March 15, 2020 – 10:00 AM
Third Sunday in Lent

Rev. Laura Biddle, Interim Minister
Kimberly Vars Whitehead, Minister of Music
Rev. Fran Hakenson, Church School Coordinator
Ellen Smith Tourigny, Youth Coordinator
Louise Popp, Church Administrator

An Open and Affirming Congregation

2013 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104-2528
Tel. (603) 669-2807 ~ Fax (603) 668-9041
admin@brooksidecc.org ~ www.brooksidecc.org
WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP THIS MORNING.

Everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall after worship to enjoy fellowship and coffee. Thank you, Karen Soule, for handling cleanup today.

The flowers this morning are given by Leigh Polish in loving memory of her grandfather, Charles Muchnic.

One Great Hour of Sharing: Providing an education to girls and young women is one of the strongest ways to end cyclical poverty.

If you are New to Brookside and would like a pastor to contact you, please sign our guest book in the front hall or complete a welcome card.

If you need to reach Rev. Laura, please call our office or email her at Revlaura@brooksidecc.org. Rev. Laura is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursday.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. If you desire childcare, it is available for infants and pre-school children from 9:45 am until the end of worship. Ask an usher for directions to the nursery/crib room.

Please wear your name badge to help us all connect names and faces. Extra “stick-on” nametags are available in the front hall/Narthex. Hearing devices are available; please ask an usher for assistance. If you are unable to locate your badge, please contact the office (phone or email) so we can order you a new one!

Handicapped access into the church is via the white ramp on the Clarke Street side of our parking lot. All levels of the facility are accessible by means of an elevator. There is a rest room available in the Narthex (at the back of the Sanctuary). Please ask any staff for elevator assistance.

Prayer Requests? If there are people you want held in prayer by the congregation, please fill out a “Prayer Request Card” for the offering plate or email prayer@brooksidecc.org.

The bulletin is on the website after mid-day on Friday – just click on the link under the Worship or News & Events dropdown menus.

Deacons of the Week: Tina Alvarez, Mark Watts
Ushers: Sam Boisvert, Dave Gates, Bill Hoysradt, Scott Milne
Reader: Dale Trombley
Nursery: Hollie Strandson

Attendance on March 8 was 77.
THE CARILLON

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)
Leader: We bring our strengths and weaknesses into this place, among these people, because we want to learn about God’s promise to bless us.

People: We are part of God’s promise to one another. We worship in the light of hope that we will bless one another as we are blessed.

Leader: Come, let us worship.

*HYMN O God Our Help in Ages Past

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
We confess that we do not always see blessings for what they are. We confess that we lack imagination and optimism because we have experienced pain in our lives and in our community. Life and love break our hearts, but we do not have to live in fear or anger. God, we need you to teach us about our true selves, so we will recognize your presence and promises in ourselves and in each other. AMEN.

*WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

GOSPEL John 3:1-17
Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not
be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ’Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

*HYMN Lift High the Cross N 198

SERMON Night Rev. Laura Biddle

SHARING OF CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER – DEBTS AND TRESPASSES

PRAYER RESPONSE Hear Our Prayer N 769

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in-cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. AMEN.

SHARING OF JOYS

OFFERTORY
*FESTAL DOXOLOGY (Tune: *All Creatures of our God and King*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God for all that love has done: Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Biddle

*HYMN

Standing in the Need of Prayer

N 519

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

AMEN

POSTLUDE

Certain worship materials are used or adapted with permission from Fusion and UCC Resources.

Hymns today are from the New Century (N) Hymnal.

Please Remember in Prayer

Willem Cerf
Bob Dunn
Grace
The Leavell Family
The Lovejoy Family

Virginia Mabie
Jean Mijal
Barb Morray
Family of Dan Stauber
Jennifer Trecartin

Brookside’s sponsor children: Eben Gulo and Praise Mupaahlwa ~ Sakubwa Church, UCC – the center candle celebrates our Ukama Partnership since 1996 ~

(Prayer requests will be printed in the bulletin for a three-week period)

AROUND THE BROOK

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Children will remain in worship with their families.
ARTISTS IN WORSHIP, STARTING TODAY
As you enter the Narthex on the March 15, 22, and 29, children and adults are invited to choose an art project to express your relationship with God. Adults can go to the balcony where they will find art supplies. Children can take their “Family Art Bag” from the Narthex to their pew or to the front right side of the church. Our hope is to create sacred art during worship that will be displayed on Easter Sunday.

