

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\*Hymn # 515

“I Come With Joy”

vs. 1 & 5 All, vs. Women, vs. 3 Choir, vs. 4 Men

\*Charge and Blessing

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

Beloved, our partnership with our loving God makes a difference in the world.

**In the coming weeks, we pray God will help us open our hearts and minds so to expand our relationship with others so that our neighborhood grows big and strong and is truly beautiful in God's eyes.**

So let us go out into the world sharing the Good News!

**Let us love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds; and love our neighbor as ourselves!**

May the blessings of our welcoming God be with you now and forever more.

Amen! Amen!

Postlude

“We're Gonna Have Church”

Choplin

\*Those who are able are invited to stand

**We want to hear from you! Round Table Discussions on  
September 8, 15, and 22**

BPC's Transition Team has been making preparations for the change that will take place when Pastor Karen retires at the end of 2019. We are holding a series of Round Table Discussions on Sunday September 8th, 15th and 22nd after worship in the Fellowship Hall, during Coffee Hour. We want to hear from you! Please join in and let us know your thoughts about the past and present of BPC as well as your hopes for the future.

**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!



# Bedford Presbyterian Church

## Ingathering Sunday – “It’s a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Church”

September 8, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.

*“It is impossible to be truly converted to God without being converted to our neighbor” – John R. W. Scott*

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church. We are glad you have found your way through our big front doors! You are invited to join us for coffee hour at the conclusion of the 9:00 a.m. service in our Fellowship Hall. Guests, we invite you to take a welcome bag 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

Gathering Music

“Come! Live in the Light!”

Haas

Welcome and Announcements

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

Transition Team Update

Elder Fran Bader

### PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Introit

“We're Gonna Have Church”

Choplin

Call to Worship (Responsive)

It's Ingathering Sunday, we are gathered from near and far and we are going to have church!

**We are glad to be here for this is the day the Lord has made.**

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Together, we lift our voices in songs of praise and in prayer.

**Today we come to worship to get a better understanding of what it means to be a good neighbor and to connect with God's people and presence in new and profound ways!**

Together, let us worship God!

\*Hymn # 203

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill us With Your Love”

Call to Confession

Elder Andy Wickwire

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**God of grace, love and community, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may**

serve you more faithfully. May we give honor to your holy name and treat our neighbors with kindness and compassion welcoming all into your home. This we pray in your Son's name...

### Silent Prayer

**Assurance of Pardon** (Responsive) Elder Andy Wickwire

God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may be saved through him.

**We will follow Jesus, and his teachings and example, loving God and neighbor with all we have got!**

What a blessing that through Christ, we are forgiven, loved and free!

Thanks be to God!

**\*Sung Response** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" #582

*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. (3x)*

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

### ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

**Children's Message** Co-Pastor John Sawyer

**A Prayer for our Church School Teachers**

**Anthem** "We Are Called" (Hymn #749) Haas arr. Hayes  
Congregation joins on each Refrain

### Unison Prayer for Illumination

Lord of faithful women, men, youth and children, whose revelations are often unexpected and surprising, we seek to be open to your Word this Ingathering morning. We want to be faithful and responsive to your call to love you God with all we have got and love our neighbor too. Through the Word, melt our resistant hearts and minds, take away our defenses that keep us separated from you and our neighbors and help us to hear the Good News today so that we might welcome all into your beautiful neighborhood, for the sake of those who need to be welcomed, loved, and heard. Amen.

**Scripture Reading** Luke 10:25-37

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

**Sermon** "Who Is Our Neighbor?" Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

### Neighborhood Reflection

Sharon Cowen

*We will take five minutes to reflect on the message of today's sermon and the question below. Write your individual response on the provided post-it note and then share your response with someone you didn't come to church with today. Listen as they share their answers with you.*

### Question Week 1:

**We are Bedford Presbyterian Church. Think about BPC serving God as a neighborhood church, a powerhouse for mission. As members of this neighborhood church, how would you define our neighborhood? Who are our neighbors?**

**Hymn # 399**

"God Welcomes All"

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends.*

*God's love is strong and it never ends.*

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Call for the Offering**

Deacon Kevin Avery

**Offertory**

"I Come With Joy"

