



Brookline Community Church

June 11, 2023

Rev. Catherine Merrill,

Minister

[Prelude: Lord's Prayer by Arcada String Quartet](#)

Call To Worship, Psalm 33:1-12, pp. 440-441

Leader: Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous.
Praise befits the upright.
Praise the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

**All: Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.**

Leader: For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.

**All: He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.**

Leader: By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

**All: He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.**

Leader: Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

**All: For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.**

Leader: The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

**All: The counsel of the LORD stands for ever,
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.**

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

Children's Message: *Who Needs A Doctor?*

Hymn: [Let's Praise the Lord by LifeKids](#)

Call	Response
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah	Let's praise the Lord
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah	Let's praise the Lord,
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	Hallelujah
Let's praise the Lord	

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 or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

Hymn: [Healer of Our Every Ill by the Campus Choir of the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship](#)

Sacrament of Communion

Prayer of Confession

Minister: It is not the healthy who need a doctor but the sick, says Jesus.
Let us confess the afflictions that separate us from God's love
so that we can receive the care of the ultimate physician.

**All: God of calling,
you called Abraham and Matthew
and gave them the strength they needed
to follow you.**

**You also called a people
and cared for and nurtured that people
so that they could live life in your abundance.**

**You also call us,
but sometimes we prefer to close our eyes
and cover our ears,
turning our backs to your will.**

**Forgive us, O God,
and grant us the confidence and the hope that we need
to follow when you call. Amen.**

Minister: Jesus was delivered to death for our sins
and was raised to life for our justification.
God has poured out love upon us,
and we have received forgiveness for our sins.
We can now live in peace!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Invitation to the Table

Minister: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

Minister: Let us give thanks to God most high.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Words of Consecration

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks O God for having renewed and refreshed us with this sacrament of your love and for being present with us through Christ. We ask, O God, that our faith be strengthened and our love for one another be increased that we would be a true witness to your love. We ask it in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn: *The Lord's Prayer* by Matt Maher and TAYA

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

Give us this day, our daily bread Forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned Against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation But deliver us
From the evil one
Let your kingdom come

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart
Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

Give us this day, our daily bread Forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones who sinned Against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation But deliver us
From the evil one
Let your kingdom come

It's yours
It's yours
All yours
All yours
The kingdom The power
The glory are yours

It's yours
It's yours
All yours
All yours
Forever

And ever
The kingdom is yours
It's yours
It's yours
All yours
All yours
The kingdom The power
The glory are yours
It's yours
It's yours
All yours
All yours
Forever
And ever
The kingdom is yours

Father let your kingdom come Father let your will be done On Earth as in
Heaven Right here in my heart Father let your kingdom come Father let your will
be done On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart On Earth as in Heaven Right here in my heart

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26, p. 790

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: [Goodness of God by Rhett Walker](#)

I love You Lord
For Your mercy never failed me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest nights
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I will sing of the goodness of God

I will sing of the goodness of 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:**

**Ancient of Days,
you call us not just to give us the blessing
of being called your people,
but also to be a blessing for all people on this earth.
Give us the wisdom and the courage
to be a blessing to this community and to this world.
Through these offerings
may we be channels of your compassion and healing to others,
for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 33)

Leader: Alleluias and amens and sing all the praises on all the instruments we have, including our hands and voices

All: Because the world is big and chaotic and it could use a little more rhythm running through it so more of us can catch the beat of God's kingdom.

Leader: Creator is always creating, always reaching into this world to help us get it right

All: Dedicated to justice and healthy relationships, God fills the world, even down to the smallest cracks, with lovingkindness.

Leader: Everything was made from God's word, God's breath gave everything the spark of life and spirit,

All: Fathomless chaos and unknowable complexity, God tamed so that we might have some room to grow into the family of nations God is calling us to be.

Leader: God is what we should revere, God is what we should seek, not the petty plans we like to come up with.

All: Heaven and earth and everything that is came into being simply because God said it should be so.

Leader: Investing in plans that run counter to God's design is pointless and comes to nothing.

All: Just follow God's path to love justice and mercy, to love each other and God and happiness will follow. God has chosen us, has chosen all people to inherit the blessings of the kingdom

Leader: Let all of God's people say, Amen.

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: [Healer by Kari Jobe](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 33

Psalm 33 praises “the kingdom, the power, and the glory of God” through song, instrument and narrative. By focusing completely on God’s character and actions, the praise offers a powerful antidote to the illusion of our own autonomy and self-sufficiency.

Verses 1-5 exhibit the two characteristic elements of praise. First, verses 1-3 are a summons to praise in a series of imperatives that mobilize us. Second, verses 4-5 introduce reasons for praise, here an acknowledgement of God’s faithfulness, righteousness, justice and steadfast love.

In verse 8, the psalm turns from the wonder of creation to the reality of history, both created by divine speech.

The watchfulness of God the sovereign is voiced in verse 14 and is resounded in verse 18 concerning God’s “eye.” God keeps “all inhabitants” under surveillance, aware of their “hearts” (thought) and actions. Thus the psalm moves back and forth between the specificity of covenant and the more general creation, with God attentive to both.

In verses 16-17, the psalmist asserts that military prowess cannot save; it is only God who can rescue and deliver. These verses refute any claim of self-securing autonomy.

The psalm begins in praise and ends in trust. Both the first more exuberant articulation and the final note, which is more quietly durable, witness to Israel’s readiness to trust its life and its world to the rule of God. Israel sings its confidence that the world will hold in the face of chaos and that history will hold in the face of military threat, because the creator-king finally will defeat all rival powers and all threats to good governance.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 163-167.



PRAYER LIST (6/11/23)

- Friends & family of Jane Jukes, Edith Corey, Sandy Garvin, Scott Higgins, Ed Krom, Ron Whitebred, Chris Crowder, Morris Nicholson, Eddy Razzaboni, Flora Kenyon, Jeff MacMartin, Polly Foley, Ken Perrin.
- 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 Jessica's relative, who's been diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma, may they find the right combination of care quickly
- 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 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, on the heart transplant list.
- For Kim, Amy's friend, who is in the hospital
- For Nathan Bairstow, a student at Hollis Brookline High School who passed away recently
- For Shawn, Keri Haight's friend, who's in MGH facing some significant medical challenges
- For the friends and family of Helen Melanson, former teacher at the Brookline Hollis High School, who taught more than one generation of Brookline families
- For Linda's son, one of Bill's coworker's, who has gotten a tough cancer diagnosis from Dana Farber
- For Bob, Barbara's ex-husband, who's facing medical issues
- 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

The sunlight of the morning sometimes reminds me that I ache, that I'm sick, that I hurt. Remind me always to think about how I can be a healing presence for others, in your name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, I have tried to live as your son or daughter today. I have tried to let your voice guide me through the day and to find comfort in you during times of trouble. Allow me to find the rest that I need, and thank you for all the faith and hope that you provide, without which I would not be able to take a step. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

How are we called to be a blessing to this world? How are we called to be a curse to this world? How can you be a healing presence in your home, in your community, and in your church? How can we live and work to share the message of faith with those who live without it?

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 +/-
May	\$45,751	\$42,877	\$2,874

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.

Barbeque Take Home Meal, SATURDAY, June 10, Pickup 4-5

Ribs with 2 or 4 sides. So, so, so good. While they may not freeze, they'll eat like you've gone to heaven. We're completely sold out, so don't miss your pickup slot. Let Megan (kingmegan7@gmail.com) know if you're interested.

2023 Parking Passes are available for the Grove

You'll need a parking pass to park for our Lake worship services in June, July & August. For membership details and hours when you can get that taken care of, [see the town website](#). If you aren't a Brookline resident, contact Candy (secretary@bccnh.org, 603-801-5918) and she'll explain the system.

Meals on Wheels Dine Out Club for folks over 60

The Dine Out Club is a donation-based meal program for people over the age of 60, with a suggested donation of \$4.00 per meal.* Upon signing up, you will receive a Dine Out Club card which can be used for meals from a specially curated menu at a restaurant partner location. [More details are available here](#).

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, 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.

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.

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.

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.

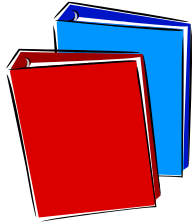
Help Lines

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

2023

Supply List for “Backpacks for Back to School”



- 2 inch- 3 Ring Binders -- required in High School
- Loose leaf filler paper
- Tabbed Dividers
- Spiral notebooks



- Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- Separate erasers
- Pens
- 12 inch Rulers
- Protractor or multi-piece Drafting package

- Scotch tape
- Staplers (mini or desk size)
- Student Scissors
- Safety Scissors for Younger Students



- Dry-Erase Markers for all grades

- Crayons (Boxes of 24)
- Colored pencils (Bright or Bold)
- Washable colored markers
- Pencil boxes or Pouches for elementary school children
- Lunch Boxes/Snack Bags for elementary school children



- Calculators for High School students
- Index Cards



And most important,

- New Backpacks for Boys and Girls
- Grades Kindergarten
- Thru 12th Grade
- Thank you!