



Brookline Community Church

October 17, 2021

Reverend Catherine A. Merrill, Minister

Prelude:

Psalm 121 Heather Sorenson

We welcome Cyndie D'Andrea who will lead us in worship today.

Call To Worship :

(Psalm 121)

People: I will lift my eyes to the hills.

Leader: Where does my help come from?

People: My help comes from the Lord maker of heaven and earth.

He who watches over us the Lord will never slumber or sleep.

Leader: The Lord will guard you, the Lord is by your side to protect you.

The Lord will protect you from all danger

The Lord will protect you when you come and go.

All: He will protect us as we come and go from now and forever.

Children's Message (for kids of all ages)

Connected to Jesus

Hymn: [Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated Lord to Thee](#)

Lifting up Our Joys and Concerns:

[For next week, please feel free to send Barbara Haskell-Higgins your joys & concerns and we will include them in our prayers: barbarajh@comcast.net]

Let us pray the Lord's Prayer together:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Hymn: [My Hope is Built on Nothing Less](#)

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 19:10-11

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere.

Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to

serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Thessalonians 2:10

You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

Reflection on the Scripture:

The Steadfastness of Hope

Hymn: [In Christ Alone](#)

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts We've Been Given

Lord we dedicate our gifts and our lives in thanksgiving. For everything that we have has come from you. Thank you for the opportunity to share in the bounty. Use these gifts for your kingdom here on earth to bless many in your name. Amen.

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (Benediction)

Beautiful Savior, King of the ages, creator of all things bless us as we go into the world with hope. Hope that each day we can walk in your righteousness. faithfully sharing your love in this world. May the Lord bless you and keep you may the Lord make his face to shine upon you and give you peace. Amen

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: # 839 "God Be With You Till We Meet Again; by his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again."

Postlude: [Living Hope](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.



PRAYER LIST (10/17/21)

If you know those on this list, call on them & tell them we are praying for them. If you know others who should be added to this list please give their names to the minister or a deacon.

- Friends & family of June Hoff and Dave Larkin.
- Luca, Amy's nephew, who's working with a new pediatrician who's helping him and his family
- For everyone to stay as healthy as they can in the days to come
- For the friends & families of those who have died alone
- For our church, that we remain patient with the process of re-opening
- For Rev Catherine's smooth recovery as she recovers from surgery
- For the medical personnel who are working through another overwhelming wave of care needed for those stricken with Covid
- Continued prayers for Nancy McGinnis, a friend of Susan And Russell's daughter Stacey was diagnosed with liver cancer. She is a 45 year mother of a 4th grade boy and an 8th grade boy
- For John Nicholson's father, whose chemo and surgery seem to be working
- For those suffering from addiction
- For all the major life transitions whose impact we feel over time.
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning¹

Loving God, draw me to your light, that I may avoid the dangers of sin and receive the freedom of your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Christ, as shadows of night draw near, sustain me by the light that banishes the fearful claim of death. Help me believe in you with all my heart that I may know the freedom of salvation and at last receive the joy of eternal life. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

Jesus asks his disciples to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him. What does the light of God's truth reveal about your life? Are there parts of your life that you want to hide from God? Can you imagine what it would be like to live completely transparent to God's piercing light?

Daily Awareness Reflection²

At the end of the day, I've been asking myself the following questions. I jot down the answers and ask them again the next evening. I've found it helps me to remain centered as well as increasing my awareness of God in my life. It takes about 10 minutes.

1. Slow down. Stop. Prepare yourself to pray by becoming aware of the love with which God looks on you ...
2. Note the gifts God has given you today. Give thanks to God for them ...
3. Ask God that this be a time of special grace and revelation ...
4. With God, review the day. Look at the stirrings of your heart, your thoughts, and your choices as the day progressed. Which have been of God? Which have not? What does God want to say to you about both? ...
5. Ask for forgiveness for failures/omissions, for healing from their effects ...
6. Look forward to the following day, and plan concretely with God how to live it according to God's desire for your life ...

¹ The Morning & Evening Prayer and Question for Reflection are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014.

² Elizabeth Liebert, *The Soul of Discernment* (Louisville, KY: John Knox Press, 2015), 31.

Announcements:

The church’s financial obligations continue. If you are able, please mail your offering to: Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline, NH 03033.

| BCC YTD Financial Summary | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Income vs Expenses + / - |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| September | \$76,184 | \$63,563 | \$12,620 |

Please shop smile.amazon.com and choose Brookline Community Church as your charity to support the church. Thanks!

