



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*

*"Character is
like a tree and
reputation its
shadow. The
shadow is what
we think it is
and the tree is
the real thing."*

*—Abraham
Lincoln*

**You go before me
and follow me. You
place your hand of
blessing on my head.
Psalm 139:5**

**Sunday June 13, 2021 • 10:00 AM
Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor
• Allan Lane

Director of Music
• David Debick

Financial Secretary
• Joy Garapic

Office Manager
• Anne Melfo

Ministers – All of Our Members

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 - if you are interested in learning more about our church, please feel free to speak to our pastor.*
- *Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use.*

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:30am - 1:30pm

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoffice23@gmail.com – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

June 13, 2021 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation Music

"Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people that they don't like." –Will Rogers

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude - *O Holy Radiance, Joyous Light* Ancient Sarum plainsong, Mode IV
arr. Debick

Bearing the Light of Peace
Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

- Leader: God calls to the people of God:
- **People: You don't have to hold the world in your hands, for I already hold it in my hands.**
- Leader: God calls to the people of God:
- **People: I have made you who you are. I need you to be yourself. It is for that that I have created you. Be yourself, your best self, and you will fit the place I have made in the world for you.**
- Leader: The people of God call out to God:
- **People: You know us and love us. We trust you to guide us in the right way. Come now, everyone, let us worship God!**

Hymn of Praise ***Come, We Who Love God's Name*** #379, v.1, 3 & 5

*** Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

You, O God, are the one who loves us more than we know, who knows us better than we know ourselves, who is constantly molding us back into shape when we disfigure our characters. Our insecurities make us jealous of others. Our prejudices cloud our vision of others. Our lack of self-esteem makes us want to think of ourselves as better than others. Help us to see ourselves as you do, as the perfectly wonderful souls we were before we went astray. Help us to see ourselves as we really are: wonderfully good, but with smudges of sin that need to be cleaned away. Let us forget about

(continued)

being better than others. Instead, let us focus on lifting others up, for when we lift them up, we lift ourselves up along with them. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who always put others first. Amen

* Words of Assurance

- Leader: The Psalmist said, “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”
- **People: God has redeemed us in Jesus Christ; in Christ, the old is gone and the new has come. We are a new creation! Thanks be to God! Amen**

Song of Praise:

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



Generosity Moment – Allan Lane, “Native Friends”

God Is Still Speaking

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

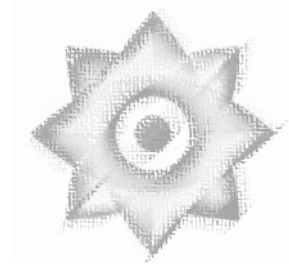
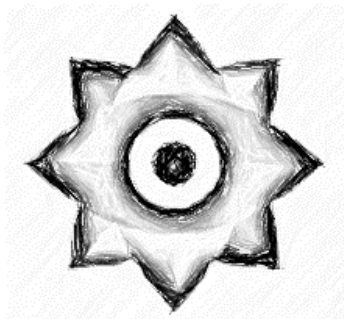
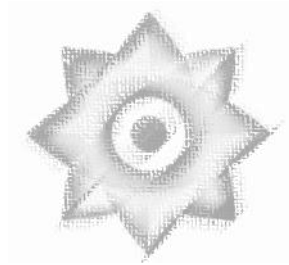
First Reading (Pastor Allan)	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13	<i>God looks past looks</i>
Second Reading	Psalm 139	<i>God really knows us</i>
Contemporary Reading	“God the Eagle”, from Jesus , by Walter Wangerin Jr.	

Musical Offering

Forever

Jon Thompson, bass

Tomlin



Sermon

God Sees The Heart

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

#448

The Church at Prayer

Lenore Harris, David Pastor, Lois Lorenzo, Marge Culver, Terry Heiman, Kathy Smith, Joanne K., Bill Toneff, 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.

(Organ Response)

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

***The Invitation**

Leader: If we could only see people as God sees them, we would be full of endless compassion and love. Let us make our offerings as people striving to see the world through God's eyes. Let us present our offerings to God.

*** 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]**

O God, we offer our selves to your service, and these gifts as tokens of our willingness to be your people in the world. May we, and they, make a difference in Brecksville and in the world. Amen

Going with God's Love

Hymn of Departure *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name* #80, v. 1

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World – Acolyte

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.

The musical notation is for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' The chords are: A (first staff), E A D (second staff), Bm E (third staff), A (fourth staff), C#7 F#m Bm E7sus4 E7 A (fifth staff).

Benediction

Postlude

Great Is Our God

Kirkland

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH

REOPENING RECAP – As you might have noticed, there are a few things that we are doing differently during our services, for the time being. The most obvious are: refraining from singing, bringing your own communion, stationing collection plates at the sanctuary doors, and not meeting afterwards for refreshments downstairs. We also will not have our traditional “circle of community” form, at the end of the service. Masks are recommended but optional for adults, with children wearing them at the discretion of their parent(s). We are also asking folks to take advantage of our large sanctuary and leave space between households.

