

Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

Loving, Serving and Accepting All People with God's Life-Changing Power

"If we cannot see You, O God, it is alright, for You see us and will never let us out of Your sight."



Sunday November 3, 2019 • 10:00 AM All Saints' Sunday

Pastor
• Allan Lane

Director of Music Financial Secretary Ministers

• David Debick • Joy Garapic All of our Members

Office Manager – Jeannette Kroeger

Affirmation of Welcome

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all of God's children.

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered, **You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are male, female, or transgender,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old, You Are Welcome Here!

If you've never been in a church, if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic, Or a life-long member of the UCC,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or pangender You Are Welcome Here!

If you are fully abled, or a person with differing abilities, **You Are Welcome Here!**

Whoever we may be, wherever we are on our life's journey, We welcome one another to this place, Even as God welcomes us all in Jesus Christ!



Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave and join us for refreshments in Pilgrim Hall downstairs following the service. If you are interested in learning more about our church, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Simply ask an usher. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use. Pillows for back support are also available, if needed

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 - 12:00 Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net - web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

November 3, 2019 - All Saints' Sunday

Meditation Music

"O Thou, Who art God no less of those who know thee not than of those who love thee well, be present with us at the times of choosing when time stands still and all that lies behind and all that lies ahead are caught up in the mystery of a moment." Frederick Buechner, *The Hungering Dark*

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God Setting by Pachelbel

"Grant to us that in your love and knowledge we may increase, that we may remain in the faith, serve you in spirit in such a way that we may here taste your sweetness in our hearts and constantly thirst for you."

Elisabeth Kreuziger, 1524; English trans. by Francis Browne, 2007

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Generation by generation, people have come to you, O Most Holy One.

People: People come to you as sinners and go away as saints, for you are the one who changes lives.

Leader: Year after year, our journey through time takes us closer to seeing you face to face.

People: Those who have journeyed ahead of us have shown the way; those who come after will follow in our footsteps.

Leader: Day by day, we shape our character with the choices that we make, molding our souls for eternity.

People: Morph us with your Spirit's presence, O Triune Reality, into people who are whole, healthy, and heading for life with you.

Leader: Let us worship God!

^{*} Hymn of Praise

* Prayer of Confession [Unison]

We say that you are invisible, O Merciful God, for we do not see you. But how many times in this world do we feel invisible and unheard, at work, at the mall, at home? We all want our lives to matter, we all want our lives to make a difference, but so often we feel taken for granted or unnoticed. Money, fame, power, social influence: all can purchase attention for a while, but it rings hollow, for we know it will soon pass on to alight somewhere else. Although we do not see you, you see us. You are a witness to our lives. We all matter in your sight, both the so-called great of this world, and the seemingly small; make us aware of your presence in this hour, O God, and make us aware of how much our lives matter to you. Amen

* The Assurance of Pardon

L: Though we have fallen into the mud of sinful thoughts, words and deeds, in Jesus Christ God cleans us off so that we sparkle and shine in God's sight. Forgiveness and wholeness are ours again as a gift from God in Christ Jesus!

All: Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace

L: Learn where there is wisdom, where there is strength, where there is understanding, so that you may at the same time discern where there is length of days, and life, where there is light for the eyes, and peace. The peace of God be with you all!*

P: And also with you!

*from the apocryphal book, Baruch 3:14



The Old Testament

Psalm 119:137-144

Small but not ForgottenPew Bible, page 570

Contemporary Reading

sermon *Blindness* in *A Chorus of Witnesses, p. 140*John R. Fry

The Gospel Luke 18: 35-19:10 Two incidents on the road to Jericho

Pew Bible, page 82

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem God Has Called Us Hobby/Cherwien

Sermon Coming Up Short Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection Amazing Grace #547

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer

[the additional use of "Mother" is optional, according to One's Theological understanding]

...Our Father-Mother, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Organ Response

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Offertory Let Your Heart Be Broken Leech

"Let your heart be tender and your vision clear; see the world as God sees, serve all far and near.

Let your heart be broken by another's pain; share your rich resources, give and give again."

Bryan Jeffery Leech, b. 1931, alt.; arr. Fred Bock (1939-1998)

*Offertory Hymn
We bring our gifts because we care,
They are a part of what we share.
Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts.
With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

What is it that we bring? Is it cash or a cheque? Or is it ourselves, our hearts and our minds, our hopes and our fears, our very selves and the time of our lives? It is what we have and what we are, for we have set ourselves at God's disposal, ready to answer God's holy call. Amen

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup (2x)

#788

The Thanksgiving

Leader: The Holy One be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts!

P: Our hearts rejoice in our Creator's Presence!

L: Let us give thanks for the Spirit's abundant love! P: It is good to raise our thanks and praise!

L: Baptized by your Spirit into One Body, we testify to your faithfulness toward people of every time and place, language and nation, saying,

All: Holy, holy, Source of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O Holy One Most High!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

"From the lips of those You saved
a redemption song will rise.

Ev'ry tongue, ev'ry tribe, hear the Church, Your bride.
Whoa,--we sing hallelujah!
Whoa,--we sing amen!

