

Brookline Community Church
September 1, 2022



Prelude: [*Jacob Wrestled with an Angel* by Emily Holsinger Butler and Steven L. Ricks](#)

Welcome to the Evening's Worship¹

Call To Worship²

Leader: Gracious God, in these troubled days we may be finding comfort and security in our possessions.

All: We may find it hard not to covet a picture-perfect Instagram life of plenty.

Leader: But the unity of heart and soul that we crave

All: comes only when we share what we have — even if our only abundance is that of grace.

Leader: Help us remember

All: and let grace be at work among us all. Amen.

The First Blessing: A Blessing in the Struggle

¹ Tonight's exercises were adapted from *Faith Practices: Discovering Gifts of Ministry: Adults* by the Pilgrim Press, 2012.

² This evening's Call to Worship was written by Beth DiCocco, Director of Communications for the New England Conference of the UMC, inspired by Acts 4:32-35, published via email on April 7, 2021.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:22–31, p. 26

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

Small Group Discussion

Congregational Discussion

Finishing Prayer

Hymn: #805 Gloria Patri

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.]

The Second Blessing: Questions as a Blessing:

The Summons by John Bell

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?
Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?
Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,

And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?
Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and
sound
In you and you in me?
Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps
show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me

Small Group Discussion

Congregational Discussion

Finishing Song

MINISTRY OF SHARING

***Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts We've Been Given:**

Jesus says if we would learn from him,
we must follow him.

Large crowds listened to Jesus,
but they turned away when they realized the cost.

Therefore, be generous with the fruit of your life and labor
on behalf of the good we are called to do for Christ.

Pray for God's blessing upon these gifts:
may they build God's love in the world, Amen.

Announcements

The Third Blessing: Blessing the Disciples

Small Group Discussion

Congregational Discussion

Finishing Blessing

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."

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

[**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: Jesus Calls Us by Elisa Bosley

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice
soundeth,
saying "Christian, follow me!"

Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,

days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and
pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than
these."

Jesus calls us by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear your call;
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all!

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.



PRAYER LIST (9/1/22)

- 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 the memory of Alan Haight, loved and missed by many, including Russell and Lisa
- For Mike, Russell & Susan's daughter's friend, who's returning to the hospital for more surgery
- For Cassandra, Amy's mom, on the loss of her sister Linda
- For the people of Ukraine, who fight on, even as the world looks elsewhere
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning³

Abiding God, awaken my heart to greet you and open my lips to sing your praise. May I follow the way of Christ ever more fully this day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, you know my strengths and weaknesses and how I long to serve you. Thank you for the love and guidance you have shown for me this day. In your book of life are written all my days; in you I fully trust. Bless me as I sleep this night and bring me to tomorrow, rejoicing in the gift of living ever close to you. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

What must you give up to follow Christ more faithfully?

Daily Awareness Reflection⁴

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 ...

³ 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.

⁴ 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 +/-
July	\$36,830	\$53,799	(\$16,969)

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.

Join Outreach and Be a Part of the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans

Outreach is asking for donations of **NEW** socks & underwear, blankets, long sleeve sweatshirts and sweatpants, gently used coats or clothing for the cold winter months coming up. These items will be given out to the veterans at this event.

Please bring your donations to the church by Sunday, September 18th. There will be a barrel outside by the parking lot side door to put items in, leave in the front hall at the church or drop off Friday Sept 9th between 1-4:30 during Take Home Meal.

You may also send in a monetary donation to the Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline NH 03033. Please note to be used for Stand Down items.

Contact Amy Razzaboni at arazz3914@gmail.com for more info. There's also a flyer with more event details further down in the bulletin.

Touch a truck! Sat. Sept 17th at the Public Works facility

As part of National Preparedness Month this family fun event offers hands-on opportunities for kids of all ages to explore, climb, and touch trucks, emergency response vehicles, heavy machinery, and other equipment and meet the men and women who help to build, protect and serve our community. [More details here.](#)

Brookline is in a severe drought!

You can learn more about drought conditions from the [NH Dept. of Environmental Services website](#). There is also [a guide for private well owners](#)

[and information](#) on the Water Assistance for Natural Disaster Impacts to Low-Income Residential Well Owners Program.

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).

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 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.

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.

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

NH is now part of the national 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

New Hampshire is announcing the launch of 988, the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL). People can call 988 to be connected with trained counselors that are part of the existing NSPL network.

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!



NH STAND DOWN
for veterans experiencing homelessness
Sept. 23, 2022
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Location: Harbor Care Health & Wellness Center, 45 High Street, Nashua



MORE INFORMATION

Donations & Other Questions Contact Richard Odonnell 603-882-3616 x 1199 r.odonnell@harborcarenh.org	Table & Attendance Questions Contact Andrea Reed 603-882-3616 x 1111 a.reed@harborcarenh.org
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Help is available if you're a veteran experiencing homelessness!

- Employment Services
- Medical Advice
- Food
- Clothing
- Haircuts
- Legal Advice
- Pension Claims
- Advising
- Counseling

Sponsored by

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