

Second Sunday After Pentecost Jun 6th, 2021

*“Nothing forces us to know
What we do not want to know
Except pain.”*

–Aeschylus (d. ± 456 BC), in *The Oresteia*

Announcements

WELCOME to all guests or visitors worshiping with us today in this Zoom format! We are doing everything we can to keep the service open to all, yet secure. In the eventuality of a disruption of the service, we will email information on how to re-enter the service with a password.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - We encourage you to share this service with your children, as well as take part in the virtual activities with **Ms. Mindy** at **9:30** (1/2 hour before every service). The link for this can be found in the email you may have received, on our Facebook page and/or on our church website: <https://brecksvilleucc.org/services/childrens-time-online/>

FLOWERS – Upon reopening the church, we are looking for anyone who is willing to help provide or arrange flowers for Sundays. If you are interested, please contact **Janet Renovetz** at **(330)-467-9357**.

REOPENING PLANS - The current target date to reopen our doors is June 13th – these are some of the differences you will see:

Masks will be recommended but optional for adults, and children under 12 yrs.old should wear them at the discretion of their parent(s). We will still work to spread people out in the sanctuary, and we're asking the congregation to forgo singing hymns (for now). As is typical for the summer months, there will be no choir, and we will reassess singing hymns and starting up the choir in the Fall. Instead of passing the collection plate, we will station them at the sanctuary doors, and we will implement “Bring Your Own Communion” for the next week. There will not be a coffee hour downstairs, but people are more than welcome to gather outside of church.

We will bring back singing hymns, shared Communion, Time with Young Worshipers and Coffee hour, as soon as safe and practical. However, if there is a spike in COVID cases, we may institute other precautions (temperatures, pre-registration, go back to virtual services etc.). Please remember to be flexible and patient as we see how things work when we are together. If there's one thing we've all learned from the pandemic, it's that situations and guidelines can change from day to day!

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

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

ou 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!

(continued on next page)

Announcements

REOPENING PLANS (continued)

For those who wish to remain virtual, we will be live streaming the service via Youtube – that means no more Zoom! More details will be discussed during today's announcements, and all of the information will be sent out in an email this week.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES! We're making the switch to gmail – please see the following list of new email address for the BUCC staff:

- General Office (Anne Melfo): **buccoffice23@gmail.com**
- Pastor (Allan Lane, Interim): **buccpastor23@gmail.com**
- Donations/Expenses (Joy Garapic): **buccfinance23@gmail.com**
- Music Ministry (David Debick): **buccmusic23@gmail.com**

Please make this change to the information in your email contacts list.

STILL SPEAKING EVENTS* - Weather permitting, we will have parking lot meetings at the church this week – they are scheduled for Tuesday (6/8) at 10am, and Thursday (6/10) at 5pm. This is a chance for members and guests to safely share time together.

***NOTE:** All are welcome to join us and follow the guidelines below for a safe but enjoyable event:

☑ **Masks are required for participation.** ☑ **Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket for seating.** ☑ **You may bring a beverage or snack, but please no sharing with other households.** ☑ **Restrooms will not be available and the BUCC building will be closed.** ☑ **Please enjoy each other's company but remain 6 feet apart.**

THE PASTOR IS IN – Pastor Allan is available every Tuesday, between 11am and noon. You can contact him either by mail, email or phone - feel free to call either the church or his cell phone directly. You can also catch him online, by clicking on the same Zoom link that we use for Sunday services. He'd love to hear from you! Here's his contact information:

- BUCC address: **23 Public Square, Brecksville OH 44141**
- Email: **buccpastor23@gmail.com**
- BUCC office phone: **(440) 526-4364**
- Pastor Allan's cell phone: **(513) 417-1537**
- Zoom link: **<https://zoom.us/j/4780705901>**

WEEKLY COLLECTION is still happening! Please don't forget to send in your pledges to the church by mail or (preferably) PayPal! Check out BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving for more info.

COFFEE HOUR! After the service, we welcome all attendees to stay on Zoom to enjoy some time and fellowship with each other. Brew your favorite fairly-traded coffee or tea and a snack and catch up with friends!

