



*Brookline  
Community Church  
March 10, 2024*

[Photo by Pixabay:](#)

**Prelude: Praise the Name – Psalm 107 by Natalie Waldman**

**Welcome and Right Hand of Fellowship**

Extend a greeting to those nearby

**Call To Worship, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, p. 487**

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

**All: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**

Leader: Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;  
they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.

**All: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;  
he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.**

Leader: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.

**All: And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.**

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

**Children's Message: *What makes a gift a gift?***

**[Hymn: Deep and Wide by Mount Morah Sabbath School](#)**

Deep and wide, Deep and wide,  
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide  
Deep and wide, Deep and wide,  
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

Wide and deep, Wide and deep,  
There's a fountain flowing wide and deep  
Wide and deep, Wide and deep.  
There's a fountain flowing wide and deep,

Or if we don't feel like jumping around as much

**[Hymn: By Grace We Have Been Saved by Andrea Sandefur](#)**

Far from holy, dead in sin, we followed the course of the world.  
But You, O Lord, in Your steadfast love, adopt us even still,  
To be chosen, in Christ we have redemption, forgiveness of our sins.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Our Father, we pray for revelation to know this hope You give.  
By grace we have been saved,  
Through faith. By grace we have been saved.

Gift of God through sacrifice, brought near by Christ our peace.  
So may we walk worthy of this call and may our love increase.  
For we are chosen, in Christ we have redemption, forgiveness of our sins.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Our Father, we pray for revelation to know this hope You give.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Through faith. By grace we have been saved.  
Unite our hearts in Jesus Christ to serve with love and grace.  
To stand in strength and walk in faith,  
our lives, to You alone be praise!

For we are chosen, in Christ we have redemption, forgiveness of our sins.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Our Father, we pray for revelation to know this hope You give.  
By grace we have been saved.

We're chosen, in Christ we have redemption, forgiveness of our sins.  
By grace we have been saved.  
Our Father, we pray for revelation to know this hope You give.  
By grace we have been saved. Through Faith. By grace we have been saved.  
Through Faith. By grace we have been saved.

**A Prayer of Joys and Concerns:**

The response to "Merciful God," 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](mailto:minister@bccnh.org) or call/text (857) 259-7269.]

**Hymn: [Amazing Grace \(My Chains are Gone\) by Chris Tomlin](#)**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love  
Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love  
Amazing grace

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love  
Amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God, who called me here below  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

**Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10, pp. 949-950**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

**Reflection on the Scripture:**

**[Hymn: \*By Grace We Have Been Saved by Thief to King\*](#)**

**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:**

**Merciful God, we thank you for your  
wonderful works among humankind.  
Accept this offering with the dedication  
of our lives  
and help us be for the world an emblem  
of your steadfast love,  
in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Announcements**

**A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a Prayer of Confession for Lent)**

Minister: This is the judgment, that the light has  
come into the world,  
for people loved darkness rather than light  
because their deeds were evil.

Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ.

All: **Merciful God,  
we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy  
of our complaints.  
We grumble about the evils in our world,  
even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit.  
We fret about the scarcity of resources  
while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor.  
We protest the problems of our world,  
but we do not actively work to address them.**

**Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace.  
Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways  
that we me know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray.**

Minister: Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world  
to condemn the world,  
Thanks be to God for this good news!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

[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: Call It Grace by Unspoken](#)

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



## PRAYER LIST (3/10/24)

- Friends & family of Ken Perrin, Alice Krom, Dave Flannery, Marc Searles.
- For Dave Joki, member of the Brookline Fire Department, 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 Kevin, Kevin's dad, who's facing some medical issues
- For a friend, figuring out a way to pay her rent
- For a family in transition
- For Terry, Kym's friend, recovering from a double lung transplant, hopefully headed home soon.
- For Ken, Ann's dad, facing complicated diagnosis and treatment
- For John, recovering from foot surgery
- For Susan, John Nicholson's mom, home after a stay in the hospital, but heading back there for more procedures.
- For the friends and family of Bobby, Jill's uncle, may they know the love that surrounds them
- For Natalie, Marjorie's sister-in-law, recovering from her third heart attack.
- For Alison, Susan's friend, whose breast cancer has returned at Stage 4.
- For Kim, Amy's friend, recovering from a liver transplant
- For Warren, George Razzaboni's brother, entering chemo
- For Alex, Marjorie's friend, starting a new round of chemo
- For Lori, Amy's sister-in-law, home from the hospital recovering
- For Jimmy, Candy's brother-in-law, who's having more tests for cancer
- 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>1</sup>**

Loving God, draw me to your light, that I may avoid the dangers of sin and receive the freedom of your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

Lord Christ, as shadows of night draw near, sustain me by the light that banishes the fearful claim of death. Help me believe in you with all my heart that I may know the freedom of salvation and at last receive the joy of eternal life. Amen.