However, these are small sacrifices to make, in light of what we are returning to: live music from our talented Music Director, hearing the Word read and preached from the altar, and being reunited in worship together! We will reassess the changes mentioned above on an ongoing basis, as we decide that it is safe to do so. We will be flexible and caring as we see how things work when we are together.

Thank you for your patience and welcome back!

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our guest book before you go, and thank you for coming!

TODAY'S FLOWERS were provided by Tia Began, in gratitude for all of the efforts made throughout the past 15 months, to keep us safe as a congregation. Also, in celebration of being together again under one roof!

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BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICES we will be taking a “bring your own communion” approach for the time being. Communion is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and next Sunday (6/20) will be our first experience with this change. Any type of bread/cracker will suffice, and juice is used instead of wine, for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who may be in recovery from addiction.

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB - We are currently reading ***Hood Feminism: Notes From the Women that a Movement Forgot***, by Mikki Kendall. The next meeting is on Thursday, June 17th at 7 pm - we will continue to meet remotely, via Zoom. The discussion will cover “Of #FastTailedGirls and Freedom,” & “It’s Raining Patriarchy” (pp. 47-84). If you were unable to make it the first week, it’s certainly not too late to join – we’d love to have you! Please feel free to reach out to **Kate Klonowski** by **calling or texting (216) 534-3498**, or by **email** at **keightykay@gmail.com**, with any questions.

STILL SPEAKING EVENTS – Now that we’re back to in-person worship, the parking lot meetings have been discontinued. Pastor Allan will maintain his office hour every Tuesday, from 11am-noon - if you’d like to speak to him any other time, here’s how you can reach him:

Email: **buccpastor23@gmail.com**

BUCC office phone: **(440) 526-4364**

Pastor Allan’s cell phone: **(513) 417-1537**

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

Readings

First Reading (read by Pastor Allan)

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

God looks past looks

Then Samuel went to Ramah, but Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, though Samuel mourned for Saul. And the Lord regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel. Now the Lord said to Samuel, "How long are you going to mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, because I have chosen a king for Myself among his sons." But Samuel said, "How can I go? When Saul hears about it, he will kill me." But the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' And you shall invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you shall do; and you shall anoint for Me the one whom I designate to you." So Samuel did what the Lord told him, and he came to Bethlehem. Then the elders of the city came trembling to meet him and said, "Do you come in peace?" And he said, "In peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." He also consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they entered, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is standing before Him." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God does not see as man sees, since man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass before Samuel. But he said, "The Lord has not chosen this one, either." Next Jesse had Shammah pass by. And he said, "The Lord has not chosen this one, either." So Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these." Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are these all the boys?" And he said, "The youngest is still left, but behold, he is tending the sheep." So Samuel said to Jesse, "Send word and bring him; for we will not take our places at the table until he comes here." So he sent word and brought him in. Now he was reddish, with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel set out and went to Ramah.

Readings (continued)

Second Reading

Psalm 139

God really knows us

Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I get up; You understand my thought from far away. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, Lord, You know it all. You have encircled me behind and in front, and placed Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot comprehend it.

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take up the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will take hold of me. If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night," even darkness is not dark to You, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You.

For You created my innermost parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, because I am awesomely and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in secret, and skillfully formed in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my formless substance; and in Your book were written all the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.

How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

If only You would put the wicked to death, God; leave me, you men of bloodshed. For they speak against You wickedly, and Your enemies take Your name in vain. Do I not hate those who hate You, Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I hate them with the utmost hatred; they have become my enemies.

Search me, God, and know my heart; put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there is any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

Readings (continued)	
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Contemporary Reading

*“God the Eagle”, from **Jesus**, by Walter Wangerin Jr.*

“In her eye I see that the eagle must even know my name, and by the gaping of her beak, will shortly scream my name, and this terrifies me. For shall my name be screamed in judgment or in blessing? And what shall be my name when it resounds to the four corners of the earth?”

[illegible]

Special Thanks:

JUNE 13, 2021

Head Usher:	Maier, Sue
Ushers:	Novak, Wes Novak, Evie Witt, Sherrill Witt, Bill
Lay Reader:	Zedan, Jill
Greeter:	Bernard, Dave
Counters:	Stewart, Dan <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Acolyte:	Stewart, Ryan
Peace Candle:	Spangler, Heidi
A/V Team:	Duffy, Jim Wallis, Tim
Sound:	Fawcett, Doug

JUNE 20, 2021

Head Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Ushers:	Spangler, Heidi Wallis, Kim <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Lay Reader:	Sproul, Bridget
Greeter:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counter:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Acolyte:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Peace Candle:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
A/V Team:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Sound:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Flowers:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>