Hear the sound of the saints as we march onto Zion,
singing alleluia, amen! Singing alleluia, amen!"

Adam Agee, Seth Mosley, Jared Anderson, and Mark Stuart (2015)

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your Table through these gifts of Bread and Cup. We ask that you now strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world in courage and peace; through Jesus Christ our ever-present Savior. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Forward through the Ages

#377

*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

* Circle of Community

As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (3 times) Hallelujah, Hallelujah.** After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith



Benediction

"We call in our solemn assemblies, in spirit, to spread forth the kingdom of heaven abroad, that we through our faith may begin to inherit the visions and blessings and glories of God."

W. W. Phelps (1792-1872)

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty Kaul, Don Seager, Kate Klonowski, The Corpora Family, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Richard Sacher, brother of Jan Renovetz, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Pat Bailey, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections or changes to our prayer lists.)

Attendance Sunday, October 27, 2019 – Adults:58 Kids: 10 Total: 68

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our guest book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for our Coffee Hour.

WE WELCOME VISITING PARENTS - We offer several childcare options and fun activities for kids during worship hour: Infants and toddlers will be cared for in the nursery. Kindergarten through seventh grade will go to class after the Word to Young Worshipers. Crayons and paper are also available from ushers for children.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Carrie Kemenyes, in Loving Memory of Nancy Foose.

FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICE, grape juice is used instead of wine for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who may be in recovery from addiction.

FREE CONCERT - THIS AFTERNOON AT 4:00, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring cellist Adam Willson and pianist Jas Ogiste from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. They will perform works by J. S. Bach, Elliott Carter, and Sergei Prokofiev. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us later today for an outstanding program of chamber music. Bring a friend!

THE STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE DRIVE AND THANKSGIVING DINNER will take place on Sunday, November 17th. Turkey, gravy, potatoes, and dinner rolls will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please contact Matt Wolbert (216-502-7785) voicemail or text, email mjwolbert@hotmail.com, or at Sunday service on (11/3 or 11/10) if you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

PFLAG - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This is a local and national organization that has been in the Cleveland Area for 35 years. One of the services provided is a Monthly Support Group Meeting. The group is led by a licensed Psychologist and Social Workers. The purpose is to provide support and education to family and friends of people coming out Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bisexual or Questioning. The group is free and meets at Trinity Cathedral on the second Tuesday of the month 645p-830p. For more information, call Mark Lehman, LISW at 330.631.4415

FOOD PANTRY/NOVEMBER- Small Canned Hams, Canned Sweet & White Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Pie Crust Mix, Canned Pumpkin, etc.

PAPER RECYCLING BIN – You may have noticed that we now have a Paper Recycling Bin in the Parking lot. Please bring your paper recyclables and help us fill it up!

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

PLEASE BE SURE to enter your meeting and event schedule on the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the *Weekly Bulletin* and in the *Monthly Pillar*.

Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 119:137-144

You are righteous, O Lord, and your judgments are right. You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness. My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words. Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it. I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts. Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth. Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight. Your decrees...

Contemporary Reading sermon *Blindness* in *A Chorus of Witnesses, p. 140*John R. Fry

Jericho was a walled city. On a main road of Palestine. [Blind] Bartimaeus seated himself outside the gate of the city in order to present himself in his afflicted condition to the numerous people using the road, hence coming into or just leaving the city. He depended on pennies from travelers. Pitiful pennies. Pennies dropped because of pity. And he advertised his blindness by wailing. Poor blind man whose every day was spent in arousing token gifts from travelers. The people of the city, of course, who knew him, his history, his father, his family, did not pity him because they saw him every day.... In the classic way of people who every day rub up against evil conditions, the citizens of Jericho ceased to care, to be horrified by blindness. He could die of hunger and they would accuse him of lack of initiative.'

The Gospel - Luke 18: 35-19:10

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way.

When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Nov. 3 10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Coffee Hour

11:00 am Spiritual Life - Library

11:00 am Membership

4:00 pm Free Concert - Cello/Piano

Oberlin

Monday, Nov. 4 1:00 pm Book Discussion

7:00 pm Facilities

Thurs., Nov. 7 1:00 pm Bible Study

4:30-5 pm Rec/Dul/Guitar

5:30-6:15pm Joyful Noise

7:00 pm Seasonal Choir

8:00 pm Adult Choir

Friday, Nov. 8 *OFFICE CLOSED*

Sunday, Nov. 10 10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 3, 2019 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME!

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert Head Usher: Jan Renovetz

Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler

Jill Zedan, Dan Stewart

Acolyte: Ryan Stewart Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado

Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Marla Corrado

Counters: Nancy Stella, David Pastor Servers: Joy Garapic, Cliff Stenzel Snacks: Heidi Spangler, Marla Corrdo

Clean-up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Lay Reader: Sue Stenzel Head Usher: Sue Maier

Ushers: Diane Gressley, David Ritchey

David & Kathy Pastor

Acolyte: Olivia Klonowski

Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson

C.E Teacher: Anne Melfo

Counters: Jim Duffy, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Joy Garapic, Julie Bernard
Snacks: Diane Gressley, Beth Rehling
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler