



Prelude

Call To Worship, Psalm 66:1-9, pp. 459-460

To the leader. A Song. A Psalm.

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.

**All: Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before
you.**

Leader: All the earth worships you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name.'
Selah

**All: Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.
He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.**

Leader: There we rejoiced in him,
who rules by his might for ever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
let the rebellious not exalt themselves.
Selah

All: **Bless our God, O peoples,
 let the sound of his praise be heard,
 who has kept us among the living,
 and has not let our feet slip.**

#820 Three Fold Amen (Danish) “Amen, Amen, Amen”

Hymn: #422 O God of Every Nation

If you have a favorite hymn you'd like to include in our worship service, just send it along and I'll look for a good place for it.

Children's Message: What stories do we lean on to understand today?

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.

[For next week, please feel free to send me your joys & concerns and I'll include them in our prayers: minister@bccnh.org or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

Hymn: #43 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Celebration of Holy Communion¹

Invitation to Communion/Words of Remembrance

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: We rest our hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them, upon us and upon all those who are in our prayers this morning.

All: **God, send your Spirit, upon every piece of every loaf so it is the Bread of Heaven. and pour your Love into every cup so it is the Cup of Blessing. Strengthened, may we become both travelers and welcomers on your holy way, healed and healers, comforted and comforters, rich in hope and givers of hope, in the name of Jesus whose table this always is to serve and be served. Amen.**

¹ The communion liturgy was inspired by Maren Tirabassi's "Holy Communion for Pentecost for July 3, 2022," Gifts in Open Hands Blog, posted June 24, 2022, <https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2022/06/24/holy-communion-for-pentecost-july-3-2022/> (accessed June 28, 2022).

Sharing of the Elements

Leader: Share this harvest of the promise of life.

All: May it fill us with peace.
(Eat the bread).

Leader: Drink from the fruit of God's vine

All: May we taste new words of love.
(Drink from the cup).

Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the wind at our backs, for the tables of strangers and friends, for the peace of being welcomed and the joy of welcoming others, we give you thanks. For the Body of Christ, come to us in plate and cup and lived by us in our journeys onward, we give you thanks and praise and promise. Amen.

Hymn: #77 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14, pp. 608-609

#820 Three Fold Amen (Danish) "*Amen, Amen, Amen*"

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: #418 *America the Beautiful*

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:**

**Let us not grow weary in doing what is right,
for the Lord has given us all that we have,
and in gratitude, we respond with our offerings.
Let these gifts be signs of your creative hand
in the places where there is need.
Bless the work of your people.
We ask this in the name of the one
who knows us through and through—
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 66)

Leader: Let me make the most joyful noise to God, even if I sing off key, even if my pies are soggy and my lawn is a bit shaggy around the edges.

All: Because in the end, everything comes from God, the music, the pies, the lawn, everything.

Leader: The whole world can praise God, each in their own way, even the broken-hearted and the devastated.

All: Let us take a breath and remember. <Silence>

Leader: Come and see what God has done, because there are awesome deeds and there are fearsome deeds, and all come from God.

All: God has brought us out of slavery again, God has brought us to the Promised Land again. Again and again and again.

Leader: Let us take a breath and remember. <Silence> We rejoice in a God who watches over us, like a nursing mother over her child.

All: So when the folks who think that they are such a big deal that the music and the pies and lawns all answer to them, when they get too big for their britches ...

Leader: Let us take a breath and remember. <Silence>. Let us remember to bless our God, however we can best do that, but make sure that praise can be known, everywhere to everyone

All: God has kept us among the living, has kept our feet from slipping, has kept us from thinking ourselves too much of a big deal.

Leader: Amen and ...

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:

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 66

Psalm 66 is a complex poem, but its primary accent on *praise and thanks* is unmistakable.

What is commanded in verses 1-3a is reported as completed in verse 4. The summons is addressed to “all the earth” in both verses 1 and 4. That is, this is a public act, and because the summons is public, the deliverance and the thanks are also a communal agenda. The nations are not summoned to observe a privation transformation. This turn around is here for all to see.

In verses 5-7, the psalm names a specific act of power and rescue, the Exodus. It is the paradigmatic liberation event to which all other subsequent events point.

After a repeated summons to praise in verse 8, we finally arrive at the specific occasion of thanksgiving in verses 9-12. The community recalls its time of difficulty, its season of disorientation.

Thus the current deliverance is a replica of that model of deliverance, as the community is once again set free. The mighty will of God will not stop until freedom and justice are wrought. No amount of imperial control and scheming can finally deter this God. Because it is the same God, the exodus recurs again and again, in new circumstances.

The remainder of the psalm (vv. 13-20) is much more an individual song of thanksgiving.

The second half shows a member of the community fully participating in and appropriating the communal deliverance as their very own. It follows that as the community experiences this, trusting persons in the community take it as a very personal assurance in their own life. This psalm shows the move from communal affirmation to individual appreciation, which is what we always do in biblical faith.

Walter Brueggemann, *The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary*. (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1984), 136-139.



