

Bedford Presbyterian Church

105 West Main Street, Bedford, Virginia

From 1844 to 2025 (181 Years)



Week of January 12, 2025

We will continue sending out this combination of the newsletter and bulletin to keep you up to date on announcements, prayers, needs and scheduled activities.

Included will be the usual newsletter information along with prayers, scripture and a sermon.

We hope that you can utilize this format to keep up to date while being away from actual services, meetings, activities and watching the online sermon.



*Bedford Presbyterian is a Biblically and
Prayerfully Guided Christian Family of
Disciples, Loving God and Serving Others*

The Approach to God

One: The Peace of Christ Be With You

All: And Also With You

Prelude

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Faye Lopez

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

All: Who forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases, who redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with love and compassion.

One: Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name.

All: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

One: Praise the Lord, all His works everywhere in his dominion.

All: The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all. Let us praise the Lord with all that is within us!

**Hymn*

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Hymn 71

**Prayer of Confession*

One: God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and His grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession before God and each other, Let us pray.

All: Holy God, we open our hearts to You this day and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, have faith that You are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon*

One: Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Through Jesus Christ we have been born again to new life.

**Gloria*

"Glory to the Father"

Bill Rutledge

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22, Isaiah 43: 1-7

Praise Song

"Rejoice in the Lord"

Walker

Luke 3:15-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Today we remember the Baptism of the Lord

We are called to hear the sparse telling in Luke's gospel...in fact it is actually quite sparse in all of the Gospels.

Every time we witness another baptism we are called to remember our own baptisms.

In the waters of baptism we bear witness to this outward sign of an invisible grace.

Grace offered to us from the one who delights in us and whispers over us "you are my beloved, you are precious in my sight."

Beloved...precious...special...to delight in

God loves us so much that God finds joy in us...God pursues us like a treasure.

Our Creator knows us inside and out.

We are beloved because we exist and God loves us, PERIOD!

We need to be gentler with ourselves and with one another.

We all walk through this world with pains and worries

To walk wet is to Walk in Christ

As God's beloved we are to invite others to the font and the table

O Brother Where Art Thou

"C'mon in boys, the water is fine."

Remember when you pass through the waters that seem like they will overwhelm you...God will be with you.

God knows how fragile and broken we really are...we must remember that Baptism is not just about self, it is about living life as being part of something more...

God cares for the most vulnerable places of our hearts and souls.

Baptism is an act of the community.

Story of the Kenyan baptism.

Remember your baptism....remember you are beloved...you are precious

"Jesus loves the little children"

You are blessed to be a blessing

We are people of light, people of hope, people of gentleness, precious people walking wet...for we are beloved.

In this life together we remember that God is God forever...no matter what, we belong to God

Because of that belonging...we will do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God

Henri-Federic Amiel's benediction

"Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind."

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

"I Will Not Be Afraid"

Fitts

Worship Song

Installation of Elders and Deacons

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Doxology

"Doxology"

Hymn 44

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear Heavenly Father, with hearts full of gratitude, we thank You for Your unending love that surrounds us each day. Thank You for watching over our lives and for guiding our steps with Your loving hand. We praise You for Your faithfulness, Your mercy and the peace You bring to our souls. May we always walk in Your light, knowing that we are safe and precious in Your sight. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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.

***Hymn**

"How Firm a Foundation"

Hymn 411

THE SENDING FORTH

***Benediction**

Postlude

"How Firm a Foundation"

Dale Wood

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Audie Lambert,
by Margaret Lambert

We welcome Rev. Anghaarad Dees as our guest pastor today,
bringing the message during our time of worship and leading the
meeting of the Session after the service.

