



Prelude: [*The Earth is the Lord's* by Evan Shelton](#)

Call To Worship, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, pp. 491-492

Leader: I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

**All: Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

Leader: The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**All: I suffered distress and anguish.
Then I called on the name of the LORD:
'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'**

Leader: What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

**All: I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,
I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**

Leader: Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

**All: O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid.
You have loosed my bonds.**

Leader: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.

**All: I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

Everybody: Praise the LORD!

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

Children's Message: Not perishable like silver and gold

Hymn: [A Prayer for the Earth by Steve Klaper of Song and Spirit](#)

Chorus:

We thank You! We thank You!

We thank You for being with us every day.

We thank you! We thank You!

We thank You for being with us in every way.

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 of resurrection," 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.]

Hymn: [For the Beauty of the Earth by Peterson Music](#)

For the beauty of the Earth, for the beauty of the skies. For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies. Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night. Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light. Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight. For the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight. Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child. Friends on Earth and Friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23, pp. 983-984

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: [Before the Throne of God Above featuring Kristyn Getty](#)

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea. A great High Priest whose Name is Love. Whoever lives and pleads for me

My name is graven on His hands. My name is written on His heart. I know that while in heav'n He stands. No tongue can bid me thence depart. No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within. Upward I look and see Him there. Who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free. For God the Just is satisfied. To look on Him and pardon me. To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there The Risen Lamb. My perfect, spotless Righteousness. The great unchangeable I AM. The King of glory and of grace.

One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood. My life is hid with Christ on high. With Christ my Savior and my God.

One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood. My life is hid with Christ on high. With Christ my Savior and my God. With Christ my Savior and my God. With Christ my Savior and my God.

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:**

**Almighty God,
by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor
and the offering of our lives.
Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving
in union with our risen Lord,
who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 116:1-4. 12-19)

Leader: In this world where no one listens to anyone,
God has heard me

**All: Because God has listened to me, amongst all the billions
God will be the one I call.**

Leader: I was trapped in the snares of death and crushed by the stranglehold
of oblivion

**All: When life was pulling me under, I called out to God, and God
saved me.**

Leader: Is there anything I can do to offer thanks to God for saving me?

**All: Just my little life, but lived in public, so others can see that God
can save one little life, one whole self, and give that single self
meaning.**

Leader: Because it matters to God that we trust God to care for each of us.

**All: God, I am yours to command, in public, in front of others, even to
do challenging tasks, like loving my neighbor.**

Leader: I will do whatever you ask graciously, because it is an act of
thanksgiving to you, for hearing my call, for listening to me

**All: My faith is not mine alone. It needs to be shared with others, so
they might also give thanksgiving that God listens and God loves
each one of us.**

Everybody: Praise the LORD!

[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: [Born Again by Austin French](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.



PRAYER LIST (4/23/23)

- Friends & family of Jesse Delrossi, Jane Jukes, Edith Corey, Sandy Garvin, Scott Higgins, Ed Krom, Ron Whitebred, Chris Crowder, Morris Nicholson, Eddy Razzaboni, Flora Kenyon, Polly Foley.
- 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 Jessica's relative, who's been diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma, may they find the right combination of care quickly
- For friends and family of Peter Merrill, Rev. Cath's cousin, who died of pancreatic cancer surrounded by his family
- For those with and who struggle daily with mental health issues, especially anxiety and depression
- For all those struggling to start a family
- 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 Jesus, your rising from tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew. Open my eyes to the signs of your resurrection and confirm in my heart the power of your amazing love, that I may with confidence sing “Alleluia.” Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, you have upheld me with your love even when I have not been aware of your presence. As I rest from my labors let me sleep without fear of darkness or death and rise refreshed to begin a new day in humble service, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

The disciples on the road to Emmaus were with Jesus for hours as he taught them the meaning of the Scriptures. However, they finally recognized him as the risen Lord only in “the breaking of the bread.” How does the Lord’s Supper enable you to recognize Jesus?

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.

| | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Income vs. Expenses +/- |
|-------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| March | \$16,019 | \$26,489 | (\$10,470) |

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.

Winter Clothing Drive in April

As you pack your winter gear away, consider donating Coats, Snowpants, and Boots that your family can no longer use for a community winter gear exchange in October 2023. Items must be laundered, stain and tear free. Adult and Child sizes are welcome. [More information on the town website.](#)

2023 Brookline Town Clean-Up Week April 22-30

Join the Brookline Conservation Commission this year for the 26th annual Brookline Town Clean-Up Week. Residents are invited to sign up and clean up local roads during school vacation week. Come out and help make Brookline shine! [More information on the town website.](#)

Christian Education Coming up on May 7, 8:30-9:30am

We'll be continuing our Christian Education program (for both kids and adults) on May 7. Coming up: Jun. 4.

Annual Meeting of the Hillsborough UCC on May 7, 2:00-5:00pm

The meeting will be held in person at the Hollis Congregational Church and on-line on Zoom. Please let Rev. Cath know if you would like to attend and she'll get you all the details.

B – S.A.F.E.: Brookline - Special Assistance for Emergencies

If you have special accommodation needs or require special assistance during a possible or actual emergency within the town, such as an extended power outage or undrivable road conditions, the information would be helpful to local responders. This could include information on complicated medical condition or medical equipment, communication challenges such as hearing loss or inability to speak, etc. [The form](#) is completely voluntary. It should be returned to the Ambulance chief.

Critical Home Repair Program from Habitat for Humanity

The program provides home repairs to low to moderate income homeowners who are struggling to maintain their homes due to age, disability or family circumstances. The program focuses on health, life and safety code issues. It allows Habitat for Humanity to partner with families to help them reclaim their homes with pride, dignity, and in safety without being disrupted by the uncertainty, trauma and expense of moving. [More information and an application](#) are available on Habitat's website.

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.

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