



[Photo by Emma Bauso:](#)

Prelude

Welcome and Right Hand of Fellowship

Extend a greeting to those nearby

Call To Worship, Psalm 98, p. 480

A Prayer of David.

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.

**All: The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**All: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

Leader: With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

**All: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.**

Leader: Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

**All: He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

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

Children's Message:

Hymn: #801 *This is the Day*

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: #669 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Sacrament of Communion

Prayer of Confession

Minister: We have been called to follow Christ
by obeying his one commandment:
that we love one another as he has loved us.
Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

**All: Loving God, we have not loved you
or each other with our whole hearts.
Forgive us, we pray,
and lead us toward wholeness,
that we may be filled with your joy.**

Minister: Christ loves us so much that he
laid down his life for us
and calls us his friends.
If we can forgive our friends,
how much more does Christ forgive us!

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: #782 *Come, Share the Lord*

Scripture Reading: 1 John 5:1-6, p. 991

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: #498 *I Love to Tell the Story*

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:**

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us
to be yours
and to know your will in the world.
Therefore we pray in Jesus' name
that these tithes and offerings
spread your love near and far. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn: #2 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 98)

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord, because God has been singing to us forever. God has brought us out of slavery and given us new life on new land, again and again and again.

All: God's drive for justice, righteousness and lovingkindness is clear to everyone, anyone who is willing to look out into the world.

Leader: Make a joyful noise, from the places of political power, from the sacred sanctuaries, from the battlefields. Sing the new song your heart is teaching you.

All: Sing the song that underlies the chaos of life, sing the song counted out by the rivers, sing the song of the granite hills bursting green with new leaves.

Leader: The great judge is coming, bringing pure justice into the world, defeating oppression and inequity.

All: God will judge fairly and forever and the world will sing a new song.

Leader: Amen and

All: Amen.

Hymn: #708 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

[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

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 98

Psalm 98 continues a series of hymns (Psalms 93-100) on the reign of God. Characteristic of these psalms which recognize a new orientation to life, Psalm 98 calls the congregation to sing a new song.

The “right hand” and “holy arm” suggest the root metaphor of Israel’s historical memory, the deliverance from slavery in Egypt. There the promise is of a new exodus. God’s victories on behalf of the faith community of ancient Israel are not limited to the Exodus but also include various manifestations of God’s mighty acts on behalf of the community and revealed to the nations. God’s steadfast love and faithfulness toward Israel have implications for all nations, and so the victories of the divine warrior are revealed for all to see. God has remembered the commitments of loyalty and faithfulness and is working to fulfill them; that claim has marvelous implication for Israel and for all of creation.

Verses 4-6 articulate an extensive call to praise with music, singing, and shouting.

The renewed call of praise in verses 7-8 broadens the call to all creation, in line with Psalm 96, though with different participants.

King God “is coming to judge the earth,” and thus praise from floods and hills becomes possible. This judgement will reveal God’s “righteousness,” the same term used in verse 2 (rendered as “vindication” in the NRSV), and God’s justice. In a world with chaos knocking at the door, the promise brings hope. The psalm implies that God’s salvation history on behalf of one faith community has to do with the bringing of justice and the restoration of order for the whole of creation.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 419-423.



PRAYER LIST (5/5/24)

- 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 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 Charlotte, Ann's cousin, who had spinal surgery which will take several months of recovery
- For Sue, John Lee's step-mother, facing complications and infections in her cancer treatment
- For John, Carol Cherian's brother, recovering in the ICU from an auto accident
- For the friends and family of Tonya Kelleher Boisvert, graduate of Hollis-Brookline, who died surrounded by family at the age of 46
- For Craig, Candy's dad, heading into a high risk abdominal surgery
- 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, recovering from a powerful earthquake
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning¹

Holy One, I begin today breathing in your love for me, for others, and for the world. Keep me mindful of all the marvelous things you are doing around and within me today. Help me to feel my friendship with Jesus and his confidence in me. Maintain in my heart the image of myself as a tree, bearing the fruit of Christ's love everywhere I go today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God, you are both judge and friend. Even as I review my day, I give it over to you. I let go of the good, the bad, and the in-between, trusting in your care for me. I am content this night to abide in your love. I breathe in your joy and your peace. Whatever I need, I ask of you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

In our Gospel lesson this week (John 15:9-17), Jesus speaks of his extreme love for us, calls us his friends, and says that he makes known to us everything that he hears from God. How does thinking of Christ as our friend and lover—or Lord and Master—affect our daily living?

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

Thanks to everyone who donated for Janice's House!

Your support made a big difference in the lives of women who are in the middle of a really tough transition.



Angel Choir: Save the Date & Looking for Hosts:

The Angel Choir, a group of talented young people from the First Presbyterian Church of Granville, OH will be presenting a free concert at the Hollis Congregational Church in the evening of Wednesday, June 5th. If you can host at least two of the young people, please contact April Springfield at 603 943-9452 or (aprilCspringfield@gmail.com)

BCC Book Group: Looking for suggestions for our next read

We wrapped up our discussion of Anthony Marra's *Mercury Pictures Presents*. We're looking for suggestions for our next read. Let Sanjay (sgcherian@gmail.com) know if you have any ideas!

Faith Formation: Deepen Your Connection with God: May 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: 5/5, 6/2

Horton Center Schedule for 2024 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

Would You Like Offering Envelopes for Your Weekly Offering?

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

Gently Used Spring/Summer Clothes can find a good next home

If you have any gently used spring/summer clothes, let Amy (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 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 +/-
March	\$15,939	\$25,108	(\$9,169)

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.

