

ANTHEM

'Twas In the Moon of Wintertime
Pat-a-Pan
Cherub Choir

Native American
Burgundian Carol

A WORD OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Bring A Torch Jeannette, Isabella
Children, Go Where I Send You
 Cherub Choir

French Carol
African-American Spiritual

THE CHRISTMAS STORY FROM THE BIBLE

Illustrated by pictures drawn by the children of Bedford Presbyterian Church
Away in a Manger Verses 1 & 3

*HYMN 44

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

I Saw Three Ships
Go, Tell It On The Mountain
Choristers Choir

R. Jaques
Spiritual arr. M. Patterson

LIGHTING OUR CANDLES

Please dip the **unlit** candle toward the flame as the light is passed.

DUET

In the Bleak Mid Winter

G. Holst

Michele Eames, vocalist; Don Dupont, piano; Barbara Kanner, flute

HYMN 60

Silent Night, Holy Night
(Please remain seated)

STILLE NACHT

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (unison)

O God, grant us such love and wonder that with shepherds and wisemen and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy child. As you came in the stillness of the night long ago, so enter our lives and world again this night. Overcome our doubts and our fears with the light of Christ's presence that we may see clearly the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life you would have us live. Amen.

*HYMN 40

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

Please extinguish your candles as the carol begins.
We ask that you leave your candles in the boxes by the doors.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Preludium in G

J. S. Bach

* please stand

Assisting in our service this evening is Kathy DiBiasi, Director of Educational Ministries at Bedford Presbyterian Church.

A Special Thank You to the Cherub & Choristers Choirs, their directors, Kathy Perry and John Lettieri and to Michele Eames, Don Dupont and Barbara Kanner; and to Richard Clymer on trumpet for their wonderful musical gifts that add to our worship this evening.



The Rev. Dr. Paul D. Alcorn, 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
The Rev. Kym McNair, Minister of Community Education and Engagement
Parish Associates:

The Rev. Dorothy Muller, The Rev. Peter Surgenor and The Rev. Dr. James Fenimore

Village Green
914-234-3672

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
Church School & Childcare 10:00 AM
email: info@bedfordpreschurch.org
www.bedfordpreschurch.org

Bedford, NY
fax: 914-234-6151

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church!

We're very glad you've joined us for our Christmas Eve celebration.

The tradition at Bedford Presbyterian Church is that the cash portion of our Christmas Eve offering goes to help those in need.

This year our offering will support the work of the:

Emergency Shelter Partnership

and the

Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry

The Emergency Shelter Partnership is a coalition of more than 20 faith communities and community groups who provide food and shelter for those in need during the coldest five months of each winter.

The Mount Kisco Food Pantry is a volunteer organization represented by 12 faith based congregations in the area which provides supplemental food to those households who need it.

Besides our offering this evening, you can also make a contribution online at www.bedfordpreschurch.org/giving

Or by following this QR code



Add the note "Christmas Eve"

Thank you for your generosity and for making a difference in the lives of another.

Five O'clock

December 24, 2016

PRELUDE *Festive Music and Carols for Trumpet and Organ*

INTROIT *Up! Good Christen Folk, And Listen* arr. G. R. Woodward
Choristers Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN 41** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

***OPENING SENTENCES** (responsively)

Let us sing with the angels.

And, run towards Bethlehem with the shepherds.

And follow a star like the Magi.

And so find our way to the promise of Christmas;

God with us. Now and always.

Response: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

PRAYER OF WONDER AND PRAISE (unison)

O God, if we don't squirm in our seats may we dance with joy in our souls at the wonder of it all. And, in carols we sing and candles we light may we, once again, see beyond the glitter and the tinsel and so claim the promises of Christmas for ourselves and for each other and for the world in which we live.

Peace on earth. Good will towards all.

Swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks.

God with us each and every step of the way.

Amen.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE