

Brookline Community Church
February 19, 2023
Rev. Catherine A.
Merrill



Prelude: [*Eternal is Your Promise* by Adam Michael Wood](#)

Call To Worship, Prayer of St. Francis

Leader: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;

**All: where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;**

Leader: where there is despair, hope;

**All: where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

Leader: O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,

**All: to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.**

Leader: For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

**All: and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.**

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

Children's Message: Being Afraid and ...

Hymn: [O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair by Michigan District, LCMS](#)

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.

O wondrous type! O Vision fair
of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain
shows, where brighter than the sun
He glows!

With Moses and Elijah nigh.
The incarnate lord holds converse
high;
and from the cloud the Holy One
bears record to the only Son.

With shining face and bright array
Christ deigns to manifest today.

What glory shall be theirs above
who joy in God with perfect love.

And faithful hearts are raised on
high.

By this great vision's mystery,
for which in joyful strains we raise
the voice of prayer, the hymn of
praise.

O Father, with the eternal Son. And
Holy Spirit ever one,
we pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace
To see Thy glory face to face

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: [Be Still for the Presence of the Lord](#)

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear In Him
no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendor He is crowned

How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-9, p. 798

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: [Oh Savior Who for Man Has Trod](#) by Keri Lilley

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:**

**God of mountaintops and valleys,
be our vision of you clouded or brilliantly clear,
we faithfully add our gifts
to those being given all around us.
Bless these offerings that they may be transfigured
into your presence in the world. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 15)

**All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;**
Leader: where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
All: where there is despair, hope;
Leader: where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
**All: O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,**
Leader: to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
**All: For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,**
Leader: and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
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: [We Seek Your Kingdom by Noel Robinson, Lou Fellingham, Andy
Flannagan, Donna Akodu](#)**

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.



PRAYER LIST (2/19/23)

- Friends & family of Jesse Delrossi, Jane Jukes, Edith Corey, Sandy Garvin, Scott Higgins, Ed Krom, Ron Whitebred, Chris Crowder, Morris Nicholson.
- 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 those who are balancing food, gas and housing in tough times
- For Rick, Nancy's cousin, diagnosed with Stage 4 kidney cancer
- For Jen, the Aitken's friend, diagnosed with cancer
- For Hailey, daughter of the Razzabonis' friends, who has started cancer treatment
- For Luke's family and friends, Jessica's friends, who passed in hospice care
- For Eddie, Amy's relative, in the hospital with Covid
- For the friends and family of Flora, Marjorie's mom, who passed away on Friday night
- For Polly, John's sister, as she comes to the end of her life
- For the people of Turkey and Syria, as they recover from the devastation of the earthquake
- For the friends and family of Burt Bacharach, who helped so many people fall in love
- For Kathy, Russell's sister, who is recovering from a broken leg after a tree fell on her
- For Donna's six-year-old cousin, who fell on the playground and has two broken arms (and for his family who get to look after him!),
- For Lori, Barbara's granddaughter, who's helping nurse her grandmother and great aunt through Covid in Florida
- For Jessica's relative, who's been diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma, may they find the right combination of care quickly
- For Peter, Rev. Cath's cousin, whose pancreatic cancer has shown up in his liver
- 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

God, as this new day dawns, may your Spirit guide my feet and reveal you to me in new ways as I walk through your world today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy One, thank you for the gift of this day. Whatever has happened, whatever I've done and left undone, help me hear the voice of Jesus tonight, telling me to go to sleep as I am and not be afraid. Amen.

Ash Wednesday Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, I awaken this morning and raise up my mortal body from sleep. I know that one day you will raise me to everlasting life. Thank you for such an inexpressible gift! Thank you, too, for the gift of this day, of this life among family and friends, my home and the beautiful earth. Show me how I can serve you today by serving someone else. Help me to see evidence of your grace all around. Remove any obstacle that causes me to stumble in faithfulness or prevents me from receiving the joy and gladness you offer. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

Ash Wednesday Household Prayer: Evening

Long after Wednesday's ashes are wiped away, my perishable body is still perishable, O God of my salvation. I can feel it in these evening hours: the tiredness in my limbs, my eyes, my mind. Thank you for the activities that engaged me today, and for the rest that comes as the sun leaves my horizon for another shore. As I prepare to sleep, quiet my thoughts and all my strivings. Let me ponder the treasures of my heart, lifting up each one as a prayer for your safe keeping. When I awake, now and in the life to come, I am still with you. In Christ, Amen.

Questions for Reflection

Why does Jesus instruct the disciples to keep quiet about what they had seen "until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead" (Matt. 17:9)?

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.

Announcements

The church's financial obligations continue.

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
January	\$7,930	\$8,964	(\$1,034)

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.

Helping the Salvation Army Food Pantry Meet Urgent Needs

The Salvation Army Food Pantry is in desperate need of regular size boxes of cereal and peanut butter & jelly in 16oz or less plastic containers. If you wish to make a donation you can leave the items in the front hall at the church or in the outside bin by the side door. You may also give a monetary donation to a member of the Outreach Board and we will shop for you.

Outreach is starting 2023 collecting much needed items for Marguerite's Place

Marguerite's Place located in Nashua, NH supports homeless women with children in their quest for self-sufficiency by providing transitional housing, childcare, and supportive services to help families thrive. Marguerite's Place consists of 10 apartments in two buildings on Palm St in Nashua along with a licensed child care facility onsite. Let's help these women as they transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency with the help of the many programs at Marguerite's Place. After moving in, residents partner with a case manager who provides these women with individualized support, career/financial coaching, and connection to vital community resources to help them create a plan for their future.

Please help them by purchasing any one of the following items between now & **Sunday, Feb 19th:**

Diapers in sizes 3,4,5 & 6
Paper Towels
Kleenex-Facial Tissue

Unscented Trash bags
Cleaning products

You may place these items anytime in the plastic bin outside the church by the side door, in the front hall inside the church or drop off in person on Friday Feb 10th between 1:00-4:30 PM.

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 that this is for Marguerite's Place Collection.

You may also give your donation to a member of the Outreach Board.

Contact Amy Razzaboni at 603-801-9210 or arazz3914@gmail.com with any questions concerning this collection or regarding the work we do through our Outreach Board.

Ash Wednesday Service in Mason, Feb. 22nd at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall

This year's Ash Wednesday service will be at the Mason Congregational Church, [33 Valley Rd, Mason, NH 03048](#). We'll gather for worship in their Fellowship Hall to begin the Lenten season. Let Candy (secretary@bccnh.org) or Rev. Cath (minister@bccnh.org) know if you'd like a ride.

The Church has 12 Covid Test Kits, Take & Replace!

NH made Covid supplies available to certain non-profits. We took advantage of the program to snag 12 Covid test kits. If they become hard to find again, feel free to grab one (Candy secretary@bccnh.org can help) and replace it later.

Cookies/Cakes for Coffee Hour

We like to have treats available during coffee hour, so if you're cooking at home and would make a bit extra for the church, we'd love to freeze them and share the love later.

Christian Education Coming up on March 5, 8:30-9:30am

We'll be continuing our Christian Education program (for both kids and adults) on March 5. We'll be taking a kid's eye view at Holy Week. I think the adults might be surprised by what they see. Coming up: Mar. 26 (Palm Sunday is Apr. 2, so we'll meet a week early), May 7, Jun. 4.

March 11, Food Pantry Fundraiser at the Event Center

The Fire Department is working on an evening fundraiser at the Event Center to support the Brookline Food Pantry. There are rumors of corned beef and cabbage and special entertainment!

Take Home Meal, March 24, Supporting Habitat for Humanity

We're supporting Habitat for Humanity with March's THM. If you would like to provide an "add on," something we can sell in addition to the meals, please let Megan (kingmegan7@gmail.com) know.

His Mansion is Hiring a Director of Operations for their 320 acre campus

The Director of Operations leads a team who runs the day-to-day operations of a 320-acre campus and property. This includes building maintenance, work crews, property care, and farming. Housing and a hybrid compensation package may be available. See Rev. Cath (minister@bccnh.org) for more details.

Update to the Senior Citizen Active Walking Program

A nice addition to the Winter Walking Program, offered to Brookline residents age 70+ at The Hampshire Dome in Milford by NH Wellpoint Foundation, is LUNCH!! Beginning February 21st, Meals on Wheels of Hillsborough County is proud to sponsor free lunches for participants of the Hampshire Dome Winter Walking Program. Lunch is available on Tuesdays 11:30AM -12:30PM. Please see [the flyer](#) for more details.

Horton Center Schedule for 2023 looks awesome!

Lots of fun theme weeks, from Mysteries on the Mountain to Hogwarts at Horton Center. If you know of anyone who could use some time in a beautiful place, centered on Christian faith, please pass the word. Scholarships are available. www.hortoncenter.org.

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