



*Brookline Community Church*  
*April 19, 2026*

**Prelude:**

**Welcome & Right Hand of Fellowship**

Extend a greeting to those nearby

**Call to Worship, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, pp. 491-492**

Leader: I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.

**All: Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

Leader: The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**All: I suffered distress and anguish.  
Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
'O Lord, I pray, save my life!'**

Leader: What shall I return to the Lord  
for all his bounty to me?

**All: I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord,  
I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.**

Leader: Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful ones.

**All: O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid.  
You have loosed my bonds.**

Leader: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.

**All: I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

**Everybody: Praise the Lord!**

**RESPONSE: [#820 Threefold Amen \(Danish\)](#)**

**Children's Message: *Is the Earth our final destination or just a stop on the way?***

**Hymn: 622, *What A Friend We Have In Jesus***

**A Prayer of Joys and Concerns**

**Let us recite 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: 563, *Lord, I want to be a Christian***

**Scripture Readings: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls<sup>[a]</sup> by your obedience to the truth<sup>[b]</sup> so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God

### **Psalm 116: 1-4**

I love the LORD because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.

<sup>2</sup> Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

<sup>3</sup> The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.

<sup>4</sup> Then I called on the name of the LORD,  
“O LORD, I pray, save my life!”

### **[RESPONSE: #820 Threefold Amen \(Danish\)](#)**

#### **Reflection on the Scripture**

#### **Hymn: 2, *Holy, Holy, Holy***

#### **MINISTRY OF SHARING**

**\*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 for the Gifts We’ve Been Given**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 116)**

Leader: In this world where no one listens to anyone,  
God has heard me

**All: Because God has listened to me, amongst all the billions  
God will be the one I call**

Leader: I was trapped in the snares of death and crushed by the  
stranglehold of oblivion

**All: When life was pulling me under, I called out to God, and God  
saved me.**

Leader: Is there anything I can do to offer thanks to God for saving me?

**All: Just my little life, but lived in public, so others can see that God can save one little life, one whole self, and give that single self meaning.**

Leader: Because it matters to God that we trust God to care for each of us.

**All: God, I am yours to command, in public, in front of others, even to for challenging tasks, like loving my neighbor.**

Leader: I will do whatever you ask graciously, because it is an act of thanksgiving to you, for hearing my call, for listening to me

**All: My faith is not mine alone. If it needs to be shared with others, so they might also give thanksgiving that God listens, and God loves each one of us**

**Everybody: Praise the Lord!**

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**

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

**Notes:**

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**Psalm 116**

As a psalm of thanksgiving, Psalm 116 has been included in the Hallel, a collection associated with the term *hallelujah* (Psalms 113-118).

Verses 1-7: The opening reflects the tradition that God is the one who hears and responds by coming to deliver when we cry out in distress. The petitioner was gripped by the power of death, trapped, distressed and anguished, and so cried out to God. Sheol is the realm of the dead, a place of no return, a prison that offers no release. Sheol can also be seen as the power of death that diminishes life. Death has stalked this person and brought severe anguish.

Verses 8-14: The psalm of thanksgiving continues and builds with further narration of the divine rescue. Walking “in the land of the living,” in the community that makes possible full life, can now be a reality because God has delivered us from death. Verse 10 makes it clear that the raw honesty of prayer in the midst of trouble is part of faith.

Verses 15-19: The structure of the psalm intensifies as it builds yet again to a third expression of thanksgiving. The psalm makes it clear that God acts to rescue us and seeks full life for us.

Psalm 116 is part of the collection called the Hallel, which was used at Passover. The cup of salvation (v. 13) was part of the recital of the deliverance from Egyptian bondage. The cup of salvation came to be associated with the Christian Eucharist. “Eucharist” means thanksgiving. It is often associated with Maundy Thursday when lifting the cup indicates that the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus are at hand.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 498-502.



## PRAYER LIST (4/19/2026)

- Friends & family of Jimmy Tiner, Peggy Hall, Clarence Farwell, Judy Edgecomb, Jean McKinney, Jackie Knowles, Beth Gay, Ethel Long, George Ferrell, Bronwen Evans.
- For Dave Joki, member of the Brookline Fire Department, fighting cancer
- For Paul, Rena's brother, who's starting chemotherapy
- For Eric, Paula's brother-in-law, recovering from a stroke
- For everyone fighting a tough diagnosis and the folks who support them
- For the friends and family of Mike, especially his wife Tonya, Jessica's friends, even as Tonya faces continuing health challenges
- For John Nicholson's sister, as she deals with mental health issues
- For the Avramov's friend who are dealing with mental health and substance misuse issues
- For Anne, Rev. Cath's mom, as she recovers from her broken wrist
- For the people of the Middle East whose lives continue to be upturned by conflict and by the members of the military and their families as they step into harm's way
- For John Weidman, who is beginning treatment for lung cancer
- For Nancy, Kym's sister, hospitalized with COVID
- For the Michaud family of Brookline, who lost a husband and father, may they know the love that surrounds them
- For Nick Panto, John's great nephew, being deployed to the Middle East
- For Shelby, Kym's granddaughter, being deployed to Israel
- For George, Donna & Peter's friend, in the hospital for cellulitis
- For families with legal issues needed to keep children safe
- For Aaron, Amy's son's friend, done with the first round of chemotherapy and seeing what's coming next
- For Tina & PJ, Marjorie's relatives, who are facing a fast-moving Parkinson's diagnosis
- For Stevie, Sharon Nicholson's uncle, who's facing health issues
- For Fred, Susan's brother, in declining health
- For Nicole and her family, Candy's co-worker, as Nicole's father-in-law comes to the end of his life
- For the people of Ukraine as they struggle to preserve their communities
- For the people of Taiwan
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