### **Questions for Reflection**

What does the light of God's truth reveal about your life? Are there parts of your life that you want to hide from God? Can you imagine what it would be like to live completely transparent to God's piercing light?

### **Daily Awareness Reflection<sup>2</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 ...

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<sup>1</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>2</sup> Elizabeth Liebert, *The Soul of Discernment* (Louisville, KY: John Knox Press, 2015), 31.

## **Announcements**

### **Daylight Savings Time begins March 10: Spring Forward!**

Check the batteries in your smoke detectors and move the clocks forward an hour. Otherwise the only part of the service you'll catch is the Benediction!

### **2024 Book Group: Anthony Marra's *Mercury Pictures Presents***

We're looking to restart the BCC book group for this Spring. Rev. Cath's availability isn't conducive to leading this cycle so Sanjay ([sgcherian@gmail.com](mailto:sgcherian@gmail.com)) will coordinate the activity. Rev. Cath plans to participate as a reader and in discussions. We have a set of books to choose from (see the other side).

We found that having the meetings in people's homes led to a strengthening of our fellowship so we'd like to use that approach again. If you'd be willing to host 10-15 people coming to your home for 1½ - 2 hours on a Sunday afternoon, please let Sanjay know.

Let's try and meet on:

- March 17, 4:00-5:30pm; read Part 1 (stop when you get to the chapter "The People vs. Art Feldman")
- April 7, 4:00-5:30pm
- April 21, 4:00-5:30pm

### **Brookline Town Meeting, Voting Mar. 12, Business Meeting Mar. 13 & 14**

All day voting for town and school elected positions, zoning and other matters will be done on Tuesday, March 12th from 7am-7:30pm at Captain Samuel Douglass Academy (24 Townsend Hill Road).

The evening business portion of the annual town meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, March 13th and Thursday, March 14th; also held at Captain Samuel Douglass Academy. Snow date is Friday, March 15th.

[Click here](#) for more info.

### **Senior Luncheon, Mar. 16 Corned Beef & Cabbage**

It wouldn't be St. Patrick's Day without a Senior Luncheon! See Amy ([arazz3914@gmail.com](mailto:arazz3914@gmail.com)) if you have questions or can help out.

### **Faith Formation: Deepen Your Connection with God: Apr. 14, 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: 4/14 (moving from 4/7 because I usually take the Sunday after Easter off), 5/5, 6/2



## Would You Like Offering Envelopes for Your Weekly Offering?

Just let Bill Dunbar ([financechair@bccnh.org](mailto:financechair@bccnh.org)) know, and he'll set you up!

## Gently Used Winter Clothes can find a good next home

If you have any gently used winter clothes, let Amy ([arazz3914@gmail.com](mailto:arazz3914@gmail.com)) know. She'll find a good home for them.

## 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.

Unfortunately, mean people make it difficult for all of us.

## 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 +/-
February	\$10,593	\$19,921	(\$9,328)

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.





For the month of March Outreach will be collecting items for Janice's House. Janice's House is an emergency shelter run by Bridges who offer a safe, confidential shelter at a non-disclosed location. They are staffed with trained advocates who offer support, information and referrals to women and children to assist them in rebuilding their lives.

Bridges of Milford & Nashua, NH is a nonprofit agency dedicated to helping victims & survivors of domestic & sexual violence. They offer support and options to individuals who need to talk, need information, or feel alone, afraid, or helpless. Advocates provide emotional support and information through their 24 hour support line at 603-883-3044, support victims at a hospital, police station or court, and provide emergency shelter in a safe environment at Janice's House.

**These items will be collected from March 1st thru March 31st:**

- **Deodorant**
- **Hand & Body Soap**
- **Toothbrushes/Toothpaste/  
Mouthwash/Dental Floss**
- **Shampoos and Conditioner**
- **Body lotion**
- **Menstrual Products**
- **Hair Brushes/Combs**
- **Wash Clothes**
- **Facewash**
- **Disposable wipes**
- **Shaving Cream/Razors**
- **Baby/Childrens Diapers-Any  
Size**

You may place these items anytime in the plastic bin outside the church by the side door or leave in the front hall inside the church.

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 the Bridge's Drive.

If you have any questions pertaining to the Bridges Drive or our Outreach Board please contact Amy Razzaboni at 603-801-9210 or [arazz3914@gmail.com](mailto:arazz3914@gmail.com).



The Deacons will be donating a small number of Easter flowers to help decorate the sanctuary. Please fill out the form below and give it to a Deacon (Russell H, Barbara HH, John P, or Candy T), or email your dedication to Candy at [secretary@bccnh.org](mailto:secretary@bccnh.org). We will include your dedication in the Easter bulletin, as we have done in past years.

Dedication deadline: Sunday, March 24, 2024.

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

And/or In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_