



Brookline Community Church

November 7, 2021

Reverend Catherine A. Merrill, Minister

Prelude

[Praise The Lord Ye Heavens Adore Him:](#)

We welcome Rev Celeste McQuarrie who will lead us in worship and communion today.

Reverend Celeste McQuarrie received her Master of Divinity degree at Andover Newton Theological School. She was ordained in the U.C.C. in 2014, while serving as Interfaith Chaplain at Havenwood-Heritage Heights, a retirement community in Concord, NH. Her most recent call was as Intentional Interim to Center Harbor Congregational Church. Celeste has also served as chaplain to VNA Hospices in Lawrence, MA and Rochester, NH. Presently Celeste is delighted to be offering supply ministry to local congregations, to bring rest to her colleagues in parish ministry, and encouragement to congregations waiting to call their next settled pastor. She lives in Concord, NH and is a member of South Congregational Church.

Call To Worship *

Leader: There are sacred stories about eating together that remember a garden with many trees, barley fields gleaned to feed the poor, a starving widow with a child who offered her last meal and oil, to offer bread to a wandering prophet.

All: There are sacred stories that celebrate festivals, the end of famines, the kindness of strangers, and even the generosity of ravens.

Leader: We remember that Jesus made a wedding brighter, multiplied a small child's lunch, ate with those who were not welcome at respectable tables, while telling awkward parables that made people angry.

All: We remember a Passover meal when Jesus washed work weary toes, dipped bread in gravy with a betrayer, shared a cup with one he knew would deny him, and made sure everyone was fed, before taking a small piece of holiness, and pouring a sip of compassion, and naming himself as food.

Leader: And so now we come, clothed in our own sad times and joys, replacing even the wisest of words with food and thanksgiving. Let us worship Our Lord together! Amen.

Remembering the Saints – Bill Dunbar, Lay Leader followed by unison prayer

Let us pray: For those who walked with us, this is a prayer. For those who have gone ahead, this is a blessing. For those who loved and tended us, who reached beyond their lives to care for us, this is a joy and thanksgiving. For those who journey still with us in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our hopes and aspirations, this is a benediction. * Amen.

Children's Message (for kids of all ages) The Invisible String

Hymn: How Firm A Foundation

Lifting up Our Joys and Concerns: Bill Dunbar, Lay Leader

[For next week, please feel free to send Barbara Haskell-Higgins your joys & concerns and we will include them in our prayers: barbarajh@comcast.net]

Please see attached from the NH Council of Churches

Let us pray 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.

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy!

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 25:1-9 O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place; you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

John 11:32-37 When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Reflection on the Scripture:

“Any Day Now” - Reverend Celeste McQuarrie

Hymn: [*Blest Are They*](#)

Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts We've Been Given:

God of all giving, we bring you our gifts of thanksgiving. Bless them and help us use them to your purpose, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Confession: **Loving God, we are thankful for the gift of your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Prepare us and by your grace pardon our human frailty so that we might be one with you in the breaking of the bread, and the sharing of the cup, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

The Words of the Institution and Prayer of Blessing
(invite to open the small communion packs)

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving: **We give thanks, O Lord our God, for the gift of remembering given to us in this communion meal. Strengthened, encouraged and fed by your love and grace we rejoice always in thanksgiving! Amen.**

Announcements

A Prayer to Send us Back Out into the World (Benediction)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace. 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: [*For All The Saints*](#)

Here ends our worship, now let our service begin.

*Call to Worship adapted from Holy Communion Liturgy for November 7, 2021, by Reverend Maren Tirabassi

<https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2021/10/28/holy-communion-liturgy-for-november-7-2021/> *All Saints Prayer by Jan

Richardson, adapted. Found in <http://paintedprayerbook.com/2013/10/29/for-those-who-walked-with-s/#sthash.yOjTnZoz.dpuf>



Those We've Lost

- Earl Bosquet
- Barbara Thaxter
- Julie K. McNamara
- Dave Larkin
- Heidi Gonterman
- George R. Boggis
- Tom McKay
- Brian Moore
- Keith Barron
- Lorna Turk
- Ross Jensen
- Louise Considine
- Ursula Cruz
- Louise Considine
- Merri Scritchfield

Pastoral Prayer

The NH Council of Churches has [nine member denominations](#). Altogether, there are about 380 congregations with membership in one (or more) of these denominations. Each week the Council posts the names of a group of 7 – 8 churches, with a request that these be included in the prayers of the NH churches that week:

On Sunday, November 7 , please remember in your prayers:

First United Methodist Church-Rochester
Centerpoint Community Church-Salem
St. David's Episcopal Church -Salem
Triumphant Cross Lutheran Church-Salem
Ararat Armenian Congregational Church-Salem
First Congregational Church of Salem
Pleasant Street United Methodist Church-Salem



PRAYER LIST (11/7/21)

If you know those on this list, call on them & tell them we are praying for them. If you know others who should be added to this list please give their names to the minister or a deacon.