**4/19 Household Prayer: Morning**

Lord Jesus, your rising from tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew. Open my eyes to the signs of your resurrection and confirm in my heart the power of your amazing love, that I may with confidence sing "Alleluia." Amen.

**4/19 Household Prayer: Evening**

Loving God, you have upheld me with your love even when I have not been aware of your presence. As I rest from my labors let me sleep without fear of darkness or death and rise refreshed to begin a new day in humble service, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Announcements**

### **4/13-4/19 Rev. Cath will be on vacation**

If you would normally get in touch with her, either Kym Warner ([warnerkym@yahoo.com](mailto:warnerkym@yahoo.com), 402-705-4402) or Jocelyn Jones ([jocelyn\\_jones@verizon.net](mailto:jocelyn_jones@verizon.net), 813-787-5154) from the deacons can get you to the right person who's covering for Catherine while she's away.

### **4/19, 4:30pm Church Book Group Meets on Allen Levi's *Theo of Golden***

We'll be reading chs. 43-end. We'll meet at John Irwin's house at 40 Rte 13, Brookline. Come even if you haven't finished (or started!) the reading. It's always a great conversation. If you want to be added to the email list, let Ann ([desrochers.ann@gmail.com](mailto:desrochers.ann@gmail.com)) know.

### **5/16 Save the Date for the Yard Sale!**

We're hoping to do it again, have a yard sale at the church to help folks clean out their closets, raise some money for a good cause and make some new friends. There will be drop-off times on Saturdays April 18<sup>th</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Any questions? Speak to Amy ([arazz3914@gmail.com](mailto:arazz3914@gmail.com)).

### **Putting Faith into Action: Possible Projects**

We're trying to figure out where best to put our energies as a church as we share some of the abundance we find in our faith. Our current list of ideas is below. We'd love to hear from members of the church if any of these resonate with you enough that you'd be willing to help get them off the ground.

- Open up to new participants and invite people for volunteering/help
- Identify people who will monitor and represent BCC at community events to foster more cross collaboration
- Agree on events to invite community members to participate in
- Train members in making church invitations & collecting contact info
- Create practices/events that help BCC members connect more deeply
- Enhance online worship and digital outreach
- Create social media marketing strategy
- Identify team to actively drive and be responsible for social media presence

### **First Floor Apartment Needed**

David, Coco and Derek Smith are looking for a first floor apartment in the area to make it easier for David to get around without having to climb stairs. If you know of someplace, please get in touch with Derek ([dbsmith09@gmail.com](mailto:dbsmith09@gmail.com)).

### **Email Scams may appear to come from the church!**

You may get an email that appears to come from the church or Rev. Cath asking for money or gift cards. We won't ever do that, so you can ignore them.

## Looking for Help to Spruce up the Church's Exterior

Brookline is already planning its contribution to the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday party in 2026. We'd like the church to put its best face forward. We'll be looking to speak with folks who can help us improve the look of the exterior, as well as finding sources of funding to help pay for that. If you're able to help, please speak with Susan Haight ([sdlhaight@gmail.com](mailto:sdlhaight@gmail.com)).

## There's a task list in the Social Hall if you could help with a church project

Some are bigger than others; some will require supplies that the church will provide. If you have a few hours and would be willing to take on a task, we would appreciate the help!

## Help Lines

You may know someone who needs some support beyond what you can provide.

- Suicide prevention: 1-800-273-8255 (or 988)
- Sexual assault: 1-800-656-4673
- Domestic violence: 1-800-799-7233

## Brookline Food Pantry

The Brookline food pantry is open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-2:00 for drop-offs [Brookline Food Pantry's Facebook page](#) has updates. And there's now [a long, robust Google doc](#) that shows what they need.

If there's anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let Amy know.

## The church's financial obligations continue.

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
<b>February</b>	\$16,997	\$19,933	(\$2,936)

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.



**Brookline Community Church**

*Yard Sale &  
Breakfast Buffet*

***Saturday, May 16th 8AM-1PM***

**Come enjoy a delicious breakfast and  
browse through the yard sale.**

**Seniors 60+ Eat For Free!**

Adults \$7.00 Children \$5.00

Proceeds to benefit Home Health & Hospice  
and the Brookline Community Church

**Accepting Items for  
Yard Sale**

**Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
8-11:00 AM**



NO large furniture or electronics

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2 Main St 603-673-7511 Outreach@bccnh.org

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