Gathering in God's Presence

Meditation: *"Without pain, how could we know joy?' This is an old argument in the field of thinking about suffering and its stupidity and lack of sophistication could be plumbed for centuries but suffice it to say that the existence of broccoli does not, in any way, affect the taste of chocolate."* —John Green, ***The Fault in Our Stars***

Prelude: ***Believe For It*** Winans/Lee/Hill/Wong
CeCe Winans, vocalist
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4ggKHAK_xk

Call to Worship:

- ♦ Leader (Cliff): : Everything changes, but God remains constant
- ♦ People (Sue): **God calls us into worship, so that we can experience the unchanging constancy of God's love.**
- ♦ Leader: God calls us to be present in this moment, undistracted by the future, unburdened by the past, simply present in this moment with God.
- ♦ People: **God has called and we have answered. Here we are in the midst of God's love. Let us worship God!**

Hymn of Praise: ***When Morning Gilds the Skies*** Barnby

1. When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer, one purpose I declare:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

2. New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let sin and evil fear, when this sweet chant they hear:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

4. Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song, through all the ages long:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

(Anonymous German Catholic hymn, transl. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878)

Prayer of Approach & Confession:

- ◆ **People (Sue):** You are the light in the distance that guides us through the darkness, O God - the path in the forest that leads us home despite the trees. You are the one who has hidden eternity in our hearts, and the longing that cannot be fulfilled until we fulfill it in You. Yet in our journey, we stumble in the darkness, we tumble from the path, we get caught in the undergrowth. We are the cause of things we did not intend. We are the source of pain in heart and mind and body, even in people whom we love. Sometimes we do even worse things. Forgive us, we pray, as we turn from these ways to new ways, to Your ways, to the ways of Jesus our Savior. Forgive us for his sake. Amen

Words of Assurance:

- ◆ **Leader (Cliff):** The Psalmist said, "If you should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered."
- ◆ **People (Sue):** All our iniquities, all our wrongdoing, all that we have repented of, all of it is forgiven in Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God! Amen

Song of Praise:

Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!
Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!
And on earth be peace to all people, for God loves us all!
And on earth be peace to all people, for God loves us all!

Generosity Mission Moment – Allison Colbert

Readings

First Reading:

Psalm 130

Out of the Depths

Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Momentary Affliction, Eternal Glory

It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

Contemporary Reading

"Power and Love", from *The Jesus I Never Knew*, by Philip Yancey

"Father, Son and Holy Spirit remind us that there is always more of God than we can explain, always more of God than we can show. The Trinity says God is not in a box but is bigger, much bigger than we can imagine. God is more powerful than we sometimes want to believe or remember, but in remembering there is great comfort."

Musical Offering:

Faith and Faithfulness

New Wine Worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBaiWkq3kR4>

Sermon:

Light And Momentary?

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection:

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Mann

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend:
I shall not fear life's struggles if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will!
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!
O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul!
3. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory your servants shall be, too;
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!

(John E. Bode, 1868; alt.)

The Church at Prayer

David Pastor, Lois Lorenzo, Terry Heiman, Kathy Smith, Joanne K., Bill Toneff, Lenore Harris, Cindy Burton, Ann Roha, Ann Klonowski, Elizabeth Gadus, Phyllis Hassler, Sheila Day, Jim C., Max Roha, Betty Kaul, Anna Mary Fisher, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Kathleen Stewart & Joe Blasko (her father), people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

† **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 (Cliff): Under the light of eternity our troubles might be light and momentary, but many people experience them as difficult struggles to survive each day. Let us present our offerings to God and lighten the difficulties of our neighbors.

BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving

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:

- ♦ People (Sue): O God of eternal joy, receive these earthly offerings and use them to bring joy to those who need them most. May our gifts work as your presence in many lives.
Amen

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn:

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!
2. 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 Invitation**
- † **Prayer of Consecration**
- † **Words of Institution**
- † **Receiving the Bread and Cup**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- ◆ **People (Sue):** Generations of the saints before us have shared in the bread and the wine that connects us to them and to you, O God, through this holy sacrament given to us by Jesus on the last night of his life. We thank you for your faithfulness to us in all generations past, and for faithfulness to all the generations which are still to come. Amen

Hymn of Departure: *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

Sicilian melody, 18th century

1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace:
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.
2. We give thanks and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound:
Ever faithful, ever faithful to the truth may we be found.

(Attrib. to John Fawcett, 1773; alt.)

Going With God's Love

Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World

Circle of Community

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

† Benediction

Postlude: From *Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, Bourée I and II*

J. S. Bach

Yo-Yo Ma, cello

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xR4IEIye7eg>

Special Thanks:

June 6, 2021

Lay Reader	Cliff Cribbs
Responder	Sue Stenzel
CE	Mindy Wade
Slide Runner	Kate Klonowski
Zoom Host	Jim Duffy

June 13, 2021

Lay Reader	Jill Zedan
Ushers	Evie Novack, Wes Novack Bill Witt, Sherrill Witt
Head Usher	Sue Maier
CE	Mindy Wade
Acolyte	TBD
Peace Candle	TBD
Sound	Doug Fawcett
A/V	Tim Wallis
Greeter(s)	Dave Bernard
Flowers	TBD
Counters	Marge Culver, TBD

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!