



[Photo by Askar Abayev:](#)

**Prelude: *Litany of Humility* by Thomas Muglia**

**Call To Worship, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, pp. 441 & 442**

Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.  
My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.

**All: O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.**

**I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader: Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**All: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,  
and was saved from every trouble.**

Leader: The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**All: O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.**

Leader: O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,  
for those who fear him have no want.

**All: The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

Leader: The LORD redeems the life of his servants;

**All: none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

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

**Children's Message: Is "stewardship" just a fancy word for "sharing"?**

**[Hymn: When the Saints Go Marching In by Spiritual Eldercare](#)**

Oh, when the saints  
Go marching in,  
Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when they crown  
Him lord of all  
Oh, when they crown Him lord of all  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
When they crown him lord of all

Oh, when they gather  
Around the throne,  
Oh, when they gather 'round the  
throne  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
When they gather 'round the throne

Oh, when the saints  
Go marching in,  
Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in

**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](mailto:minister@bccnh.org) or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

**Hymn: I Sing A Song of the Saints of God by Dave Harris**

I sing a song of the saints of God, Patient and brave and true.  
Who toiled and fought  
And lived and died

For the Lord they loved and knew.

And one was a doctor,  
And one was a queen,  
And one was shepherdess on the green  
They were all of them saints of God And I mean, God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord, so dear, so dear  
And his love made them strong. And they followed the right, for Jesus' sake

The whole of their good lives long

And one was a soldier,  
And one was a priest,  
And one was slain by a fierce wild beast  
And there's not any reason, no not the least,  
Why I shouldn't be one too

They lived not only in ages past. There are hundreds of thousands still,  
The world is bright with the joyous saints,

Who love to do Jesus' will

You can meet them in school, Or in lanes, or at sea,  
In church or in trains,  
Or in shops, or at tea,

For the saints of God are just folk like me,  
And I mean to be one too.

### **Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1-3, p. 990**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

### **RESPONSE: #820 Threefold Amen (Danish)**

### **Reflection on the Scripture:**

### **Prayer for the Saints Among Us<sup>1</sup>**

#### **We remember:**

Morris Nicholson

Andrew Gonterman

Flora Kenyon

Eddy Razzaboni

Polly Foley

Peter Merrill

Jean Reinhold

Ken Perrin

Nathan Bairstow

Helen Melanson

Barry Fisher

Sudarshana Devadhar

Mary Bunker

Nancy Roth

### **Let us recite Psalm 23 together:**

**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

---

<sup>1</sup> The *Prayer for the Saints Among Us* was inspired by Rev. Ashley Renée Johnson, Director of Connectional Ministries offered the UMC's Daily Prayer on January 27, 2022.

## Hymn: For All the Saints by The Choir of King's College

For all the saints who from their  
labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world  
confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be  
forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress,  
and their might; thou, Lord, their  
captain in the well-fought fight; thou,  
in the darkness drear, their one true  
light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship  
divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory  
shine; yet all are one in thee, for all  
are thine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the  
west;

soon, soon to faithful warriors  
cometh rest; sweet is the calm of  
paradise the blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But, yonder breaks a yet more  
glorious day;  
the saints triumphant rise in bright  
array;

the King of glory passes on his way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from  
ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the  
countless host,

singing to Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **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:**

**We magnify your name, O God,  
and together exalt your name,  
for you are so good to us  
and gracious beyond measure.**

**How can we withhold our gifts of gratitude  
in the face of such wondrous love?  
With glad and generous hearts,  
We have brought our offerings to God.**

## Announcements

### **A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 99)**

Leader: As we head back out into the coming week, we bless and praise God, sharing aloud how grateful we are to have been saved,

**All: Sometimes we give hope to others who have been knocked down by sharing our own experience of being down,**

Leader: We know what it's like to need more help than we can muster,

**All: So we shouldn't be ashamed to share what it felt like to get the help we needed.**

Leader: We cried out to God, even if we were alone and our prayer was just a silent "please"

**All: and God sent an angel to camp on our doorstep and watch over us.**

Leader: As we head back out into the coming week, we will urge someone else to give asking God for help a try.

**All: We'll urge someone else to taste and see that God is good and offers us refuge from the battering of the world.**

Leader: As we head back out into the coming week, let's let go of the fear that diminishes us,

**All: Because when we chose to follow Jesus' path, not even hungry lions can keep us from all the good things God offers,**

Leader: In the coming week, we'll be given a chance to choose where to make our refuge, our place to go when we need a break,

**All: and we should remind each other that having chosen God, we are assured of a safe place for all eternity.**

Leader: 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: Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly by Pat Barrett](#)

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

**Notes:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Psalm 34**

The shaping of new life requires discipline and fidelity to principle. In Psalm 34, the moment of rescue is remembered. Furthermore the speaker counsels others on how to consolidate and sustain the new orientation. Constructed as an acrostic, the psalm is not an emotional outburst of gratitude but a quite disciplined statement for new world building.

This prayer is for those who find themselves resourceless against the power of this age, and then are remarkably released for new life.

Psalm 34 affirms that release to new life and new orientation is not just “freedom from.” It is also “freedom for.” The newly oriented we find after rescue must lead us to develop forms of behavior which sustain the gift of new possibility. If such steps are not done intentionally, very soon the recently poor and afflicted will be back in the old context of hopelessness.

On the one hand, the righteous are given well-being by God (vv. 1-7). That is, they are special objects of God’s intervention and know themselves to be recipients. That is why they are thankful. On the other hand, the righteous are responsible for shaping life (vv. 8-14). They know themselves to be summoned to take initiative in reordering social existence.

The righteous have discovered something remarkable and subversive about God. God’s peculiar inclinations are with the brokenhearted and the ones with crushed spirit. That is, God’s solidarity is not with the ones who go from success to success, but the ones denied success.

