



## Worship Service

*Brookline Community Church*

2 Main Street, PO Box 507

Brookline, NH 03033

Reverend Catherine Merrill

603-673-7511

Cell 857-259-7269

Minister@bccnh.org

October 2, 2022

10:00 am

\* INTROIT: Psalm 111 by Sietze de Vries

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**All: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

Leader: Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures for ever.

**All: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

**He provides food for those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.**

Leader: He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

**All: They are established for ever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

Leader: He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant for ever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.

**All: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.**

**#820 Threefold Amen (Danish)**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

**\*HYMN: W.I.S.D.O.M. by Carrickfergus Baptist Church**

There is something that's better than the latest toy  
There is something that never can be destroyed  
It's worth more than jewels and gold  
Or anything money can buy

**CHORUS**

W-I-S-D-O-M spells wisdom, I need it  
W-I-S-D-O-M in Your Word, I find it  
I need Your wisdom, Lord, each day

Left to my own self I always tend to go astray  
But in the Bible You reveal Your perfect ways  
You teach me to think like You  
Instead of being a fool

**BRIDGE**

I wanna love it, live it, learn it, read it (W-I-S-D-O-M!)  
I wanna know it, think it, speak it, breathe it (W-I-S-D-O-M!)

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**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 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: Psalm 111: Praise the Lord by Nathan Clark George**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**God of mercy and grace, we are meant to praise you and give thanks to you always.**

**We confess that we do not live out of constant gratitude.**

**We harbor resentment for what we lack.**

**We blame you; we blame others.**

**We doubt your compassion, even your power.**

**We find it hard to give ourselves away to you, or to others, in generous expressions of gratitude and praise.**

**Forgive us, we pray, for attitudes and behaviors that diminish in us joyful thanksgiving.**

**Heal and restore us so that we may return to you with a right spirit.**

**Help us to live holy and joyful lives, befitting people you love and save.**

**We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION:

Leader: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God most high.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

HYMN: *Ancient Words* by Michael W. Smith

Holy words long preserved  
for our walk in this world,  
They resound with God's own heart  
Oh, let the Ancient words impart.

Words of Life, words of Hope  
Give us strength, help us cope  
In this world, where e'er we roam  
Ancient words will guide us Home.

Chorus: Ancient words ever true  
Changing me, and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts  
Oh let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our Faith  
Handed down to this age.  
Came to us through sacrifice  
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words long preserved  
For our walk in this world.  
They resound with God's own heart  
Oh let the ancient words impart.

Chorus x 4  
We have come with open hearts  
Oh let the ancient words impart.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Timothy 2:8-15, p. 967

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;  
if we endure, we will also reign with him;  
if we deny him, he will also deny us;  
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—  
for he cannot deny himself.

Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

## **#820 Threefold Amen (Danish)**

### REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURE

MINISTRY OF SHARING: (offering of tithes and gifts)

\*DOXOLOGY: **# 809** ***“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.”***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

**We praise and glorify your name, O God.**

**You have given us more than we could have imagined! For tidings of joy, for wholeness received, for the gift of belonging, we thank you.**

**Make of us, as well as these gifts, offerings of good news to the poor, hope to the hopeless,  
and signs of your power to reconcile and redeem.**

**We ask all things in the name of Christ. Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER TO RETURN TO THE WORLD (a riff on Ps. 111)

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**All: I will give thanks to the LORD. Not just me alone, but with my friends and family.**

Leader: Part of God's gift is our ability to study the mysteries of the world and learn from them, knowing full well we may not understand them all.

**All: God is known for what God has done, reaching into human history, feeding those who hunger for something larger, for something nourishing.**

Leader: God grants everyone an inheritance, letting everyone build their nations on justice and righteousness.

**All: God's people are part of how faithfulness and righteousness come into the world.**

Leader: God is faithful. God seeks to redeem all God's people, in all times and places.

**All: Grow in wisdom by living into the reality of the abundance God has given us. Live so that your own Good News glows throughout your life.**

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**All: Praise the LORD, indeed!**

\* 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.”***

**CLOSING HYMN: *Hymn of the Holy Spirit* by Pat Barrett**

*Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.*

\* Please stand in body or Spirit

## What is World Communion Sunday?

World Communion Sunday offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. The first Sunday of October has become a time when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. On that day, they remember that they are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, or in a storefront, Christians celebrate the communion liturgy in as many ways as there are congregations. World Communion Sunday can be both a profound worship experience and a time for learning more about our wider community of faith.

The tradition was begun in 1933 by Hugh Thomson Kerr who ministered in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church. Dr. Kerr first conceived the notion of World Communion Sunday during his year as moderator of the General Assembly (1930). Dr. Kerr's younger son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr, was sixteen in 1933. He has related that it was their attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another.

It was then adopted throughout the US Presbyterian Church in 1936 and subsequently spread to other denominations. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches), led by Jesse Moren Bader, endorsed World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide.



