



# BRECKSVILLE

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## 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***

"To really ask is  
to open the  
door to the  
whirlwind. The  
answer may  
annihilate the  
question and  
the questioner."

—Anne Rice



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**Sunday October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 • 10:00 AM**

***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 - 12:30pm**

**Church Phone: 440-526-4364**

**e-mail: [buccoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:buccoffice23@gmail.com) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Meditation Music**

"Fear knocked on the door. Faith answered. There was no one there."

–Martin Luther King, Jr., ***Strength to Love***

***Gathering in God's Presence***

*(Please Stand as you are able.)*

**Prelude**

**Give Up Your Anxious Pains**

J. S. Bach, 1736

*"Give up your anxious pains, confusion, and remorse,  
To God, who set and still maintains creation's complex course.*

*God leads what may appear chaotic, random, wild:  
So God has planned and will make clear a path for you, dear child."*

Paul Gerhardt, 1656; transl. Madeleine F. Marshall, 1994

**Bearing the Light of Peace**

**Bearing the Light of Christ**

**\* Call to Worship:**

- Leader: Come into worship; come and be changed by the power of the living God!
- **People: When God speaks, God shakes us to the core with God's awesome majesty!**
- Leader: Sometimes, out of the stillness, God bursts forth with the whirlwind of divine presence.
- **People: May this be one of those times! Come, let us worship God!**

**Hymn of Praise:            *God Reigns o'er All the Earth***

#21, v. 1-3

1. God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and valleys low,  
the farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beauty show.

God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spreading plains,  
in rainbow hues--reds, yellows, blues--of streams and country lanes.

2. God reigns o'er human life! Through youth and aging years,  
in death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.

God reigns o'er human life! Our inspiration still.

Through all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reigning will.

3. God reigns o'er time and space! In history's bygone days,  
Christ's faithful folk in reverence spoke to bring God earnest praise.

God reigns o'er time and space! O'er galaxy and sun,  
through timeless years the cosmos hears the heavenly music run.

(Music: Traditional English melody, adapt. F. L. Sheppard, 1915; text: Jane P. Huber, 1981)

**\* Prayer of Approach and Confession: [Unison]**

We all want to experience your presence, O God, to hear your voice and to know that you are there. But we remember that those who have heard your voice have been shaken by it. We remember how the people of Israel heard your voice, booming through the mountains of Sinai, when Moses received the Ten Commandments. They heard your power, felt the shaking of your holiness, and they begged Moses to make it stop: "You speak to us and we will surely listen! But do not have God speak to us or we will die!" You have a dangerous holiness. Let us approach your throne of grace with caution as we confess our sins to you. Amen

**\* Words of Assurance:**

- Leader: God promises to clothe us in the righteousness of Christ, to cover over our sins with surprising grace, and to embrace us with never-failing love.
- People: In Jesus Christ, your holiness becomes our holiness. Now we have nothing to fear, for you have made us whole and holy through Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to you, O God! Amen

**Song of Praise:**

*Glory, glory, glory –  
Glory to God in the highest! (2X's)*

Pablo Sosa, 1988

*And on earth be peace to all people,  
For God loves us all! (2X's)*



## ***Baptism of Mara Annabel Oliver***

### **Preamble**

Questions for the Parents

### **Promises of the Church**

Minister (to the church): I ask the congregation to stand as we make our promises to Mara -

- ◆ Do you, on behalf of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Mara Annabel Oliver, by word and deed, with love and in prayer, encouraging her to follow in the way of Christ and to be a faithful member of Christ's church? If so, say, "We do."
- ◆ **Congregation: We do.**
- ◆ Minister: And do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Mara as she is about to be baptized, to help her live and grow in Christ?
- ◆ **Congregation: We promise our love, support, and care.**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

- ◆ Minister: Let us unite with the church in all times and places, in confessing our faith in the triune God. Do you believe in God the Father/Mother?
- ◆ **People: I believe in God the Father/Mother.**
- ◆ Minister: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
- ◆ **People: I believe in Jesus Christ.**
- ◆ Minister: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- ◆ **People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Minister: Christ be with you!
- ◆ **People: And also with you!**

