



*Brookline Community Church
November 13, 20
Rev. Catherine A. Mer*

Prelude: [*Let us Talents and Tongues Employ* by Hal Leonard and the Shawnee Press Church Choral](#)

Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy,
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Chorus

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe
again;

Pass the Word around: loaves
abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe
again;

Pass the Word around: loaves
abound!

Christ is able to make us one.
At the table He sets the tone,
Teaching people to live and bless
Love in word and indeed express.

Chorus

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt
Gives us love to tell, bread to share
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Chorus

Call To Worship, Psalm 98, p. 480

A Prayer of David.

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.

**All: The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**All: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

Leader: With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

**All: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.**

Leader: Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

**All: He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

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

Children's Message: Future Fortunes

Hymn: [Lead On, O King Eternal by TUMI Productions](#)

Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Your tents will be our home

Through days of preparation
Your grace had made us strong;
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace.

For not with swords' loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy
The heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal
We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Your face appears.

Your cross is lifted over us,
We journey in its light;
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might.

And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.
With deeds of love and mercy
The heav'nly kingdom comes.

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:

The response to "God in your mercy," is "**hear our prayer.**"

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.]

Standing for Stewardship

Hymn: [Psalm 98 \(Shout with Joy\) by transMission](#)

Scripture Reading: Luke 21:5-19, p. 856

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: [Fight the Good Fight by Koine](#)

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:**

Loving God,
before we give to you, you have given to us.
All we offer we have received from you.
We thank you for your goodness,
and we praise you for your bountiful works,
through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 98)

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord, because God has been singing to us forever. God has brought us out of slavery and given us new life on new land, again and again and again.

All: God's drive for justice, righteousness and lovingkindness is clear to everyone, anyone who is willing to look out into the world.

Leader: Make a joyful noise, from the places of political power, from the sacred sanctuaries, from the battlefields. Sing the new song your heart is teaching you.

All: Sing the song that underlies the chaos of life, sing the song counted out by the rivers, sing the song of the granite hills rustling with fallen leaves.

Leader: The great judge is coming, bringing pure justice into the world, defeating oppression and inequity.

All: God will judge fairly and forever and the world will sing a new song.

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: [I Will Fear No More by the Afters](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 98

Psalm 98 continues a series of hymns (Psalms 93-100) on the reign of God. Characteristic of these psalms which recognize a new orientation to life, Psalm 98 calls the congregation to sing a new song.

The “right hand” and “holy arm” suggest the root metaphor of Israel’s historical memory, the deliverance from slavery in Egypt. There the promise is of a new exodus. God’s victories on behalf of the faith community of ancient Israel are not limited to the Exodus but also include various manifestations of God’s mighty acts on behalf of the community and revealed to the nations. God’s steadfast love and faithfulness toward Israel have implications for all nations, and so the victories of the divine warrior are revealed for all to see. God has remembered the commitments of loyalty and faithfulness and is working to fulfill them; that claim has marvelous implication for Israel and for all of creation.

Verses 4-6 articulate an extensive call to praise with music, singing, and shouting.

The renewed call of praise in verses 7-8 broadens the call to all creation, in line with Psalm 96, though with different participants.

King God “is coming to judge the earth,” and thus praise from floods and hills becomes possible. This judgement will reveal God’s “righteousness,” the same term used in verse 2 (rendered as “vindication” in the NRSV), and God’s justice. In a world with chaos knocking at the door, the promise brings hope. The psalm implies that God’s salvation history on behalf of one faith community has to do with the bringing of justice and the restoration of order for the whole of creation.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 419-423.



PRAYER LIST (11/13/22)

- 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 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 Luke, Jessica and Jakub's son, with double ear infections
- For Donna's dad, who fell and broke his shoulder
- For the hospitals in the region who are struggling to care for pediatric patients after running out of beds
- For those who will be helped by the donations from our recent food drive, that their balancing act might become easier
- 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

Lord of Creation, every morning you renew the earth with light. I praise for you the morning light, and I rejoice in the life you have given me. Let me be a friend to those who do not know your love. Let me offer hope to those who do not trust your goodness. Let me embody graciousness to those who do not understand your peace. Help me to be a blessing to all I encounter – to bear witness to your goodness through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid. For the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

Lord, the day is done and my labors must end. I trust to your care all that I have done and all that I have left undone, for you alone are my strength. Give me peaceful rest that I may raise to faithful service, with Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

Jesus speaks of wars, insurrections, earthquakes, famines, and plagues, but instructs his followers, “Do not be terrified!” How does our witness to the gospel include resistance to our natural impulse to be terrorized by evil? Have you ever suffered persecution as a Christian because you refused to go along with social pressure to be fearful of enemies, terrorists, criminals, illegal aliens, or other pariahs?

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 +/-
October	\$78,268	\$75,200	\$3,068

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.

Fantastic Fall Food Drive: Many, many thanks

Outreach would like to thank the Congregation, THM Customers, Senior Luncheon attendees and the communities of Brookline & Hollis for the overwhelming donations we received from our October Food Drive. We were able to distribute **2,320 food items and \$600 in gift cards** to the Brookline Food Pantry and the Share Food Pantry in Milford. Many families are having to make difficult decisions with the rising costs of food, rent and basic utilities and everything we can do makes a difference in people's lives. Please pray for these families as we head into the holidays and the upcoming cold winter months.

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) or Rev. Cath (minister@bccnh.org) know.

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) would love to speak with them.

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.

Christian Education Coming up on Dec. 4 8:30-9:30am

We'll be continuing our Christian Education program (for both kids and adults) on December 4 (a busy day in the church!). Coming up: 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.

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.

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.

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