Lovelace/Martin

**\*Doxology # 606**

(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**

Deacon Kevin Avery

**Today, we stop to give our thanks for all the ways we have been blessed. God, please take these gifts and use them so that all your people will have the things they need to live a life of dignity. Through our offerings, may our neighbors become our friends through serving you.**

**Prayers of the People 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.**

**\*The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And with you.**

*Please greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.*

**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** – Andy Wickwire

**Deacon of the Day** – Kevin Avery

**Flowers today are given** “in loving memory of Ella Tryder” by her husband Earle and family.

**BPC CALENDAR**

Sun. 9/8	10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour/Roundtable Transition Talks 5-7 p.m. Bring a picnic supper, Square Dance, and Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream Truck!
Wed. 9/11	1:00 p.m. Birch Hill Service 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. 9/12	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Sun. 9/15	10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Fellowship/Roundtable Transition Talks in Fellowship Hall 3:00 p.m. Youth Group Kick Off At Canobie Lake Park

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS**

**Sunday School:** Preschool – 5th Grade, at 10:15 a.m. following the Children’s Sermon. Classes are downstairs. Curriculum used is *Whole People of God*. For more info contact Melinda Chen at [maestrachen@gmail.com](mailto:maestrachen@gmail.com).

**Nursery:** Every Sunday from September 8th – May, 9:45 – 11:15 a.m. Nursery care is available for children who are infants through age 3. The nursery is downstairs (below Fellowship Hall).

**Children’s Musical Rehearsal:** Every Sunday from September 15 – December 8, at 9 a.m. in the Choir Room. For more info contact Sarah Murai at [muraisarah@gmail.com](mailto:muraisarah@gmail.com).

**Third Grade Bibles:** All of BPC’s third graders receive Bibles. Do you have a 3rd grader? Let us know by contacting the church office at 472-5841. They will receive their Bibles on Sunday, October 6th at the 10 a.m. worship.

**YOUTH NEWS!**

Our **Fall Kick-off** will be **Sunday, September 15** with a trip to Canobie Lake Park. Meet at the church at 3 PM and we’ll drive down together. We’ll be back around 7:30 PM. Cost for the trip will be \$15 plus any dinner you might want to buy in the park. RSVP to John Sawyer ([jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org](mailto:jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org)). Bring a friend with you if you want *If you have a parent who can serve as a driver/chaperone, let John Sawyer know.*

**All 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to be part of our Confirmation Class and are invited – with their parents – to a meeting at church on Sunday, September 22, at 5 PM.** We’ll be meeting in the Youth Activity Room downstairs and will be talking about Confirmation – learning about what it means to be Presbyterian and what it means to be a member of the church. A full schedule will be ready on September 22, but this year’s Confirmation Class will meet mostly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month – September through mid-April. *If you want to be part of Confirmation Class this year, please contact John Sawyer ([jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org](mailto:jsawyer@bedfordpresbyterian.org)) so that we can get an accurate count.*

All **6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Graders** are invited to be part of our Middle Youth Group gatherings, which will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in the afternoon. More information will be coming soon about these fun meetings.

All **10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders** are invited to be part of our Senior High Youth Group gatherings, which will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in the evening. More information will be coming soon about these meetings, which will include time for fellowship, service projects, and other fun things.

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**ADULT OFFERINGS**

**The Women’s Books and Bible Group** will meet on September 12, Thursday, at 10:30 am in the Living Room We will be reading the book “The Denial of Death” by Ernest Becker. We will be discussing the first three chapters. All are welcome - including men as well as women. For more information contact Marilyn Brock 488-2141.

**Please join us in discussing, “Learning from Henri Nouwen and Vincent van Gogh: A Portrait of the Compassionate Life,” by artist and educator Carol Berry.** Her husband is Rev. Dr. Steve Berry, who with Rev. Karen Hagy, married Paul and Ginny Carr at BPC in 2004. We will be talking about the Introduction and Part I at Marilyn Brock’s home, 2:00 PM, Tues. September 24th. For more info and RSVP, contact Marilyn, 603-488-2141.

**Wednesday Night Dinner and Discussion – Starting September 25 – 6-7 p.m.** *The Call: The Life and Message of Paul.* This video series and discussion will provide an introduction to the ministry of the Apostle Paul as an example to all Christians. Bring a covered dish to share!