



Celebration of Ministry

Brookline Community Church

October 9, 2022

Rev. Catherine A. Merrill

Prelude: [Be Thou My Vision by YoungMin You](#)

Announcements:

Call To Worship, Psalm 37:1-4, p. 443

Leader: Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,

**All: for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.**

Leader: Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

**All: Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Recognition of Service: Sue Laub

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: Mustard Seed by Hilton Severson

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.

Scripture Reading: Luke 17:5-6, p. 852

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.'

RESPONSE: #820 Threefold Amen (Danish)

Everybody's Message, Part I: Doing it Our Way

Hymn: Walking by Faith by Golden State Baptist College

The road I face ahead may not be easy
There may be some twist
and turns along the way
But I'm thankful that the Lord
He leads me
And His guiding hand will help me stand as I struggle day by day

Chorus:

I'm walking by faith and not by sight
Living for the Lord and doing what's right
Knowing my sins have all been covered
by the Great I am (I am)
No need to worry, fear or care
for the Lord is always there
Let come what may
I'm on my way
I'm walking by faith

Sometimes I can't see what lies before me
And I follow him into the darkest night
But every step I take it draws me closer
And I won't turn around because I found that Jesus is the Light (the Light)

Chorus

Call To Worship, Part II, Psalm 37:5-9, p. 443

Leader: Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

**All: He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

Leader: Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.

**All: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.**

Scripture Reading: Luke 17:5-10, p. 852

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" '

RESPONSE: #820 Threefold Amen (Danish)

Everybody's Message, Part II: Doing it God's Way

Hymn: [Moving Mountains by Jeff Deyo](#)

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:**

Before us is a world in great need, waiting in hope. We are a people holding treasure meant to be given away: the good news of Christ; resources of time, talents, and money.

Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring this day. Use them according to your own purpose and grace. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 37)

Leader: Don't stress about it. The mean people will fade away.

All: God has made a place for you in God's kingdom. The more you live in your place in God's kingdom, the more you will desire what God desires for you.

Leader: Committing your life to God will bring you vindication. Others will see it, though you may not realize it at the time.

All: Stand strong with God, waiting patiently for God to reveal God's truth. Don't fret over the mean people.

Leader: Don't let the mean people pull you into their dramas of anger and wrath,

All: They'll be cut off from God's abundance, while we'll rest in God's sure and strong realm.

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: [Mustard Seed by David Ashley Trent](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.



PRAYER LIST (10/9/22)

- 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 Polly, John Panto's sister, who will split her time between her home and a memory care facility
- For Mike Esposito, Miracle Mike, friend of Susan and Russell's family, returning to the hospital for more surgery
- For Cassandra, Amy's mom, on the loss of her sister Linda
- For Ann's dad, who had gallbladder surgery
- For the friends and family of Sharon Nicholson's brother, Scott
- For Alex, John Nicholson's brother, who suffered a seizure and who is recovering his speech and movement
- For Reverend Catherine's cousin Peter, who is recovering from serious cancer surgery
- For the friends and family of Tom Hoff, Donna's cousin
- For the people of Ukraine, who fight on, even as the world looks elsewhere
- For the people of Taiwan, searching for peace in the face of hostility
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning¹

New every morning are your mercies, dear God. As I begin this new day, make me as merciful to others as you have been to me. Strengthen me in faith so that I may trust in you with my whole heart. If any trouble overtakes me today, help me to wait and to hope in you. May the Holy Spirit help me as I both guard and give away to others the treasure of Jesus Christ, my Savior. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of my homecoming, the night falls with your steadfast love watching over the world. I put my trust in you as I prepare to lie down in sleep. Thank you for the gift of the day as it has been: for glimpses of beauty; for expressions of care; for opportunities to serve. Thank you for the gift of faith kindled and rekindled in me through the years. Thank you for those who have taught me the faith in sincerity and love. With the return of morning's light, may I rise from this resting place to live tomorrow in accord with your purpose and grace. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

What is faith?

Daily Awareness Reflection²

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 ...

¹ 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.

² 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 +/-
September	\$65,650	\$67,702	(\$2,052)

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.

The Christmas Raffle committee is looking for donations for the following prizes: High Spirits (various bottles of alcohol, like vodka, gin, whiskey, etc), Family Time (games, puzzles, books, etc) We have an Uno card game so far, Sugar Rush! (Any candy)

Thank you for any contributions! We are off to a great start!

Contact Donna Bretschneider for info/questions. (603) 860-5291 or dbret@charter.net.

Ghost Trail Run Spaghetti Supper, October 14

October 14 is the annual Spaghetti Supper for the Ghost Trail Runners. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

Senior Luncheon, Turkey Dinner with Apple Crisp, October 29, 11:30am

Our guest speaker will be Angie Dacey, Brookline Welfare Officer. We'd welcome anyone who'd like a good meal in great company!

Are you 60 or older? Do you 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).

Looking for Toddler Clothes for Local Girl

The grandmother who recently got custody of her granddaughter is looking for fall and winter clothes for her. They need: Size 2T Girl: Long sleeve shirts,

Sweatshirts, Pants, Hat, Gloves, Snow pants, Snow boots size 7 (toddler). They usually shop at Target.

Fall Food Drive

Our local food pantries are seeing an unprecedented number of people seeking assistance to help feed their families. The rising costs of fuel, electricity and rents are leading more people to ask for help.

Fall is typically a time of low food donations as most people are thinking ahead to what they can donate at Holiday time, but this year they need help NOW!

Outreach is asking for the following food items to benefit both the Brookline Food Pantry and Share Food Pantry in Milford, NH who also supports the Brookline community.

Cereal

Snacks (peanut butter crackers, granola bars, fruit cups etc)

Chicken & Beef Broths

Baking mixes

Sugar & Flour

Holiday Dinner Items

These items can be brought to the church and placed in the outside bin by the side door, in the basket in the front hall or dropped off during Take Home Meal on Friday, Oct 7th from 1:00-5:00.

If you would like to make a monetary donation you can mail a check to the Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline NH 03033 and note the check is for the October Food Drive.

Contact Amy Razzaboni at 603-801-9210 or arazz3914@gmail.com with any questions.

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.

Thanks for Making the 2022 Stand Down for Homeless Veterans a Success

Outreach would like to thank everyone who donated to the 2022 Stand Down Event for Homeless Veterans. Through the generosity of our congregation, THM customers and the communities of Brookline and Hollis we collected 96 pairs of socks, 38 pairs of underwear, 41 sweatshirts and sweatpants, 7 winter coats, blankets, and other clothing items to help keep our homeless veterans warm this coming winter. Please keep these Veterans in your prayers and let us not forget their sacrifices while serving this Country.

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