



When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. John 21:9,12-13

Table Grace

Thank you God for blue skies over me,
Green grass under me,
Good friends beside me.
Thank you God for good food in front of me
And peace all over the world.
Amen.

Luke 11:5-13, p. 845

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches

finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Dialogues on Seeking and Finding, on Knocking and Doors Opening

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.]

***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:**

Jesus teaches us that if we ask,
it will be given to us.
Let us participate in God's purpose, then,
by giving generously
for all who are in need.

Announcements

[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."](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Charge

Ask, and it will be given to you;
search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened to you.



PRAYER LIST (7/17/22)

- Friends & family of Braedon O'Connor, Elly Austin, Patty Birner, Jesse Delrossi, Jane Jukes.
- For the friends & families of those who have died alone
- For Luca, Amy's nephew, whose treatments continue
- For those struggling with thoughts of suicide
- For Polly, John Panto's sister, recovering from a stroke, who's moving into another facility
- For Mike Esposito, Miracle Mike, friend of Susan and Russell's family, returning home after months in the hospital and rehab
- For Bob, Amy's friend, suffering with another blood infection
- For Compassion International, highlighting the food insecurity in Haiti, where our adopted daughter Wignadine lives
- For the Gemento family, Melanie's friends, that they might realize the friends around them
- For the American people, exhausted and overwhelmed with division as we are, that we might remember that we can take action to nurture hope
- For the people of Ukraine, who fight on, even as the world looks elsewhere
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

Household Prayer: Morning¹

God, as this new day begins, I imagine Abraham sitting in the shade under his oak tree when you appeared to him in the form of three strangers and he offered them hospitality. Help me to see opportunities to extend hospitality to those in need today, even if it's as small a gesture as offering someone a cup of cold water. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

I return to you, God, as this day ends. I am grateful for all that you have given me, all that I have found, and all the doors that were opened to me. As for those prayers that seem as yet unanswered, I leave them with you for now and turn to my rest in the gift of your Holy Spirit. Amen

Questions for Reflection

It is difficult in our day to consider the analogy of Hosea and Gomer (Hos. 1:2–10). The figure of Gomer as adulterous prostitute offends our feminist sensibilities, and Hosea evokes pity more than admiration. Yet, as William Willimon points out, this scandalous story directs our attention to the God who went so far as to be crucified for us. “Only a passionate, unseemly God who is willing to risk scandal could possibly save a bunch of adulterers like us.” What does it mean to place ourselves in the role of Gomer? What does the person Hosea say about the character of God?

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. If you are able, please mail your offering to: Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline, NH 03033.

| | Actual Income | Actual Expenses | Income vs. Expenses +/- |
|------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| June | \$33,466 | \$46,882 | (\$13,416) |

Please shop smile.amazon.com and choose Brookline Community Church as your charity to support the church. Thanks!

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.

ARE YOU 60 or OLDER or KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS? DO YOU LIKE A GREAT MEAL?

If you do ... BE ON THE BROOKLINE COMMUNITY CHURCH'S SENIOR LUNCHEON LIST. We have lunches periodically on Saturdays throughout the year just for the 60 and older crowd. If you are interested, just let us know how you would like to be contacted for notices of these lunches (email, mail, Facebook ..., etc.) Any questions.... just ask Megan King (kingmegan7@gmail.com) or Amy Razzaboni (arazz3914@gmail.com).

Potluck Brunch Worship on July 17th at the Church

We can see in the gospels that eating together was an important part of Jesus' ministry, was a way that Jesus showed folks what the Kingdom of God was like. So, we're going to have a potluck brunch worship service and see how that deepens our understanding of Jesus' message. Bring what you like, including just yourself!

UMC Lay Servant Ministry Conference July 23rd in Plymouth, NH

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit called the entire church to spread the word. But that can be challenging when you are "just" a lay member of the congregation without training. The UMC is offering a day long session on being the kind of ambassador that Jesus is calling everyone to be. If you're interested, see Rev. Cath (minister@bccnh.org) or Ann (moderator@bccnh.org) for more details.

