



*Brookline Community Church  
May 14, 2023*

*Rev. Catherine A. Merrill, Minister*

Prelude: [We Believe \(Apostle's Creed\) - Keith & Kristyn Getty](#)

**Call To Worship, Psalm 66:8-15**

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

**All: who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.**

Leader: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

**All: You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;**

Leader: you let people ride over our heads; we went through the fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**All: I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,**

Leader: those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**All: I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. Selah**

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

**Children's Message:**

## Hymn: He's Got The Whole World In His Hands

He's got the whole world in his hands  
He's got the whole world in his hands  
He's got the whole world in his hands  
He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the little bitty baby in his hands

He's got the little bitty baby in his hands

He's got the little bitty baby in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands

He's got you and me, sister, in his hands

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got everybody here in his hands

He's got everybody here in his hands

He's got everybody here in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the whole wide world in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got the whole world in his hands  
(repeat)

*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.*

## Mother's Day Prayer

### A Prayer of Joys and Concerns:<sup>1</sup>

The response to Lord in your mercy is **receive 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](mailto:minister@bccnh.org) or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

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**Hymn: One True God by Newsong**

You are the one true God, the King who reigns on high, no one will deny.  
You are the one true God, time will only prove, that You and only You,  
Are the one true God

When the dust has settled, and this world is no more  
Every saint and sinner, will confess that you are Lord  
Some will kneel as children, some as conquered foes  
Everyone from every age will bow before the throne

You are the one true God, the King who reigns on high, no one will deny  
You are the one true God, time will only prove, that You and only You,  
Are the one true God

Earthly kings and kingdoms, rise and have their day  
Like a mist they linger, then forever fade away  
There is none so mighty, not one that compares  
To Your majesty and glory, Lord the universe declares

You are the one true God, the King who reigns on high, no one will deny  
You are the one true God, time will only prove, that You and only You,  
Are the one true God

Awesome and Holy, You're the one true God

Faithful and able, You're the one true God

Matchless and mighty,

You are the one true God

The King who reigns on high, no one will deny  
You are the one true God

The King who reigns on high, no one will deny

You are the one true God, time will only prove  
That you and only you are the one true God

You're the One true God

**Scripture Reading: Acts 17:22-31**

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**[RESPONSE: #820 Threefold Amen \(Danish\)](#)****Reflection on the Scripture:**

**Hymn: Steven Curtis Chapman - One True God**

One voice in the dark, a song that lights up the stars

One breath that gives life

One sovereign in power, who speaks with thunder and fire

One Lord One King, there is no other that can compare to You

You are the one alone in greatness, the one who never changes

Jesus You are!

The One who rose in power, the One who reigns forever

Jesus the one true God!

One man on a cross, and One light of the world

One Name One word

One way to be saved, and one lamb that was slain

One love above all, there is no other that can compare to You!

You are the one alone in greatness, the one who never changes

Jesus You are!

The One who rose in power, the One who reigns forever

Jesus you're the one true God!

You're the one true God!

And we have seen the Glory of

The One and only Son of God

Yes we have seen the Glory of

The One and only Son of God

And we have seen the Glory of

The One and only Son of God

Yes we have seen the Glory of

The One and only Son of God

You are the one alone in greatness, the one who never changes

Jesus

You are the one alone in greatness, the one who never changes

Jesus You are!

You are the one who rose in power, the one who reigns forever

Jesus, the One True God

You're the one true God!

You are the one true 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:**

O loving God,  
we give you thanks that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commands. Bless these gifts and use them to reveal to all tribes, nations, and peoples your love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Announcements

**A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World**

Loving God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
help us to choose life in you,  
that we may keep the commands of Jesus,  
follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit,  
and witness to the hope that is within us,  
sharing Christ’s love in the world. 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: [Only One True God](#)**

*Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.*



## PRAYER LIST (5/14/23)

- 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, Ken Perrin.
- 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 been declared cancer free!
- 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 the friends and family of Jean Reinhold, Russell's brother's mother-in-law
- For Alex, Marjorie's friend, whose diagnosis at the Mayo Clinic means more chemotherapy to hopefully get a better handle on the cancer.
- For Kaye, Kym's sister, who has been in the hospital for a month, struggling to get on a stable path back to going home.
- For Dave Joki and Dave Flannery, both members of the Brookline Fire Department, both fighting cancer
- For Eric, Rena's high school friend's son, who is having serious side effects from his cancer treatment
- For Brandy, Jessica's sister, whose family is going through a lot at the moment.
- For Paul, John's friend, who's in a tough fight with cancer.
- For Renee, Donna's nephew's wife, going through cancer treatment, including tumor surgery.
- For Brandon, Jill & Kevin's friend, admitted to Tufts Medical Center.
- For Kim, Amy's friend, who is in the hospital
- For Renee, Donna's nephew's wife, going through cancer treatment, including tumor surgery.
- For the friends and family of Nathan Bairstow, a student at Hollis-Brookline High School who passed away last week
- 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: Morning**

I give thanks for the gift of life and breath that is mine today in Christ. Make me eager to do good and to resist evil, and grant me the wisdom to recognize the difference. Fill me with your assurance in all I say and do that I may share the hope that is within me in gentleness and reverence of Christ. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

O God in whom I live and move and have my being, you hear me when I cry and listen to my prayer; you set my feet on steady ground, you never leave me alone. As I rest in you tonight, sanctify my heart in Christ, and fill me with your strength, that I may rise to love and serve you and greet another day. Amen.

### **Questions for Reflection**

According to the psalmist, God brought the people through trials, tests, burdens, and pain to a spacious place of life, breath, and salvation. God heard their prayers and opened them to deliverance. Where have you felt such a spacious place? What story do you tell of the ways that God is blessing you? What story does your faith community tell of the ways in which God is blessing them?



## Announcements

The church's financial obligations continue.

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
April	\$40,847	\$35,143	\$5,704

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.

### Scouts Spaghetti Supper, May 13

Nothing tastes better than a spaghetti supper to support Scouting in the community. Plus there's no clean up!

### Dinner to Support Dave Joki, May 19 at the Event Center

Roast beef dinner, comedian/hypnotist, meat raffle, raffle baskets, so much goodness going to support fire fighter Dave Joki as he fights cancer! Tickets available to enjoy the evening. Contact Peter B ([pdrbret@charter.net](mailto:pdrbret@charter.net)) for details.

### Spring Cleanup at the Church, June 3, 8:30am:

Come help Susan Haight and David Drake get the exterior grounds and gardens spiffed up for the spring. We'll be getting rid of last year's leaves and putting down a fresh layer of mulch.

### Make is easier to find your house; House numbers visible from 50'

Emergency services come quickly, but it can be hard finding the right house if the numbers aren't clear and visible from at least 50' away. So take a fresh look at how easy it is to find your home, especially for someone hurrying to help!

### 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](mailto: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](http://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