



A Simple Service of Testimony and Song in Celebration of the Resurrection

Worship with members of the Council of Conference Ministers and national setting staff of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

The video is posted [here](#).

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

Rev. Elizabeth Dilley - Minister and Team Leader, Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization team, national setting of the UCC

MUSICAL OFFERING: THINE IS THE GLORY

Performed by members of the University Congregational UCC in Seattle, WA

OPENING LITANY

Based on John 20

Rev. Elena Larssen - Minister for Volunteer Engagement, national setting of the UCC

One: Peace be with you.

Many: The land drips with violence, people rage with contempt, even the air spins a path of destruction. How can we claim peace in a time like this?

One: Peace be with you.

One: Receive the Holy Spirit

Many: We are too afraid of this power, too enchanted by it, too disturbed by it. Is not this gift too powerful to be entrusted to humankind?

One: Receive the Holy Spirit.

One: See my hands.

Many: We do not want to see the wounds of the world; there are too many names to recall, too many places scored by violence. Why will you not let us forget?

One: See my hands.

One: Reach out your hand.

Many: We are so bound up in your love, O Christ, that your peace, your Spirit, even your pain will not let us go. Therefore we remember, take hold, receive, and move in faith.

One: Do not doubt but believe.

Many: Amen.

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20: 19-31

Rev. Kent Siladi - Director of Philanthropy, national setting of the UCC

TESTIMONIES:

Introduction by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

Testimony 1: Rev. Dr. Edward Davis - Conference Minister of the Southern Conference

Testimony 2: Rev. Lynn Bunjak - Conference Minister of the Vermont Conference Testimony 3:

Rev. Noel Andersen - UCC and CWS Grassroots Coordinator for Immigrants'

Rights

Testimony 4: Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund - Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice Closing
by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

MUSICAL OFFERING: RISE UP, PEACE ETERNAL

Written and performed by The Restoration Project

PASTORAL PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Chris Davies - Minister and Team Leader, Faith INFO, national setting of the UCC

Thank you for joining us today!



PRAYER LIST (04/11/21)

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 Jerry King, Tre Rouse, Tasha Feller, Pat Tiner, Terry House, Rev. Tom Atherton, June Hoff and Dave Larkin.
- Luca, Amy's nephew, as his new treatment appears to be having effect
- Those affected by the corona virus and those working to limit its impact
- Those suffering from domestic violence, who are caught at home with their abusers at a time of rising stress, that they might find safe havens.
- 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 the Family and Friends of Heidi Gonterman, Candy's cousin, who died at 44 of an overdose,
- For the Family and Friends of George R. Boggis, Peter's friend and member of the community, who passed away after a short struggle with cancer,
- For Monica, Donna's niece, whose dad, Andy, passed away,
- For Candy, who had to put down her dear dog Daisy; we all know how much love runs around on four paws,
- For Sanjay's friend in the U.K. who lost his job and housing and is struggling week to week to find a place to stay with friends,
- For Mary Beth, Lynn Giblin's sister, who's battling Covid and a high temperature
- For Jill's dog-in-law, Frank, who messed with a porcupine (and the porcupine who may be down to one quill at this point given how many were in Frank, may the porcupine not meet a predator anytime soon),
- For Rev. Cath, who's at home regaining her strength after an unexpected hospitalization. She's recovering well and her knee surgery is being rescheduled, with more details to follow
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers;
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Joys & Concerns Prayer

[Click here](#) for video

Breathe in this place, O Lord,
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
to open our minds as we pray for those lifted up with joys.
We pray for Brett & Nicole in their married life together.
We pray for the beautiful spring weather that has started and the animals that are
returning to their active spring and summer lives.
We pray for them knowing that we too will be lifted with joy.
Unlock our hearts, O Lord, as we pray for those weighed down with concerns.
We pray for Kevin and Jill's doggie 'nephew' Frank who is having a difficult time
recovering from a particularly bad tussle with a porcupine (and the porcupine who may
be down to one quill at this point given how many were in Frank, may the porcupine not
meet a predator anytime soon).
We pray for Rev. Cath, who is at home regaining her strength after an unexpected
hospitalization. She is recovering well and her knee surgery is being rescheduled, with
more details to follow.
We pray that you bring your loving presence ever closer to them in their time of need.
Enliven our faith, O Lord,
so that we may welcome
the risen one among us.
Amen.

Household Prayers

Household Prayer: Morning

God of light, I praise you for the gift of this new day. By the power of your Spirit enable me to live in your light and seek the holy fellowship of Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Be with me, Lord Jesus, at the evening of this day. Enter into my heart and fill it with your peace so that I may rejoice and rest in your presence. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

It all happened on Sunday. It was on “the first day of the week” (John 20:19)—the same day Jesus rose from the dead (John 20:1)—when the risen Lord appeared to a group of disciples in a locked house and offered them the gift of the Holy Spirit. Then, one week later (John 20:26), Jesus came again to the disciples (still shut inside the house), this time allowing Thomas to see and touch his hands and side. Think about the place where you gather for worship on Sunday. Is it open to the surprising presence of Christ and the liberating gifts of the Spirit? (If not, does the Spirit still move? Does Jesus show up anyway?) Are there times when your questions and doubts grow deeper? Are there times when your faith is strengthened and renewed?

Announcements:

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

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 + / -
March	\$24,471	\$22,683	\$1,788

The March/April edition of *The Upper Room* is available in the mail room, if you’re looking for a printed daily Scripture reading and reflection to add to your spiritual practice.

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

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:

Pickles	Apple or Cranberry Juice
Parmesan	Paper Towels
Cookies/Cookie Mix	Coffee
Cheese Nip (or similar) Crackers	Disposable Razors
Jello/Gelatin (any flavors)	Dry Cat Food
Sardines	Dry Dog Food
Cereal (especially Raisin Bran or "Fun" Cereals)	Dish Soap
	Zip-style Bags

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.