## PRAYER LIST (10/02/2022)

- Friends & family of Braedon O'Connor, Elly Austin, Patty Birner, Jesse Delrossi, Jane Jukes, Edith Corey, Sandy Garvin.
- For the friends & families of those who have died alone
- For Luca, Amy's nephew, whose treatments continue
- For those struggling with thoughts of suicide
- For Polly, John Panto's sister, recovering from a stroke, who's moving into another facility
- For Mike Esposito, Miracle Mike, friend of Susan and Russell's family, returning to the hospital for more surgery
- For Cassandra, Amy's mom, on the loss of her sister Linda
- For Ann's dad, who had gallbladder surgery
- For the Stritchfield family, Donna's childhood neighbor, who lost Everett and Mary
- For the friends and family of Carol Austin Matson, Kathi Whitcomb's mother
- For the friends and family of Sharon Nicholson's brother, Scott
- For Reverend Catherine's cousin Peter, who is recovering from serious cancer surgery
- For the friends and family of Tom Hoff, Donna's cousin
- For the people of Ukraine, who fight on, even as the world looks elsewhere
- For the people of Taiwan, searching for peace in the face of hostility
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

## **10/02/2022 Household Prayers**

### **Household Prayer: Morning**

Glorious God, I praise you. I praise you for who you are – loving, merciful, powerful, and just. I praise you for the ways you act in creation – creating beauty, bringing freedom, making peace, offering healing. Thank you for opportunities I will have today to glorify you in my words and actions.

Thank you for this very day in which I am able to enjoy you by participating in your activity in the world. I pray that the enmity between people and nations may give way to true communion. In the name of Christ, the great Reconciler, I pray. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

Loving God, I end this day as I began it – in praise of you. Thank you for including me in your great circle of love and care. Thank you for being with us always. Thank you, too, for calling me to love others and to treat everyone as my neighbor. Help me to notice those whose cries for mercy so often go unheard or unanswered, for I am joined to them by being joined to you. I pray in awe of the life you have given me through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Questions for Reflection**

The Greek word for “Eucharist”—*eucharistia*—means thanksgiving and is used in Luke 17:16 to describe the Samaritan’s thankful response of faith to Jesus, who had mercy on him. To live a “eucharistic life,” then, is to live a life of thanksgiving to God.

What new habits or practices might cultivate in you a more eucharistic life?

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

## ***Announcements***

**Outreach** would like to thank everyone who donated to the 2022 Stand Down Event for Homeless Veterans. Through the generosity of our congregation, THM customers and the communities of Brookline and Hollis we collected 96 pairs of socks, 38 pairs of underwear, 41 sweatshirts and sweatpants, 7 winter coats, blankets, and other clothing items to help keep our homeless veterans warm this coming winter. Please keep these Veterans in your prayers and let us not forget their sacrifices while serving this Country.

### **Take Home Meal**

The next take home meal will be on October 7 - Stuffed Shells with Maple Bread Pudding as an add on. Please see Megan if you would like to order or donate

### **Ghost Trail Run Spaghetti Supper**

October 14 is the annual Spaghetti Supper for the Ghost Trail Runners. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

**Andres Institute of Art's annual Symposium** continues until October 2nd. For full details, go to [andresinstitute.org](http://andresinstitute.org)

## Psalm 111

Psalm 111 operates in the tradition of ancient Israel's salvation history and emphasizes the connection between the tradition of the mighty acts of God and God's covenant instruction. Hearing the historical memory also suggests meditating on the narrative and both worshiping and living into the covenant relationship.

The salvation history created and shaped the community, and God continues to sustain the community. The psalm weds the salvation history and covenant instruction, and thus is a fine example of the covenant theology characteristic of the Hebrew canon. It recites the historical narrative in ancient Israel's traditional terms. That narrative of divine acts initiated the covenant partnership with ancient Israel.

God liberated the people from slavery and called them to respond by way of the covenant instruction that is holy law. In doing so, the community continues to find wholeness of life.

The concluding verse of Psalm 111 characterizes such covenant faithfulness as "the fear of the Lord." The verse ties the salvation history to the Hebrew wisdom tradition, not the most common connection in the Hebrew canon.

According to Ps. 111:10, in covenant faithfulness is found wisdom and understanding, both gifts from YHWH. The concluding line of the psalm then frames the entire composition with an allusion to the psalm's first line and placing the composition in the context of the continuing praise of God.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 481-484.

## Participants

Reverend Catherine Merrill

Minister

## Calendar

<b>Friday, October 7</b>		Take Home Meal
<b>Sunday, October 9</b>	10am	Worship Service
<b>Friday, October 14</b>		Ghost Trail Run Spaghetti Supper
<b>Sunday, October 16</b>	10am	Worship Service
<b>Sunday, October 23</b>	10am	Worship Service
<b>Saturday, October 29</b>		Senior Luncheon

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

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
August	\$42,469	\$60,494	(\$18,025)

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

