

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 23, 2018

PRELUDE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* James McGregor

INTROIT *Soon and Very Soon* Andrae Crouch

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN 49** *Once in Royal David's City* Irby

LIGHTING OUR ADVENT CANDLES Jorge Pedraza, Jennifer McQuaid, Rowan, Fiona, and Emma

READING FROM THE BIBLE Micah 5:2-5

Watch and wait! God is arriving in our hearts and in our world.

**We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God.**

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy.

We light this candle with love. (*Light candles as reader is speaking*)

God of hope, God of peace,

God of joy, God of love.

You are love, and those who abide in love abide in you.

Teach us how to love one another

as reflections of your light in the world.

God of promise, God of love,

Surprise us with your presence in our lives this Advent.

Congregational Response - *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PLEASE NOTE: Contributions to the children's offering (in the baskets) support Bridges to Community's continued efforts in Nicaragua. Contributions to the general offering (in the plates) support the general mission of PBC.

Offertory *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Gustav Holst

***Doxology and Prayer of Dedication** Hymn 592

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 God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Children from kindergarten through 8th grade will be dismissed to their Sunday Spirit classes.

(Please see announcements for full details)

TIME FOR GREETING ONE ANOTHER

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*or "Our Creator"

ANTHEM *Alma Redemptoris Mater* G. P. Palestrina

READING FROM THE BIBLE Luke 1:39-56

SERMON *What Good News?* Heather Brown-Huston

***HYMN 12** *People, Look East* Besançon

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Veni Immanuel* John Bell

POSTLUDE *Once He Came in Blessing* J. S. Bach

The flowers in our sanctuary today are courtesy of Carla Hawryluk.

Everyone is invited for Coffee Hour following worship. Thanks to our hosts Elizabeth Messinger and Heidi and Norm Michaels.

Children's bulletins are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

Comments? Suggestions? Feedback? Email us at info@bedfordpreschurch.org

For inspiration and information find and follow Bedford Presbyterian Church on Facebook and Twitter.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We're glad that you've joined us for worship today and hope that you'll come to Coffee Hour, immediately following the service (through the door at the front of the sanctuary to Fellowship Hall). There you'll find coffee, a Welcome Table with information about the church, and people who would be delighted to talk to you.

Parents - Childcare is provided for infants and toddlers in the education wing of our building. Just ask one of the ushers for directions.

A parent paging system is available for your convenience.

The Rev. John Patrick Vaughn, Pastor
The Rev. Heather Brown-Huston, Minister for Congregational Life
John Lettieri, Director of Music
Kathy DiBiasi, Director of Educational Ministries
The Rev. Leslie Mott, Coordinator for Spirituality and Practice
Parish Associates:
The Rev. Dorothy Muller and the Rev. Dr. James Fenimore

Progressive. Inclusive. More than just Sundays.
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
Church School & Childcare 10:00 AM
email: info@bedfordpreschurch.org www.bedfordpreschurch.org
Village Green Bedford, NY 914.234.3672



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CHURCH**