Volunteers Needed for the Brookline Food Pantry

They are looking for four more regular/long term volunteers to work at the pantry for two hour shifts on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the summer, and possibly continuing through the end of the year, depending on their availability and desire to serve.

Specifically, they need to fill Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-12 and 12-2; they have opportunities for younger friends on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 when there are fewer clients and it's much quieter if any middle/high school kids are interested.

To re-cap: most of the effort is just being a cheerful face and a heart of encouragement. We help people find what they need and just help in any way we can. There are no limitations, really...if you can breathe and you can smile you can do it!

Get Your Parking Placards for the Lake!

We hope to worship more often at the Lake than in previous years. So make sure you have an up to date parking placard.

The Family Caring for their Granddaughter is Looking for a New Apartment

A few weeks ago, we learned from Angie about a family that was awarded custody of their granddaughter. We helped them get the clothes and other resources they needed to settle her in.

Now they are looking for a new apartment, preferably in Brookline, and are facing a tight housing market. If you know of anyone who might be looking for a great tenant, please contact Amy Razzaboni (arazz3914@gmail.com).

Would You Like to Pick the Music for Worship?

Music is not one of Rev. Cath's gifts, so she gets help from a variety of people. If you'd like to try picking the music once or many time, please let her know (minister@bccnh.org). Yifan's happy to do it. He knows how much he enjoys it and want other folks to have an opportunity if they'd like to give it a try.

Homeless keys looking for an owner on the back table:

In tidying up the 3rd floor classrooms, we found a number of keys that are looking for a home. They may have been there a while, so see if they were the set you were never able to find! See Susan Haight (sdlhaight@gmail.com) for more details.

Looking for feedback on changes in our Covid protocols

Over the next few weeks we'll be experimenting with changes in our Covid-19 protocols, trying to relax some of our guidelines. Our intention is to help folks feel more connected with one another. But the same changes might feel great for some and off-putting for others. Please speak with Rev. Cath, Ann or any of the deacons to let us know how the changes make you feel.

Free Covid Home Tests

1. Gov. Sununu [announced a program to deliver free Covid home tests to NH residents](#). You just go to [the program's website](#), put in your zip code and then follow the prompts. They're delivered via Amazon.

2. The federal government will deliver four tests to your home. Just enter your details on a special [US Post Office web page](#). And if you've ordered 4 in the past, you can get four more the same way!

Brookline Food Pantry

Although we cannot be together physically at this time, Outreach is continuing to work through the Brookline Welfare office & CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) to address our community's needs.

The Brookline food pantry is now open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-2:00 for drop-offs only. There is a list on the [Brookline Food Pantry's Facebook page that is being updated](#) as items are needed.

For the food pantry, in addition to Market Basket gift cards, this week, they're looking for:

toilet tissue
paper towels
tissues

women's size small depends
flushable wipes

If you know of anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let Angie or Amy know. We sense there's more need in the community than is currently picking up food.

Non-perishables can be dropped off at Brookline Town Hall (downstairs near the Town Clerk's Office), at the Brookline Post Office, or at the Cozy Tae Cart any time those places are open.

As always, perishable items such as bread, cheese, butter, eggs, meats, and milk can be donated during open pantry hours: Tues and Thurs, 10am - 2pm.

Habitat for Humanity Build in Nashua

Although they are not accepting volunteer builders at the moment, we have provided a financial donation to Habitat for Humanity in Nashua. They are currently working on a duplex for two female veterans and their kids. Habitat would welcome financial contributions at this time as well.

Help Lines

This time of isolation can be very difficult. You may know someone who needs some support beyond what you can provide. We're in this together.

- Suicide prevention: 1-800-273-8255
- Sexual assault: 1-800-656-4673
- Domestic violence: 1-800-799-7233