***Baptism of Mara Annabel Oliver***  
***(continued)***



- ◆ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**
- ◆ **Blessing of the Water**
- ◆ **Declaration of Grace**
- ◆ **Baptism of Mara Annabel Oliver**
- ◆ **Introduction of Mara Annabel Oliver**

**Baptismal Hymn: *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise***      #325, v. 1, 2 & 4

1. Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
  2. Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.
  4. Child of God your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.
- (Music: Attrib. to Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716, in *Psalmody Sacra*, Gotha, 1715; text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991)





## ***God Is Still Speaking***

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

**First Reading (Allan):** Job 38: 1-7, 34-41    *God answers from the whirlwind*

**Second Reading:**     Isaiah 53:4-12    *Isaiah foresees the Messiah*

**Contemporary Reading:** “Not Yet A Story”, from **Alias Grace**, by Margaret  
Atwood

### **Anthem**

#### ***Cry for Humility***

Christ Our Life (Canada)

*“Lord I cry for humility, / Crush the pride that has blinded me,  
Forgive my hidden faults and bring the love of God  
Until Your heart’s in me. / I will worship in Spirit and in Truth,  
Teach me discipline to meditate on You,  
You gave up Your life, I must give my all to You,  
Remove the veil so I can see. / Grant me grace to see my wickedness,  
You must increase while I become less, / Keep your servant from willful sin  
So I’ll stand blameless before Your throne. / I will worship in Spirit and in Truth...  
I want to see You, I want to know You, I want to see You.  
It is my all, it is my everything to know You.”*

### **Sermon**

#### ***God Answers From The Whirlwind***

Pastor Allan Lane

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

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
the Lamb victorious, Christ the Child of God. **REFRAIN**

2. Each newborn servant of the Crucified  
bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. **REFRAIN**

3. O Christ, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
your death has brought us life eternally. **REFRAIN**

(Music: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; text: G. W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; text revised by M. R. Newbolt, 1916; alt.)

## ***The Church at Prayer***

The Family and Friends of Max Roha, Fred Pesek, Suzanne Patrick, George Snider, David Pastor, Peg Duffy, Lenore Harris, Tina Ortiz, Phyllis Hassler, Lois Lorenzo, Sandra Lane, Joanne Cook, Terry Heiman, Joanne K., Bill Toneff, Dassie Matsuoka, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Ann Klonowski, Sheila Day, Jim C., Betty Kaul, Anna Mary Fisher, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, Jon Thompson, Kathy Smith, Kathleen Stewart & Joe Blasko (her father), “Edna House”, 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: An encounter with God changes us. It makes us aware of God's majesty. It brings us closer to our fellow human beings, for we all stand before God on the same footing. Let us share from the abundance God has given us with the neighbors whom God has given us. Let us present our gifts and offerings.

### **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]**

**Let these offerings be a whirlwind of good in the world, blowing hope into many lives. We dedicate them to you, O God, in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the World. Amen**

## ***Holy Communion***



- † **The Invitation**
- † **Prayer of Consecration**
- † **Words of Institution**
- † **Receiving the Bread and Cup**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Jesus began his earthly ministry by being baptized by John in the river Jordan. He ended his earthly ministry with a sacred meal with his disciples in the upper room. In between, he taught and he healed, he rebuked and he reconciled, he forgave and he freed. All this we remember in thankfulness this morning. Amen

## Going with God's Love

### Hymn of Departure *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* #77, v. 1-2

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.