Children’s art bags include:
A fish to decorate
A cross to decorate
Colored pencils, cards, and stickers

Adult art mediums include:
Clay
Legos
Gel pens
Colored pencils
Pastels
Knitting
White Board
If you have an art project you are currently working on, feel free to bring your art/supplies to church.

CONFIRMATION CLASS, TODAY, MARCH 15
Confirmation class will be held today at 11:15 am in the Youth Lounge.

EASTER BREAKFAST BOXES
Mission Ministry is working together with the Salvation Army, Child Health Services, Southern NH Services and Waypoint to donate breakfast items for 40 families this Easter. Sign up & bring in food items throughout the month of March. Food donations are due March 29.

PARISH NURSE
There will be no office hours today.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS
A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR CUSTOMERS WHO MAKE OUR BROOKSIDE CHURCH THRIFT SHOP A SUCCESS!

3/18-3/21/20: BOGO on all Men’s, Women’s, and Kid’s denim.
ALL BOOKS, CD’S, AND DVD’S: BOGO FREE FOR $1.00 – MIX AND MATCH
Check out our great selection of shoes for men, women, and children in nice colors and many sizes. The Home Goods Room is full of items for “your home”: dishes, small appliances, linens, pictures and frames, furniture, lights, craft items, nick knacks etc.

If you are looking for that “special card for someone”, we have a nice assortment of cards. Free extra envelopes are available, and we have gift bags too for all occasions. $.25 per card, $1.00 per gift bag, and some sets of cards for $1.00.

Please like us on our Facebook page and share our news with your family and friends.

We accept donations in good condition either when we are open, or you can put your donations in the seat box that is part of the ramp at Brookside Church – next to the side driveway. We are located at the north end of Elm Street next to Brookside Congregational Church. Thrift Shop Hours: Wed., 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Thurs., 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; Fri., 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; and Sat., 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Our telephone number is 603-218-2390.

EASTER FLOWERS
Buy an Easter flowering plant to help us adorn the altar on Easter (April 12) with a profusion of lovely flowering plants – in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special person or event, or “just because.” If you would like to donate a plant for Easter Sunday, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office by Monday, March 30th. The cost is $10 per plant.

I/We _______________________________________________________________________

wish to donate ______ Easter Plant(s)

in memory of _______________________________________________________________________

and/or:

in honor of _______________________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice of Plants</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price per Plant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easter Lilies</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>@ $10.00 each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tulips</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>@ $10.00 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyacinths</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>@ $10.00 each</td>
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</tbody>
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Enclosed is my check for $_______(Made payable to Brookside Congregational Church). Plants may be picked up after the 10:00 am service on Easter Sunday.
O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 90:1-2, 4-5

1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

2 Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away; we fly forgotten, as a dream fades at the opening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our God while troubles last, and our eternal home!
1 Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it’s me, O God, 
2 Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it’s me, O God, 
3 Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it’s me, O God, 
4 Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it’s me, O God, 

stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it’s me, O God, 
stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it’s me, O God, 
stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it’s me, O God, 
stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it’s me, O God, 

me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. 
me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. 
me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. 
me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. 
me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer;
Lift High the Cross

George William Knapp (1827–1912)
Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore and praise that sacred name.