Walter Brueggemann, *The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary*. (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1984), 133-135.





## PRAYER LIST (11/05/23)

- Friends & family of Jane Jukes, Scott Higgins, Ed Krom, Ron Whitebred, Chris Crowder, Morris Nicholson, Eddy Razzaboni, Flora Kenyon, Polly Foley, Ken Perrin.
- For Dave Joki and Dave Flannery, both members of the Brookline Fire Department, both fighting cancer
- For Paul, John's friend, who's in a tough fight with cancer.
- For Kim, Donna's relative, whose liver transplant had a setback
- For Brandon, Jill & Kevin's friend, on the heart transplant list.
- For Mark, John Nicholson's brother, who's facing medical complications
- For Kevin, Kevin's dad, who's facing some medical issues
- For Tim, Megan's friend, recovering from medical setbacks
- For the friends and family of Leo, Amy's son George's best friend, who passed away after a tough recovery from an accident
- For a friend, figuring out a way to pay her rent
- For a family in transition
- For Dave Hoffman, recovering heart surgery
- For Deb, Marjorie's relative, entering hospice care, may they ease her passing
- For Hailey, Candy & Tony's daughter, having kidney stone surgery, may she recover quickly and completely
- For Olivia, a twelve-year-old friend of Jessica, having meniscus surgery
- For Zane, Jessica's relative, holding his own off life support in Knoxville, as they look for a more suitable trauma center in Atlanta
- For Buddy, a long time resident of Brookline, and all those who are supporting him as he copes with cancer.
- For Mona & Brian, mourning their mother Lois, Amy's aunt, when the family gathered to lay Lois to rest
- For John Lee's newly discovered step-mother, who's been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, may her treatments bring her relief
- For Barbara's daughters, grieving for their Dad, who made it to his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday before passing away
- For the people of Israel and Palestine, may they find a way forward
- 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<sup>2</sup>**

Thank you, Lord, for waking me up this morning, giving me a new start and another day to live for you. The light of day reminds me of the overwhelming love you give to us — such that you even call us your children. Let me live this day in gratitude, showing your love in all that I say and do; for the sake of your son, Jesus, in whose name I pray. Amen.

## **Household Prayer: Evening**

God of the heavens, I cannot count the stars you have strewn across the sky, nor can I measure the grace you have poured out upon me. Thank you for the gifts of this day, for they show me your generosity. Thank you for its challenges, for in them I find your wisdom and strength. Bless all those I have met today, and forgive me for the ways I have caused harm. Keep me in your care this night; and if I do not awaken in the morning, receive me into the glorious company of all the saints. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## **Questions for Reflection**

This week's readings describe the coming realm of God. How does the reality of heaven shape your life in prayer and in service?

## **Daily Awareness Reflection<sup>3</sup>**

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 ...

---

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Liebert, *The Soul of Discernment* (Louisville, KY: John Knox Press, 2015), 31.

## **Announcements**

### **The Christmas Raffle is Live!**

You can now buy tickets and take a peek at the raffle baskets. Check out [our website](#) and let your friends know! You can find it at [bccnh.org](http://bccnh.org)

### **November Take Home Meal: Creamy Roasted Butternut Squash Pasta Bake with Sausage and Spinach, Nov. 3**

Makes you hungry just to read the description. Let Nancy Dunbar ([dunbar4@juno.com](mailto:dunbar4@juno.com)) know if you can contribute ingredients or want to order a few!

### **Daylight Savings Ends Nov. 5: Fall back**

Don't forget to reset your clocks and change the batteries in your smoke detectors!

### **Faith Formation: A Way to Deepen Your Connection with God: Nov. 5, 8:30a**

We will be offering faith formation sessions once a month. In addition to the activities designed for the kids, we'll be offering a separate track of reflections on Christian Faith Practices for the adults.

We meet at 8:30am on Sunday mornings: 11/5, 12/10 (moving from 12/3 because the Christmas Faire is later that day), 1/7, 2/4, 3/3, 4/14 (moving from 4/7 because I usually take the Sunday after Easter off), 5/5, 6/2

### **Email Scams may appear to come from the church!**

You may get an email that appears to come from the church or Rev. Cath asking for money or gift cards. We won't ever do that, so you can ignore them. The scammers haven't necessarily infected our computers, and we keep up with our anti-viral software. Unfortunately, mean people make it difficult for all of us.

### **Brookline Senior Citizen Active Walking Program details for 2023-2024**

The Hampshire Dome is open for seniors to walk during the winter. For more details, [click here](#).

### **There's a task list in the Social Hall if you could help with a church project**

Some are bigger than others; some will require supplies that the church will provide. If you have a few hours and would be willing to take on a task, we would appreciate the help!

### **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.

## **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 there's anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let 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

**The church's financial obligations continue.**

	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs. Expenses +/-
October	\$111,505	\$81,663	\$29,842

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.

---

**Brookline Community Church**

**2023 Pledge**

Where is Brookline Community Church headed?

- Continue turning our faith into actions that benefit our community
- Deepen our faith through ministry, witness, and shared learning experiences
- Share the fellowship bubbling up among us more broadly within and without
- Learn and practice invitation in traditional and unexpected ways

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Support:**

In response to God's gift of love through Christ and because I desire to support the church's ministries, I plan to give:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ each week / month / other \_\_\_\_\_ (please circle one)

or \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a one-time gift

I understand that this is an estimate of my ability to give and that if circumstances change, I can put a note in the offering plate or contact the Treasurer to adjust my pledge.

Please return your completed pledge form by Nov 12th, in the offering plate or by mail to:



Brookline Community Church  
Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 507  
Brookline, NH 03033