



Prelude: [3 Morceaux, Op. 11: No. 1, Prelude in B Minor by Vadim Chaimovich](#)

Call To Worship, Psalm 15, p. 430

Leader: O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

All: **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;**

Leader: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

All: **in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

Leader: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

All: **Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

Children's Message: *How do you stay focused?*

Hymn: [Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee by Squirrel 24](#)

Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than thy blest name,
O Savior of mankind!

O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art!
How good to those who seek!

Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be thou our glory now,
and through eternity.

Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

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:

The response to "Let us pray to the Lord," is "**Lord have mercy.**"

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: [Lord, I Need You by Matt Maher](#)

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:38-42, p. 845

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: [Come Mary, Come Martha by Anna Purdum](#)

She sat at the feet
of the Master that day,
The better part
that won't be taken away.

Sister was serving
Frustration and blame,
But Jesus loved
Mary and Martha the same.

Chorus:
Come worker, come preacher
Come Peter, come Paul
Come fighter, come laborer
Come break that wall!
Come prophet, come poet
Come take up this call:
Come Mary,
Come Martha
Come all.

To everything
Is a season and time;
A time to be born and

A time we will die.
A time to be Mary –
to sit and receive,
A time to be Martha
and roll up our sleeves.

Chorus
If we kneel at the altar
or kneel at their feet
If we pray in a cloister
or serve on the street ...

Jesus is present
where two or three meet
in His name
Let the Church
BE the Church
That's complete.

Chorus x2

Come Mary,
Come Martha
Come all.

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:**

**O God, receive these gifts,
which are the product of our labors,
and let us not forget the better part of our offering,
which is our devotion to the words of life
we have received from Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 15)

Leader: When the world seems shaky and unpredictable, I long to come into God's solid and sure presence. But what kind of people are welcome there?

All: Those who have done the hard work of living as God calls us to live, those who are committed to continuing that hard work. Those who walk through this world committed to being in God's community. Those who speak their truth fully and frankly.

Leader: Those who remember that words can bring worlds into being, so avoid all the gossip and slander that make this life a smaller, dingier, meaner place.

All: Those who know that evil is real, so seek out the company of others who follow God's guidance. Those who keep their promises, especially when it would be easier not to.

Leader: Those whose lives are committed to justice and mercy, personally, politically, financially. Those who won't take a bribe no matter who is offering it.

All: Those who do these things will always live in the demanding and life-giving presence of God.

Leader: Amen and ...

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: [Be Still My Soul \(In You I Rest\) by Kari Jobe](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 15

Imagine the scene: a group of pilgrims makes its way to the entrance to the temple in ancient Jerusalem and asks a question about who may enter to worship, and the priest gives an answer.

The psalm is both part of a worship service and a lesson. There are ten rules for ethical behavior.

Positive Conditions (v. 2)	Negative Conditions (v. 3)
1. Walking blamelessly	4. No falsity
2. Doing right	5. No evil
3. Speaking truth	6. No reproach
Positive Conditions (v. 4)	Negative Conditions (v. 5)
7. Despise reprobates	9. No usury
8. Swear to do good	10. No bribery

Behind the question about entry is the understanding of the sanctuary/temple as a place of divine presence that is both threat and promise of life, so the question is about who might receive the gift of hospitality from this powerful, life-giving presence.

The central concern is not so much about individual acts as it is about ethical living, especially in terms of human relationships.

For the faithful, entering the holy place brings security, for the place of the divine presence is the secure place of the rock. God and the temple are solid and do not move. The wicked shall be moved (Ps.10:6), and even the faithful fear that they will be moved or shaken (Ps. 13:4), but God and the sanctuary are stable. It is the divine presence that provides protection and stability. The portrait of the holy place in the first psalms is as a place of refuge. God's presence is both demanding and life-giving. The hope of temple worship and its encounter with the life-giving God make possible faithful and vibrant days for ancient Israel as a community.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 81-84.



PRAYER LIST (7/24/22)

- 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 Cassie & Bill, Amy's parents, who have Covid and aren't able to go on the family vacation
- 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

Dear God, as I begin this day I renew my commitment to live as an agent of your reconciling love. Keep my actions holy, my thoughts blameless, and my intentions irreproachable. Let me be firm in the hope promised by the gospel, that my life may bear witness to Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Jesus, the labors of the day are over and the evening rest begins. If I have been busy with too many things, return my thoughts to what is needful. At last, let me know the better part you have promised will not be taken away, that I may sleep in your peace and awaken with renewed attentiveness to your presence. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

What is the meaning of service? Martha was serving Jesus by being a gracious host and providing a meal. Mary was not serving, but listening to Jesus' teaching. Jesus commends Mary's attentiveness to his teaching and gently rebukes Martha for her busyness in serving. He says, "there is need of only one thing." What is that "one thing" of which Jesus speaks?

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).

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.

NH is now part of the national 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

New Hampshire is announcing the launch of 988, the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL). People can call 988 to be connected with trained counselors that are part of the existing NSPL network.

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.

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 (or 988)
- Sexual assault: 1-800-656-4673
- Domestic violence: 1-800-799-7233