



The worship service will be recorded and then edited so you get the best of both worlds, the service and the music videos. There's a [play list](#) that will weave them together, so you can just press "play" and go from beginning to end!

*Thank you to Debbie Gline Allen for leading us in worship today.*

Debbie Gline Allen is a Commissioned Minister of Christian Formation in the United Church of Christ and serves as a Minister of Faith Formation for the Southern New England Conference. She is passionate about guiding congregations in ensuring that their children are nurtured in the Christian faith, that they may grow up keeping their faith and a church community at the center of their adult lives. Now as a Member In Discernment seeking ordination, she works to incorporate her love for children, youth, and family ministries within services of worship.

Debbie lives in Derry, New Hampshire with her spouse, two sons, and beloved cats.

**Prelude:** [All Heaven Declares](#)

### **Call To Worship**

One: We come here to worship our God, the God who blesses us with abundant gifts.

**Many: God's goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives.**

One: We are God's sheep, and God's love shepherds us.

**Many: God's goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives.**

One: We come here to give thanks for all of God's blessings.

**Many: God's goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives.**

One: Let us worship our God!

**Hymn: [Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing](#) by Chris Rice**

**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](mailto: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: [Blessings](#) by Laura Story**

**Scripture Reading:** Genesis 27:1-4;15-23; 28:10-17

When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see, he called for Esau his older son and said to him, "My son." "Here I am," he answered. Isaac said, "I am now an old man and don't know the day of my death. Now then, get your equipment—your quiver and bow—and go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me. Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing before I die."

Then Rebekah took the best clothes of Esau her older son, which she had in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob. She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins. Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made.

He went to his father and said, "My father." "Yes, my son," he answered. "Who is it?"

Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your

blessing.” Isaac asked his son, “How did you find it so quickly, my son?”  
“The Lord your God gave me success,” he replied.

Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not.” Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said, “The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” He did not recognize him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; so he proceeded to bless him.

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the Lord, and he said: “I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

### **Reflection on the Scripture: “Count Your Blessings”**

**Hymn: [Jacob’s Ladder](#) by Anne Murray**

### **Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts We’ve Been Given**

Gracious God,  
we bring these, our offerings, to you from what we have and what we are.  
Bless these gifts, that they may be used to show your love and care for all people.

As you blessed Jacob and all of our spiritual ancestors, bless us with the joy that comes from giving of ourselves freely, out of love for another.

Amen.

## **Announcements**

### **A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World**

One: And now, as we prepare to enter the week ahead, may God bless you and keep you.

**Many: May God bless you and keep you.**

One: May God's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

**Many: May God bless you and keep you.**

One: Know that God is with you, as God was with Jacob and all of our biblical ancestors,  
and that God will never leave you.

**Many: May God bless you and keep you.**

One: Go in peace.

**All: 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:**

[An Old Irish Blessing](#)

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



## PRAYER LIST (09/12/21)

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
- For the people of Afghanistan, as their country's struggles continue
- For the friends and family of Gary, Donna's cousin who passed away unexpectedly
- For the friends and family of Bob, Susan's brother-in-law who passed away
- For the friends and family of Ursula, Candy's cousin who passed away
- For the friends and family of Louise Considine, Barbara's friend who passed on August 2th after a 2 year battle with cancer
- For Barbara's neighbor, Lester Reid, who was diagnosed with metastasis cancer
- For the kids returning to school
- 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: Morning**

Thank you, God, for this good night and day,  
for time to sleep and wake,  
for dark and light,  
for silence and noise,  
for stillness and movement,  
for my body, mind, and heart.

Give me the strength today to bear my cross with patience so that whoever I meet will find a moment of calm in my presence because of you. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

Thank you, God, for this good day and now for night,  
for all that has transpired in the last hours,  
for the food I have been given,  
for the work I have had to do,  
for the exercise, for breathing, for what my ears have heard,  
for friends, for coworkers,  
and for what I have seen growing in the soil and shining in the sunlight.

Guard me now as I sleep and give me good rest for the sake of the tasks you have set before me tomorrow. I pray for your peace, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Questions for Reflection**

When we hear Jesus say we are to “deny” ourselves, this can seem strangely harsh language, and it is well that each of us knows what it means in our own lives. You are made in God’s image. As an image of the divine, God does not command you to be nothing. You are not to be denigrated. What aspects of your life, your desires, your tendencies, do you recognize as impeding your ability to set your mind on what you truly want and need? What is your cross? Perhaps you see more than one cross you must bear. If you “take up” your cross (or crosses), how might you live differently than you do now?



## 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 + / -
August	\$70,873	\$55,748	\$15,125

Please shop [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose Brookline Community Church as your charity to support the church. Thanks!

You can now use the Amazon Shopping app on your phone and still support the church through the Smile program.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Church of Christ" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the app

**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](mailto:secretary@bccnh.org), 603-801-5918) or Jill Aitken, chair of the Deacons ([jgoods4@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### **What Community Events/Fundraisers Would Share the Spirit?**

With the easing of Covid restrictions, we can start to think about events and fundraisers that would share our sense of the Holy Spirit's presence in our daily lives. We have plenty of willing hands, but we need some folks to get us running in the same direction. Breakfast Buffets? Spaghetti Supper for the Ghost Train Trail Race? Christmas Faire? Something we haven't thought of yet?

If you have ideas, speak to Ann Desrochers or anyone on the Cabinet!

### **Making Music with the Band!**

The band is beginning to rehearse again. So they'd welcome 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.

### **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:

Laundry detergent, Canned pasta, Dog/cat food, School supplies , Fresh fruit/veggies/milk, Stuff for kids lunches , Diapers

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.

Thank you for your continued support to our church and our community.

### **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