The church’s financial obligations continue. There are Several ways to send your offering.

1. Text GIVE to **603 506 4455** for your first time click “SIGN IN” then “REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT”
2. Scan the QR code Below



3. Mail to: Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline, NH 03033.

Rev. Catherine Following her surgery Rev Catherine is on medical leave. If you need anything and aren't sure where to go, please contact Candy Tiner, the church secretary (secretary@bccnh.org, 603-801-5918) or Jill Aitken, chair of the Deacons (jgoods4@gmail.com, 973-713-7832) and they will get you to the right person.

Reaching Out with Outreach

Outreach has been busy so far this year. We collected items to benefit Marguerite's Place, Bridges & Harbor Cares for their veterans transitional facility in Nashua.

We were able to donate in total 7,955 items consisting of diapers, wipes, paper goods, cleaning supplies, bedding & gift cards to these organizations!!

We could not have done this without the generosity of our congregation, Brookline and Hollis communities and the advertising efforts of Megan & Candy.

As non-profit organizations are starting to open up again so are opportunities for volunteer and paid positions. If you are interested or have some time please consider checking out one of the organizations Outreach supports or contact an organization that interests you.

Please feel free to contact Amy Razzaboni at arazz3914@gmail.com or speak with any member of the Outreach Board with any questions or to get more information about our Outreach Organizations and other local non-profits.

Making Music with the Band!

The band is always welcoming singers and instrumentalists of any level to join in making a joyful noise before the Lord. Speak to Sanjay (scherian@charter.net) if you're interested.

Take Home Meals

Friday, Oct 22nd we will be preparing Octobers Take Home Meal of Swedish Meatballs with a delightful cream sauce over penne pasta. The "add on" this month is a delicious Maple bread pudding. To donate ingredients or to order a meal, email Megan at kingmegan7@gmail.com.

Brookline Food Pantry

Although we cannot be together physically at this time, Outreach is continuing to work with Rebecca Purdin through the Brookline Welfare office & CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) to address our community's needs.

The Brookline food pantry is now open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-2:00 for drop-offs only. There is a list on the **Brookline Food Pantry's Facebook page** that is being updated as items are needed. In addition to Market Basket gift cards, this week, they're looking for:

- Detergent
- Juice
- Cleaning supplies
- Graham crackers
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Coffee

If you know of anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let Rebecca or Amy know. We sense there's more need in the community than is currently picking up food.

Non-perishables can be dropped off at Brookline Town Hall (downstairs near the Town Clerk's Office), at the Brookline Post Office, or at the Cozy Tae Cart any time those places are open.

As always, perishable items such as bread, cheese, butter, eggs, meats, and milk can be donated during open pantry hours: Tues and Thurs, 10am - 2pm.

Habitat for Humanity Build in Nashua

Although they are not accepting volunteer builders at the moment, we have provided a financial donation to Habitat for Humanity in Nashua. They are currently working on a duplex for two female veterans and their kids. Habitat would welcome financial contributions at this time as well.

Covid-19 Scams Targeting Seniors

The **NH Attorney General's office put out a press release** describing several scams that are targeting seniors. The claims range from needing personal information to get their Social Security payments, to being family members in need of cash to treat Covid-19 symptoms, to offers of fake medical products to prevent Covid-19, to needing personal information to get their stimulus checks, to fake charities. (Honestly, what are people like?!?). Please pass the word.

Covid-19 Information

If people want to know the latest status of Covid-19 in NH and the Emergency orders to date, go to **<https://www.nh.gov/covid19/>**

Help Lines

This time of isolation can be very difficult. You may know someone who needs some support beyond what you can provide. We're in this together.

- Suicide prevention: 1-800-273-8255
- Sexual assault: 1-800-656-4673
- Domestic violence: 1-800-799-7233

SHARE CHRISTMAS



Please consider giving in the following ways:

Purchase a gift card for a child in any increment to Amazon, Target, Walmart or any local store

Purchase a gift card for a single adult in \$25.00 increments to an area grocery store, Walmart or Target.

Make a monetary donation for Share to buy Gift Cards.

**Place in Box in front hall at the church
Or
Mail to church at PO Box 507 Attn Outreach
By November 10th**

**Thank You
Outreach Board**