



Brookline Community Church

August 7, 2022

Prelude

Call To Worship, Psalm 33:12-22, p. 441

Leader: Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,

All: the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

Leader: The LORD looks down from heaven;
he sees all humankind.

From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth—

**All: he who fashions the hearts of them all,
and observes all their deeds.**

Leader: A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**All: The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.**

Leader: Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
to deliver their soul from death,
and to keep them alive in famine.

**All: Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and shield.**

Leader: Our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.

**All: Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.**

#820 Three Fold Amen (Danish) “Amen, Amen, Amen”

Children’s Message:

Hymn: #526 *Trusting Jesus*

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:

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: #643 *I Know Not Where the Road Will Lead*

Celebration of Holy Communion¹

Invitation to Communion

Words of Remembrance

Prayer of Consecration

¹ The communion liturgy was inspired by Maren Tirabassi’s “Holy Communion Liturgy for August 7, 2022,” Gifts in Open Hands Blog, posted July 28, 2022, <https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2022/07/28/holy-communion-liturgy-for-august-7-2022/> (accessed August 1, 2022).

Sharing of the Elements

Leader: The bread on your table is blessed and broken like the picnic of grace.

All: May it fill us with peace.
(Eat the bread).

Leader: The cup in your hand is blessed to share with overflowing tears and joy

All: Drinking deeply, we will never thirst.
(Drink from the cup).

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: In thanksgiving for a meal that heals yesterday and empowers tomorrow, we pray ...

All: O Holy One, as we receive this sacrament, we think we eat a gourmet menu, only to discover we are to become your “food trucks” of love and justice, compassion and courage, in every corner of every city for all of your children who need a meal of hope and healing. Thank you for the sustenance and the call. Amen.

Hymn: #634 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, p. 977

#820 Three Fold Amen (Danish) “*Amen, Amen, Amen*”

Reflection on the Scripture:

Hymn: #60 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

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:**

**Generous God,
you pour out blessing and cover us with gifts of love.
Accept these offerings for the sake of your children,
that they may proclaim your mercy and embody your grace.
In Jesus’ name we ask it. Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (a riff on Psalm 33:12-22)

Leader: As always, let us come together as a nation to remember that true power comes from faithfulness, righteousness, justice and steadfast love, regardless of the God we worship, regardless of the political party we belong to.

All: Because God has chosen people who remain in right relationship with the divine and with each other.

Leader: Carefully God looks down from heaven and pays deep and strict attention to everything, the large and the small.

All: Divine God is a loving ruler, who knows every detail of our lives, even down to our thoughts and deeds.

Leader: Earthly power cannot save anyone or anything

All: Forceful despotic power, military might, technology, nothing is strong enough to change the direction where God is leading us.

Leader: God can bring immense power into this world which everyone else may fear, as they fear death or famine. But we hope.

All: Hope because we know that God is leading the world toward justice. God is our help and our protection as God's will transforms the world

Leader: Indeed, we can trust in God's unceasing drive towards a world of peace and justice and

All: Kindness, God's lovingkindness. We ask that God's blessings fall upon us, and refresh our hope and fill our souls.

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

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

Notes:

Psalm 33

Psalm 33 praises “the kingdom, the power, and the glory of God” through song, instrument and narrative. By focusing completely on God’s character and actions, the praise offers a powerful antidote to the illusion of our own autonomy and self-sufficiency.

Verses 1-5 exhibit the two characteristic elements of praise. First, verses 1-3 are a summons to praise in a series of imperatives that mobilize us. Second, verses 4-5 introduce reasons for praise, here an acknowledgement of God’s faithfulness, righteousness, justice and steadfast love.

In verse 8, the psalm turns from the wonder of creation to the reality of history, both created by divine speech.

The watchfulness of God the sovereign is voiced in verse 14 and is resounded in verse 18 concerning God’s “eye.” God keeps “all inhabitants” under surveillance, aware of their “hearts” (thought) and actions. Thus the psalm moves back and forth between the specificity of covenant and the more general creation, with God attentive to both.

In verses 16-17, the psalmist asserts that military prowess cannot save; it is only God who can rescue and deliver. These verses refute any claim of self-securing autonomy.

The psalm begins in praise and ends in trust. Both the first more exuberant articulation and the final note, which is more quietly durable, witness to Israel’s readiness to trust its life and its world to the rule of God. Israel sings its confidence that the world will hold in the face of chaos and that history will hold in the face of military threat, because the creator-king finally will defeat all rival powers and all threats to good governance.

Walter Brueggemann and William H. Bellinger, Jr. *Psalms, in New Cambridge Bible Commentary* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 163-167.



PRAYER LIST (8/7/22)

- 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 Jill & Kevin's friends' children; Grady is facing surgery and his sister Nayanna is his donor
- For the friends and family of Edith Corey, long time neighbor of the church, who was laid to rest on Wednesday.
- For the friends and family of Sandi Garvin, reunited with her beloved Bruce, may they know the love that surrounds them.
- For Linda, Amy's aunt, who's in the hospital looking for a diagnosis
- 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: Morning²

On this new day, Lord, make me watchful for all that you are doing in the world; keep me faithful, that I may do your will in all things; and hold me in your grace, as I seek to do the same for all I meet. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Here at the end of the day, O Lord, help me to entrust my cares to you. Grant me grace for my failings and rest for my weary soul, that I may be strengthened to do your will and share your love when a new day dawns. Amen.

Questions for Reflection

What does it mean to “desire a better country . . . a heavenly one” (Heb. 11:16)? How does looking forward to a heavenly home change the way we live on earth?

Daily Awareness Reflection³

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 ...

² 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.

³ 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 +/-
July	\$36,830	\$53,799	(\$16,969)

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.

Christmas Raffle Time

It's time to start preparing for the Christmas Raffle – if you would like to help please see Donna. Want to donate a basket? Here are some ideas:

Car Care

Sugar Rush! (candy, candy and more candy)

Chocolate Explosion

Tea for 2 (Cozy Tea Cart)

Holiday Towels Parade

Tasteful Treats

Family Time (games, etc)

Over 21 Tastefully (Alcohol)

Kitchen helpers (Kitchen gadgets, towels, etc)

Bag it! (Purse(s), maybe multiple prizes)

Reuse It! (Reuseable bags, etc)

Made In NH

Scratch to Win (Scratch tickets)

Only Time Will Tell (watches, jewelry, scarves)

Elite Treats

Local Gift cards:

Sundae Drive

Shaw's

Alamo

Andres Institute of Art molds

Chrysanthis

BBQ kit (temp probe, welding gloves, tongs, chimney, charcoal, and some food to bbq)

Door decor...for your door for all seasons....winter, st patricks, valentines, spring, patriotic, fall,)

THM for a year

On line game gift cards(steam)

Christmas plate settings

Indoor plant or stuff for your garden....outdoor solar lights, tools for the garden

Sock basket

Need a break from the heat? The Library is nice and cool!

The library is a great place to retreat to if you need an airconditioned space to hang out in. See their [website](#) for hours.

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).

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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!