

Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

To be Loving, Serving, and Accepting Of All People with God's

Life-changing Power and Grace

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone." -Dr. Loretta Scott



Sunday August 2nd, 2020 • 10:00 AM
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

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.

Whether you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whatever your race, ethnicity, or age,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whatever your gender identity or sexual orientation,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whatever your religious background, creed, or spirituality,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whatever your social or economic circumstances,

You Are Welcome Here!

Whatever your health conditions, impairments, or mobility needs,

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

August 2nd, 2020 - Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

"Jesus teaches us to put the needs of the poor ahead of our own. Our needs, even if legitimate, will never be so urgent as those of the poor, who lack the necessities of life."

-Pope Francis, Angelus Address, August 3, 2014

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude Faith Feliz

Performed by In Christ We Dance; David Lu, choreographer

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Things change, and plans fail, O Most Constant God, but you are with us from beginning to end.

People: Sometimes it seems like the going is too tough, like the ride is too long, like the pain is too hard, but when you are with us, we can keep going, O Comforting God.

Leader: In the hunger of the crowd for food, for recognition, for meaning, for love, for forgiveness, you feed us, O Nourishing God, with your everlasting presence.

People: In the dark loneliness of sorrow and grief, you are our companion, O Living God.

Leader: In all that we are, and all that we go through, God is with us. Let us worship God!

Hymn of Praise From All That Dwell below the Skies Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623

1. From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, by every tongue. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Eternal are your mercies, God; your truth stands ever high and broad: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

* Prayer of Approach and Confession [Unison]

This week, O God, we have had all the answers for people who weren't asking questions. We have helped others to swim who were trying to fly. We have tried to give a leg up to those who needed us to get out of their way. Our good intentions have shown that we are not wise and infallible. We are human. And we need your forgiveness for all our mess ups, our intentions gone awry, our self-delusions, and worse. We ask you to heal what we have hurt, fix what we have broken, and restore what we have damaged, both in ourselves and in others. We ask it as Jesus' disciples. Amen

Words of Assurance

Leader: Jesus prayed for forgiveness for those who were crucifying him; he will pray for your forgiveness also. Jesus assured the penitent thief that he would be in paradise with him; in your penitence, Jesus offers you the same assurance.

People: Thanks be to God, for in Jesus Christ we have been forgiven! Amen

*Song of Praise



God Is Still Speaking

Old Testament Isaiah 55: 1-5

New Testament Matthew 14: 13-21

Contemporary Reading Changing the World Dorothy Day

Musical OfferingCome, Gather in This Special Place

Kirkland

Diane Gressley, soprano; Dave Debick, baritone

Hymn of Reflection

Take My Gifts

Gibson

- 1. Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me, gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free. now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away, now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!
- Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed. harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God. spiced with humor, laced with laughter-- flavor of the Jesus life. tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.
- 3. Take whatever I can offer-- gifts that I have yet to find, skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind, things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be: take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

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.

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Leader: Jesus has challenged us to feed the hungry, to bind up the wounds of the hurting, and to find shelter for the homeless. Let us present our gifts and offerings to aid in that work of the church.

Offertory

* 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]

When the crowd was hungry, the disciples looked at how little they had. But Jesus looked at how much God could do with the little that the disciples had. Take this little that we have, O God, and do more with it than we can think or imagine, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Break Now the Bread of Life

Sherwin

- 1. Break now the bread of life, Savior, to me, as you once broke the loaves beside the sea; Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord; my spirit yearns for you, O Living Word.
- 2. Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me, as you once blessed the bread by Galilee; Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall, and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Mary A. Lathbury, 1877; alt.

The Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

O loving Christ, you fed a multitude with five loaves and two fish. It was enough because it came from You, and it satisfied their bellies and their souls. And now you have fed us with the bread and the wine of communion. It is enough because it comes once more from you, and it satisfies our souls, though perhaps not our bellies. That will come later, and for that, too, we give you thanks. Amen

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Great Is Your Faithfulness

Runyan

1. Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator, with you no shadow of turning we see. You do not change, your compassions they fail not; all of your goodness forever will be.

Refrain: Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed your hand has provided, Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

 Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring, your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. (Refrain)

*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

*Circle of Community - Caribbean melody

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



Postlude

Eternal Eclipse - Dawn of Faith Recorded with London Philharmonia

Habuda

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Don Seager, Curt Bailey, Sheila Day – friend of the Sniders, Bob R, and Julie J. Friends of Ed & June Puwal, Max Roha, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today.

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM - If you would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation over the summer months, please let Dave D know you're interested, and he will get you signed up. High school students are welcome to participate. We will continue prerecording our musical offerings as long as we're worshiping together via Zoom. If you sign up to sing or play your instrument, social distancing and face mask guidelines will be followed during recording per Gov. DeWine's recommendations. Dave can help you choose music and rehearse with you before recording. Feel free to contact him with any questions.

Readings

Old Testament – Isaiah 55:1-5

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

New Testament – Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." >

And he said, "Bring them here to me."

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.

And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Contemporary Reading

"What we would like to do is change the world--make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do. And, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute--the rights of the worthy and the unworthy poor, in other words-we can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as our friend."

-Dorothy Day, Change the World

Participants

AUGUST 2, 2020

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul Responder: Cliff Cribbs

AUGUST 9, 2020

Lay Reader: David Ritchey Responder: Betsey Wilson