



**Prelude:**

**Call To Worship, Psalm 17:1-9, p. 431**

A Prayer of David.

Leader: Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;  
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.  
From you let my vindication come;  
let your eyes see the right.

**All: If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,  
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;  
my mouth does not transgress.**

Leader: As for what others do, by the word of your lips  
I have avoided the ways of the violent.  
My steps have held fast to your paths;  
my feet have not slipped.

**All: I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;  
incline your ear to me, hear my words.**

Leader: Wondrously show your steadfast love,  
O savior of those who seek refuge  
from their adversaries at your right hand.

**All: Guard me as the apple of the eye;  
hide me in the shadow of your wings,  
from the wicked who despoil me,  
my deadly enemies who surround me.**

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

**Children's Message: Answering Riddles**

**Hymn: #801 *This is the Day***

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.

**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](mailto:minister@bccnh.org) or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

**Hymn: #540 *Take Time to Be Holy***

**Celebration of Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>**

**Invitation to Communion from Job 19:23-27a**

(Scripture carried in leader's words)

Leader: Come to Communion, my friends, as true friends to Job.  
"O that my words were written down!  
O that they were inscribed in a book!"

**All: O that our words were food,  
and we could share them on every plate.**

Leader: "O that with an iron pen and  
with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!"

**All: O may they be stirred with a wooden spoon  
and tasted whenever one  
of your children is hungry.**

Leader: "For I know my Redeemer lives,  
and at the last will stand upon the earth."

**All: I know my Redeemer lives  
and sits at table with us here.**

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<sup>1</sup> The communion liturgy was inspired by Maren Tirabassi's "Celebration of Holy Communion – November 6, 2022" Gifts in Open Hands Blog, posted October 27, 2022, <https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2022/10/27/celebration-of-holy-communion-november-6-2022/> (accessed November 2, 2022).

Leader: "After my skin is destroyed,  
then in my flesh I shall see God."

**All: After my heart is softened,  
then all around I see God.**

Leader: "God is on my side,  
and my eyes behold, and not another."

**All: God is on the side of Love  
and teaches us to embrace.**

### Words of Remembering

#### Prayer of Consecration

**All: Christ, you spoke a mystery that your body is our bread, and  
our drink is your life poured out. We are your Sunday guests so  
we may be hosts to your children all the week long. We need a  
deep sacrament to serve at your table. Holy Spirit come and  
make this bread and cup a miracle deep as faith and ordinary as  
hope. Amen.**

#### Sharing of the Elements (Psalm 34)

Leader: Taste and see that God is good. Eat this bread.

**All: Sharing love, we will never be hungry.**  
(Eat the bread).

Leader: Happy are those who take refuge in God.  
The cup on your table is blessed.  
so that you can become a blessing to others.

**All: Drinking deeply, we will never thirst.**  
(Drink from the cup).

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**All: God, we are blessed in the community of tangible sanctuary  
and virtual sanctuary by this sacrament shared. Help us in the  
week to come to recognize everyone we meet as hungry guests  
and spread a table or tailgate of love, offer a take-out or  
weekend backpack of hope, share our churchy recipe for faith,  
that they may find the ingredients they need. Amen**

Hymn: #502 *Amazing Grace*

Scripture Reading: Luke 20:27-38, pp. 855-856

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

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

## 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:**

Holy One, in gratitude for all that you give us,  
including those who have gone before us,  
we offer you these gifts and ask you to bless  
and multiply them,  
that they may become the good work and word  
that comforts and strengthens both our hearts  
and the hearts of others. Amen.

## Announcements

**A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 17:1-9)**

Leader: I am innocent of the wrongdoing I have been accused of. And I will state my innocence plainly and before God and all God’s creation. Because God knows how innocent I am.

**All: God can come when I am at my weakest, and my most vulnerable and troubled and God will find no trace of wrongdoing, neither by word or by deed.**

Leader: Not only am I not guilty of what I am accused of, you can judge me by all my actions, by how I walk through life and I have not stepped away from God’s path.

**All: God who has always been willing to intervene in human history, intervene now. You are not shy to send word when your people head in the wrong direction. I will not be shy to ask for your all powerful help.**

Leader: You brought us out of slavery in Egypt, you protected us through that long journey. You have protected us since. Once again, one of your children asks for refuge.

**All: Keep me close enough to be reflected in your eye, O God. Hid me from my enemies in the wings of the cherubim who protect the Ark of the Covenant, in the wings of the angels, in the wings of the birds who protect their young.**

Leader: Those who seek to destroy me are ruining my good name and my relationships with all my friends and neighbors,

**All: Evil surrounds me. Keep me safe from harm.**

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:**

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### **Psalm 17**

Psalm 17 is a fully developed example of a petitioner crafting an ironclad case to present to the divine judge. The prayer calls on imagery of hearing, seeing, and speaking, and on a rhetoric of contrast with the malicious opponents, to shape a persuasive petition for protection. The prayer especially calls on the theological traditions of covenant. God initiated a covenant relationship with ancient Israel by way of the Exodus from Egyptian oppression, and so the psalmist has learned that God is the God who saves. So the poet brings a crisis within the community into the covenant tradition and urges God to act and deliver the faithful petitioner. Contemporary readers of the Psalms may be more accustomed to thinking of covenant and righteousness in terms of divine calls for the community to live faithfully. Here the petitioner calls on God to be faithful to the relationship initiated in the Exodus from Egypt.

This psalm, and a number of other psalms like it, is an important part of the covenant dialogue of faith in the Hebrew canon. It is the part of the dialogue initiated on the human side and holding God accountable. That kind of straightforward dialogue with the divine judge may be surprising to contemporary readers, who may also be troubled by the claim of righteousness on the part of the petitioner. It is important to remember, however, that the claim is not an arrogant self-righteousness but has to do with living faithfully in a relationship initiated by the covenant God. The book of Psalms rolls out more prayers of innocence like Psalm 17 than it does prayers of penitence. These petitions are part of the intimate opening relationship with the divine judge that deepens a covenant relationship. Psalm 17 calls on the covenant God to demonstrate faithfulness to the covenant relationship, even in this crisis.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 88-93.



## PRAYER LIST (11/06/22)

- Friends & family of Braedon O'Connor, Elly Austin, Patty Birner, Jesse Delrossi, Jane Jukes, Edith Corey, Sandy Garvin, Scott Higgins, Ed Krom.
- 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 Peter, Rev. Cath's cousin, who had a set back after cancer surgery and is in the ICU at the Mayo Clinic.
- For Gerry, Jakub's former co-worker, who is being treated for cancer, that she might come safely home and that her husband might be comforted
- For the friends and family of the 150+ people killed in the crowd crush in Seoul, may they know the love that surrounds them
- For Carol, Candy's aunt, still going through medical evaluation for something that's just not right
- For Flora, Marjorie's mom, who has recently moved into a memory care unit and is struggling because it's not what she's familiar with
- For Luke, Jessica's family friend, who has entered hospice care
- 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: Morning<sup>2</sup>**

Holy One, I want to see you today in this world with my own eyes. Even though your greatness is unsearchable, today I want to meditate on your wondrous works all around me. Give me the eyes of faith through which to see you. Renew me, that I may praise you with a new song. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

God, thank you for guiding my steps on your paths today. Where my feet may have slipped, forgive me. You have wondrously shown me your steadfast love through the course of this day. Now let me fall asleep in the shadow of your wings, for I have seen today that you are my redeemer, the living God. Amen.

### **Questions for Reflection**

We each have our own ideas and visions of what happens to us after we die. When the opponents of Jesus tried to trick him by asking a convoluted question about what heaven is like after we die, Jesus replied by saying that God is not the God of the dead but of the living because we are always alive to God (Luke 20:38). How does that inform our sense of Christian community, of the communion of saints, and of life everlasting?

### **Daily Awareness Reflection<sup>3</sup>**

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 ...

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

### Daylight Savings Ends on November 6!

Make sure to set your clocks back and change your smoke detector batteries!

### Senior Citizen Active Walking Program is starting again!

The NH Wellpoint Foundation is once again offering the Winter Walking Program for Brookline residents age 70+ at The Hampshire Dome in Milford. The program runs from 11/15/2022 to 3/31/2023. Please see [the flyer](#) for more details.

### The Christmas Raffle committee is looking for donations

- 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](mailto:dbret@charter.net).

### November Take Home Meal is Buffalo Mac & Cheese (with add-ons!) Nov. 4

The November Take Home Meal is coming soon, delicious Buffalo Mac & Cheese. The add-ons will let you try dessert or vegetarian egg rolls. So much deliciousness in one place!

### Christian Education: Nov. 6 8:30-9:30am: Jesus, Fully Human, Fully Divine

We're beginning our monthly Christian Education program by looking at Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus the Christ, what it means historically and for us, here and how, for Jesus to be both fully human and fully divine. The kids will have their own session, and the adults another. It will be a time for lessons and fellowship and self-reflection. The program is an experiment that we can take in any direction, so please join in and help us figure out what possibilities are richest for us.

Coming up: Dec. 4 (a busy day in the church), Jan. 1 (start the year with Jesus!), Feb. 5, Mar. 5, Mar. 26 (Palm Sunday is Apr. 2, so we'll meet a week early), May 7, Jun. 4.

### Scouting for Food on Nov. 12

The local scouts in Brookline will be collecting food donations to be delivered to local food pantries in Brookline and Milford. Leave the bags out in a location **visible from**

**the street (your mailbox works best)** NO LATER than **8:30 AM**, rain or shine. Scouts will not ring the doorbell to collect donations. [For more details, see the flyer.](#)

### **Serving the church on one of our committees**

We have openings on several church committees. We like to have people rotate on and off our committees so everyone has a chance to serve and to rest. Most are three-year terms, but we can certainly be flexible about how the roles are filled. We are looking for folks for Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustees, Finance Committee, Stewardship, Deacons and Pastoral Relations. If you're interested in learning more, please let Ann ([moderator@bccnh.org](mailto:moderator@bccnh.org)) or Rev. Cath ([minister@bccnh.org](mailto:minister@bccnh.org)) know.

### **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.

Contact Amy Razzaboni at 603-801-9210 or [arazz3914@gmail.com](mailto:arazz3914@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **Ploughing for the Winter**

If you know of anyone who would be interested in ploughing and sanding the church parking lot this winter, Susan Haight ([sdlhaight@gmail.com](mailto:sdlhaight@gmail.com)) would love to speak with them.

### **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.

### **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