January 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4
5 <i>10 am Worship Communion</i>	6	7	8 <i>Deacons' 12:30 pm Something More, 3 pm</i>	9	10	11 <i>Men's Breakfast 9 am</i>
12 <i>10 am Worship 5¢ a Meal BCM collection Session Installation of officers</i>	13	14	15 <i>Something More, 3 pm</i>	16	17	18
19 <i>10 am Worship</i>	20	21	22 <i>Something More, 3 pm</i>	23	24	25
26 <i>10 am Worship Congregational Meeting</i>	27	28	29 <i>Something More, 3 pm</i>	30	31	

Joys- January 12th

Joy- Jan Easter's granddaughter got to visit Vatican

Joy- Flemings had a wonderful trip visiting family

Joy- Harold Neal thankful for two sons

Joy- Stetsons, Savannah got to be home for Christmas

Concerns- January 12th

Avery: Tinkie, hospice care

Barefoot: Jim, home, continues to improve

Barnes: Kim Hedrick- (friend) cancer

Jerry Dillon (nephew) health issues

Jody Lineberry- leukemia treatment unsuccessful

Benton: Nicole- (stepdaughter) in Asheville helping Helene victims

Boone: niece undergoing radiation treatments

Brunot: Jim's brother Bill, completed chemo

Concern about drones in New Jersey

Callahan: Mary Jane (friend) in remission

Steve Chaffin (friend) blood clots

Compter: Jeannie, Seth (both friend) health issues

Bob (friend) in hospital with Covid

Cram: Winslow's-(friends of Sally) family & medical problems

Garrett Winslow – struggling, autism

Janice Campbell-(friend) under hospice care

Ryan- (grandson) searching for faith

Lory Graham- (friend) health issues, wife caretaker

Brenda Wilkerson- UVA seizures

Frank Sicillano (brother-in-law) cancer in pain

DeHart: Lucile Kesterson (Dawn's mother) aging memory issues

Julian Kesterson (Dawn's stepdad) nursing home, multiple falls

Easter: Jim (brother) cancer

Fleming: Dominick (Ann Marie's brother) heart surgery successful,

Previous Pastor heart surgery went well

Foster: Ron (brother-in-law) in home

Howard & Lynn (brother) difficulty with legs, wife dementia

Prayers for family on Tom's passing

Prayers for everyone on dialysis and those in paths of storms where centers are gone.

Bob- (Ellen's brother) heart surgery went well, home

Goode: (friend) Tommy Atkinson stroke

Goodman: Friend Betty is near death

Grigg: Chris Mays- diabetic complications

Grubb: John cancer, recovering from surgery

Hann: Alice's brother, congestive heart failure, cancer

Harris: Jim, back pain

Judy- shoulder replaced

Heinrich: Steven - (grandson) autoimmune disorder

Barbara Lore- (Helen's sister) heart problems

Kuhn-Kibbey: Dot reinjured her back

Sarah McCabe Oakes,(friend) amputation leg, pelvis

Lambert: Margaret sciatica pain, arthritis

Linton: Candy (Parker's friend) health issues from car accident

Mauser: Joyce Reese- (friend) health problems
Steven-(son's boss) going blind
Barbara (Al's sister) intense headaches
Gayle- home

McManis; Charlotte, doing better

Monk: Libby's mother, Mary Duncan, Bedford Nursing Home
Granddaughter had a seizure

Morris: all law enforcement, firefighters and all other first responders
Forensic scientists who deal with crime
Rev. Pam Ledbetter
James Morgan (cousins husband) spot on lung
Margaret's brother in NC prayers for those impacted by storm
Elisa- (daughter-in-law) family needs

Rutledge: friend in Hawaii health issues

Saunders: Gloria, fell in ICU

Scheurer: Jim Hedrick- (friend) cancer
Bob Lindell-(friend) prostate cancer
Sonny (son) doing well

Smith: Dorothy Smith- (John's mother) that she comes to the Lord

Stetson: Nick, Tiffany, Savannah is back in hospital in LA
Morgan (nephew) life decisions
Cook at Shepherd's Table, baby in NICU

Stevens: Jackie Landis- heart problems
Earl Carter- health issues
Matt- lung cancer
All Virginia towns impacted by hurricane
Chief 'Hops' cancer that is spreading
Wilson Stevens- double pneumonia

Prayers for our nation and our President

Prayers for healing the divisive spirit among our leaders/nation

Russian invasion ends and not resort to nuclear weapons.

Prayers for new residents to come to worship with us

Prayers for Ukraine

Pray for World Peace

Prayers for Israel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Activities for week of January 12th

Sunday: 10 am Worship

Session

Installation of New elders and deacons

5¢ a Meal Offering

BCM donations/collection

Wednesday: Something More 3 pm

Sunday: January 19th

10 am Worship

January Birthdays

Cynthia Brunot- 13

January Anniversaries

Bill and Janet Yodis - 24