services.