- Friends & family of June Hoff and Dave Larkin.
- Luca, Amy's nephew, who's working with a new pediatrician who's helping him and his family
- For everyone to stay as healthy as they can in the days to come
- For the friends & families of those who have died alone
- For our church, that we remain patient with the process of re-opening
- For Rev Catherine's smooth recovery as she recovers from surgery
- For the medical personnel who are working through another overwhelming wave of care needed for those stricken with Covid
- Continued prayers for Nancy McGinnis, a friend of Susan And Russell's daughter Stacey was diagnosed with liver cancer. She is a 45 year mother of a 4th grade boy and an 8th grade boy
- For Barbara's neighbor, Les Reid, who is going through Chemotherapy and having to deal with all the issues that go with this treatment
- For Sue Laub's sister who has stage 4 kidney cancer which has spread. No treatment options left
- For the friends and family of Merri Scritchfield, who was a close friend of Donna's
- For Barbara's grandson's friend and hockey teammate Ryan who broke his femur during a hockey game last weekend. He is facing an extended rehabilitation
- For Sanjay's niece Rachel who's had an unexpected medical event that's disrupting her first semester of med school.
- Friends and family of Braedon O'Connor
- For those suffering from addiction
- For all the major life transitions whose impact we feel over time.
- For those who have no one to pray for them, accept our prayers
- Individuals serving in our military & their families

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.

BCC YTD Financial Summary	Actual Income	Actual Expenses	Income vs Expenses + / -
September	\$76,184	\$63,563	\$12,620

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

The church's financial obligations continue. 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 Below



3. Mail to: Brookline Community Church, PO Box 507, Brookline, NH 03033.

Rev. Catherine Following her surgery Rev Catherine is on medical leave. If you need anything and aren't sure where to go, please contact Candy Tiner, the church secretary (secretary@bccnh.org, 603-801-5918) or Jill Aitken, chair of the Deacons (jgoods4@gmail.com, 973-713-7832) and they will get you to the right person.

Reaching Out with Outreach

Outreach has been busy so far this year. We collected items to benefit Marguerite's Place, Bridges & Harbor Cares for their veterans transitional facility in Nashua.

We were able to donate in total 7,955 items consisting of diapers, wipes, paper goods, cleaning supplies, bedding & gift cards to these organizations!!

We could not have done this without the generosity of our congregation, Brookline and Hollis communities and the advertising efforts of Megan & Candy.

As non-profit organizations are starting to open up again so are opportunities for volunteer and paid positions. If you are interested or have some time please consider

checking out one of the organizations Outreach supports or contact an organization that interests you.

Please feel free to contact Amy Razzaboni at arazz3914@gmail.com or speak with any member of the Outreach Board with any questions or to get more information about our Outreach Organizations and other local non-profits.

Making Music with the Band!

The band is always welcoming singers and instrumentalists of any level to join in making a joyful noise before the Lord. Speak to Sanjay (scherian@charter.net) if you're interested.

Brookline Food Pantry

Although we cannot be together physically at this time, Outreach is continuing to work with Rebecca Purdin 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. In addition to Market Basket gift cards, this week, they're looking for:

- Detergent
- Juice
- Cleaning supplies
- Graham crackers
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Coffee

If you know of anyone who could use some help from the Food Pantry, please let Rebecca 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.

Covid-19 Scams Targeting Seniors

The NH Attorney General's office put out a press release describing several scams that are targeting seniors. The claims range from needing personal information to get their

Social Security payments, to being family members in need of cash to treat Covid-19 symptoms, to offers of fake medical products to prevent Covid-19, to needing personal information to get their stimulus checks, to fake charities. (Honestly, what are people like?!?). Please pass the word.

Covid-19 Information

If people want to know the latest status of Covid-19 in NH and the Emergency orders to date, go to <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/>

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

SHARE CHRISTMAS



Please consider giving in the following ways:

Purchase a gift card for a child in any increment to Amazon,
Target, Walmart or any local store

Purchase a gift card for a single adult in \$25.00 increments to an
area grocery store, Walmart or Target.

Make a monetary donation for Share to buy Gift Cards.

**Place in Box in front hall at the church
Or
Mail to church at PO Box 507 Attn Outreach
By November 10th**

**Thank You
Outreach Board**