(Music: Mikkel Thompson, 1989; text: Brian Wren, 1989; rev. 1993)

## 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.



† Benediction

**Postlude**

***Make a Joyful Noise***  
Assisted by Percussion Group

de Silva

WISHING YOU A  
BLESSED AND HEALTHY  
WEEK AHEAD!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE SENT TO ANNE AT [BUCCOFFICE23@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BUCCOFFICE23@GMAIL.COM).  
SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT BULLETIN MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
WEDNESDAY AT NOON.**

# **BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **WE WELCOME** all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our guest book before you go and thank you for coming!
- **FLOWERS** – Today's flowers are provided by Dorie Gabor, in loving memory of her husband, Steven Gabor.
- **2021 ADVENT BOOK** – Every year BUCC members contribute to the Advent Book – 40 days' worth of prayers, insights and interpretations of a variety of Advent-related bible verses. Last year due to COVID we leveraged a variety of writings from years past to compile the book. This year we would like to return to fresh writings but open it up to what members would like to share about their personal experience during the pandemic. So far (mid-October) we've received several thoughtful submissions about personal experiences during COVID. If you are interested in sharing your experience (or two or three), please email it to Sue Maier at **Eyerienne@aol.com** (there is always the option to provide a hard copy to the office if email isn't your thing). What you write is up to you, but it should relate to the overall goal of the Advent book as a way to reflect on the coming of Christ. Here's a link to a great article to inspire you: [Advent - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://ucc.org/Advent-United-Church-of-Christ)

If you are interested in writing for the Advent book, but prefer the more traditional approach of having a bible verse to inspire you, please let us know and we will send you one. Submissions will close on November 1<sup>st</sup> to provide sufficient time to put the book together for distribution. Should we have any open days we will go back to previous Advent Books for content.

I don't consider myself a 'religious' person, but I do look forward to the Advent Book and feel like it brings me closer to the people in this amazing congregation. I keep it by my bed and read the daily offering before bed each night – for me this just adds to the magic of the season. If the feelings and experiences shared on September 19<sup>th</sup> are any indication, I think we can create something very special for Advent 2021.  
- Sue Maier, **Eyerienne@aol.com**

- **PASTOR'S FUND** – The Pastor's Fund is currently running low. Please consider making a small donation, by using a pew envelope and marking it "Pastor's Fund" on the front. These can be left in any of the collection plates, found at each entrance. Thank you!

## Readings

### First Reading (read by Pastor Allan)

**Job 38: 1-7, 34-41**    *God answers from the whirlwind*

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

“Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.

Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone - while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?”

“Can you raise your voice to the clouds and cover yourself with a flood of water? Do you send the lightning bolts on their way? Do they report to you, ‘Here we are’? Who gives the ibis wisdom or gives the rooster understanding? Who has the wisdom to count the clouds? Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens when the dust becomes hard and the clods of earth stick together?

Do you hunt the prey for the lioness and satisfy the hunger of the lions when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in a thicket? Who provides food for the raven when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?”

### Second Reading

**Isaiah 53:4-12**    *Isaiah foresees the Messiah*

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.

## Readings

### Second Reading (continued)

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

### Contemporary Reading (read by Pastor Allan)

“Not Yet A Story”, from *Alias Grace*, by Margaret Atwood

“When you are in the middle of a story it isn't a story at all, but only a confusion; a dark roaring, a blindness, a wreckage of shattered glass and splintered wood; like a house in a whirlwind, or else a boat crushed by the icebergs or swept over the rapids, and all aboard powerless to stop it. It's only afterwards that it becomes anything like a story at all. When you are telling it, to yourself or to someone else.”

# Special Thanks:

## **OCTOBER 17, 2021**

**Head Usher:** Jill Zedan  
**Ushers:** Dorie Gabor  
Evelyn Seager  
**Lay Reader:** Jon Thompson  
**Greeter:** Caroline Chandler  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
Jon Thompson  
**Acolyte:** ***Volunteer Needed***  
**Peace Candle:** ***Volunteer Needed***  
**A/V Team:** Jim Duffy  
**Sound:** Jim Duffy  
**Flowers:** Julie Bernard

## **OCTOBER 24, 2021**

**Head Usher:** Jon Thompson  
**Ushers:** Jane Cribbs  
Evelyn Seager  
**Lay Reader:** Jim Duffy  
**Greeter:** Peg Duffy  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
Dorie Gabor  
**Acolyte:** ***Volunteer Needed***  
**Peace Candle:** ***Volunteer Needed***  
**A/V Team:** Tim Wallis  
**Sound:** Tim Wallis  
**Flowers:** Tia Began