Sanzas, in harmony

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the
2. Each new-born servant of the Crucified bears
3. O Christ, once lifted on the glorious tree, your
4. Set up your throne, that earth's despair may cease, be
5. So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise

Lamb victorious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life eternally.
neath the shadow of its healing peace.
to the Crucified for victory.
Evangelism is relational.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday  John 4:5-42  Jesus and the woman at the well
Monday  Exodus 17:1-7  The Lord gives water from a rock
Tuesday  Romans 5:1-11  Right with God
Wednesday  John 1:35-42  Come and see Jesus
Thursday  1 Thessalonians 2:5-12  Paul’s relational ministry
Friday  Romans 12:9-21  Caring relationships
Saturday  Psalm 95  Call to worship
Sunday  John 9:1-41  The man born blind

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” John 4:29 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Gracious God, thank you for reaching out to me and to all people with steadfast love and faithfulness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, just as you fed the people in the wilderness, we thank you for feeding us today. In the name of Jesus our Savior, amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May you have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. [Romans 5:1]

MARCH 15, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

HYMN OF THE WEEK
The Spirit Sends Us
Forth to Serve

WEEKLY MILESTONES
Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS
Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:
• How would you introduce yourself to a stranger?
• Who has introduced you to [or taught you about] Jesus? How did this happen?
• The woman at the well introduced Jesus to her townspeople. Who can you introduce to Jesus?

DEVOTIONS
Read: John 4:3-42.
Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well. It’s the place where Jacob met Rachel more than a millennium before. It is now the place where Jesus shows what it means that “God so loved the world” (John 3:16) by caring for a non-Jewish woman, someone who was alone and likely abandoned by her own people. The woman is so impressed by Jesus and their conversation that she goes to her townspeople and says, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” [v. 29] The Samaritan woman does three things that are essential traits of evangelism: 1) she invites (“Come and see”); 2) she tells her own story of her encounter with Jesus (“I just met a man who . . .”); and 3) she wonders if this is the awaited Messiah (Her question in the original Greek suggests she really doesn’t think so.). Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships. How do you have conversations with others about Jesus?
Pray: Merciful God, just as Jesus stopped to talk to the woman at the well, help me to stop, listen, and talk to others and be an example of your love for them. Amen.

SERVICE
The Daily Bible Reading for Friday this week is about caring relationships. “Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers” (Romans 12:13). Think about what it feels like to be the new person on the block. Make a list of things you can do to extend a welcome to someone who is new in your community. Making a meal, giving rides, and introducing them to neighbors are a few ideas. What will you do to extend hospitality to a stranger this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS
During the third week in Lent, light three of the six purple candles on your Lenten Candle Cross. The acronym ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) is being introduced as a way to pray. This week represents “T”, for Thanksgiving, meaning to express thanks and gratitude to God.
Pray: Dear God, I am thankful for all that you have given me. I thank you for . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.
AROUND THE BROOK

Sun., Mar. 15th 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary
11:15am Confirmation Class, Youth Lounge
11:30am Mission Ministry Meeting, Classroom D

Mon., Mar. 16th 6:30pm Barbershop Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Tues., Mar. 17th 10:00am Staff Meeting
6:00pm COM meeting, Lounge

Wed., Mar. 18th 6:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Sun. Mar. 22nd 10:00am Worship, Sanctuary

Church Office Hours: Mon. – Wed., 9:00 am - 3:30 pm.;
Thur., 9:00 am – 4:00 pm; and Fri., 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Thrift Shop Hours: Wed., 12:00-4:00 pm; Thurs., 9:00 am -1:00 pm.
Fri., 10:00 am – 2:00 pm; and Sat., 9:00 am -1:00pm

Deadlines: Bridge please submit articles before Monday at noon
Bulletin please submit announcements before Wednesday at noon
SEND ALL YOUR NEWS TO: news@brooksidecc.org

NO GREEN BANANAS
This group of retired Brookside men meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 9 AM at Blake’s Restaurant (Maple & Webster Streets) to enjoy breakfast and discussion. Join them on March 17 and April 7 for good food and company.

JOIN OUR MEN’S BARBERSHOP CHORUS
'The Hyms' Barbershop Chorus has rehearsals in the choir room Monday evenings starting at 6:30 pm. If you have an interest in singing in the barbershop style, you are welcome to join us. We are preparing songs for church-related activities such as worship service, concerts, talent shows, etc. Contact Heath or email sexton@brooksidecc.org to sign up today.