PRAYER LIST (7/3/22)

- Friends & family of Braedon O'Connor, Elly Austin, Patty Birner, Jesse Delrossi.
- 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 Luca, Amy's nephew, whose treatments continue
- For Joe, Megan's friend, recovering from knee surgery
- For Joelle, Megan's friend & Joe's wife, recovering from heart surgery
- For Polly, John Panto's sister, recovering from a stroke, who's moving into another facility
- For Michael Esposito, friend of Susan and Russell's family, who is out of a coma but facing innumerable surgeries and other medical challenges
- For Morris, John Nicholson's dad, who's facing significant health challenges
- For those struggling with thoughts of suicide
- For those facing major surgery
- For Candy's parents, both suffering from Covid
- For Ken, Amy's brother-in-law, who was in a car accident. He's fine, but the car is finished.
- For one of Amy & George's customers, who is having surgery for breast cancer, that she may recover quickly
- For the people of Ukraine, who are finding new life in the death that surrounds them this Eastertide
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning²

The earth is full of your call to feasting, Holy God, and you have given us rest for this new day. Guide us so that in all we do we may rejoice in the security of your promises. Make us honest about ourselves and others, and teach us to move with kindness as we work and play; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As the sky grows dark, O God, we give you thanks for this day of work and rest, of fellowship with our family and friends, of living with the strengths and weaknesses of our bodies. Give us now the quiet and peace that will nourish us for tomorrow when, again, we will look to the Light of the world for hope and joy. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

Responding to the boasting of the disciples he sent out, Jesus said, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning" (Luke 10:18). What does Jesus' response indicate? What is he saying? Where and when have you seen Satan fall like lightning?

Daily Awareness Reflection³

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 ...

² 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.

³ 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.

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
May	\$28,340	\$40,271	(\$11,932)

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

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.

ARE YOU 60 or OLDER or KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS? DO YOU LIKE A GREAT MEAL?

If you do ... BE ON THE BROOKLINE COMMUNITY CHURCH'S SENIOR LUNCHEON LIST. We have lunches periodically on Saturdays throughout the year just for the 60 and older crowd. If you are interested, just let us know how you would like to be contacted for notices of these lunches (email, mail, Facebook ..., etc.) Any questions.... just ask Megan King (kingmegan7@gmail.com) or Amy Razzaboni (arazz3914@gmail.com).

Call all empty Jam Jars! Leave them in the mailroom!

It's strawberry season, so it's strawberry jam season. If you have empty jars, I can use them for this season's jam-packed-with-love.

Public Hearing about Accepting Unanticipated Revenue, July 11th at 7pm

The Selectboard will be holding a Public Hearing beginning at 7pm on Monday, July 11th to accept and spend \$50,000 in unanticipated funds from the Locality Equipment Matching Program. The hearing will be held in the Town Hall meeting room at 1 Main Street. [More info.](#)

Discernment Meeting in July? Does Thursday, July 14th, 6:30pm work?

Please let Ann (moderator@bccnh.org) know if you plan to attend. If you would like to attend, but have a conflict, let her know what would work better for you.

Potluck Brunch Worship on July 17th at the Church

We can see in the gospels that eating together was an important part of Jesus' ministry, was a way that Jesus showed folks what the Kingdom of God was like. So, we're going to have a potluck brunch worship service and see how that

deepens our understanding of Jesus' message. Bring what you like, including just yourself!

UMC Lay Servant Ministry Conference July 23rd in Plymouth, NH

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit called the entire church to spread the word. But that can be challenging when you are "just" a lay member of the congregation without training. The UMC is offering a day long session on being the kind of ambassador that Jesus is calling everyone to be. If you're interested, see Rev. Cath (minister@bccnh.org) or Ann (moderator@bccnh.org) for more details.

Get Your Parking Placards for the Lake!

We hope to worship more often at the Lake than in previous years. So make sure you have an up to date parking placard.

The Family Caring for their Granddaughter is Looking for a New Apartment

A few weeks ago, we learned from Angie about a family that was awarded custody of their granddaughter. We helped them get the clothes and other resources they needed to settle her in.

Now they are looking for a new apartment, preferably in Brookline, and are facing a tight housing market. If you know of anyone who might be looking for a great tenant, please contact Amy Razzaboni (arazz3914@gmail.com).

Would You Like to Pick the Music for Worship?

Music is not one of Rev. Cath's gifts, so she gets help from a variety of people. If you'd like to try picking the music once or many time, please let her know (minister@bccnh.org). Yifan's happy to do it. He knows how much he enjoys it and want other folks to have an opportunity if they'd like to give it a try.

Homeless keys looking for an owner on the back table:

In tidying up the 3rd floor classrooms, we found a number of keys that are looking for a home. They may have been there a while, so see if they were the set you were never able to find! See Susan Haight (sdlhaight@gmail.com) for more details.

Looking for feedback on changes in our Covid protocols

Over the next few weeks we'll be experimenting with changes in our Covid-19 protocols, trying to relax some of our guidelines. Our intention is to help folks feel more connected with one another. But the same changes might feel great for some and off-putting for others. Please speak with Rev. Cath, Ann or any of the deacons to let us know how the changes make you feel.

Free Covid Home Tests

1. Gov. Sununu [announced a program to deliver free Covid home tests to NH residents](#). You just go to [the program's website](#), put in your zip code and then follow the prompts. They're delivered via Amazon.

2. The federal government will deliver four tests to your home. Just enter your details on a special [US Post Office web page](#). And if you've ordered 4 in the past, you can get four more the same way!

Brookline Food Pantry

Although we cannot be together physically at this time, Outreach is continuing to work 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.

For the food pantry, in addition to Market Basket gift cards, this week, they're looking for:

toilet tissue
paper towels
tissues

women's size small depends
flushable wipes

If you know of anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let Angie 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.

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