



# 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*

“Do not dwell on  
the past.  
Do not dwell on  
the future.  
Concentrate the  
mind on the  
present moment.”  
– Buddha



**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 • 10:00 AM**

**Pastor**

• Rev. John King

**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)**

**Please submit your announcements by noon on Wednesday – Thank You!**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Prelude/Gathering Music *Of the Parent's Love Begotten*

Adapt. from a medieval plainsong in Petri's Piae Cantiones, 1582

### Welcome & Announcements

### Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

*"Let the truth be in your hearts, as it will be if you practice meditation, and you will see clearly what love we are bound to have for our neighbors." - St. Teresa of Avila*

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

*(Please Stand as you are able.)*

#### \* Call to Worship:

Leader: Christ is in our midst! How will you bid him welcome?

**All: We will throw open the doors to our hearts. We will delight in God's presence.**

Leader: When God shows up, surprising things can happen.

**All: We will make ourselves ready.**

Leader: We will lay down our burdens and set aside our distractions.

**All: Here we receive good news: Nothing is too wonderful for God!**

Leader: So let us laugh and sing, rest and listen, dance and praise—

**All: Let us worship God!**

#### \* Hymn of Praise:

#### ***God Is Truly with Us***

#68

1. God is truly with us; sing we and adore now:  
praise the One we come before now.

Here within this temple, here in sound and silence,  
worship God in deepest reverence.

You alone, God, we own, you, our God and Savior; praise to you forever.

2. God is truly with us; loud our praise resounding!  
Echoes of the saints surrounding!

"Holy, holy holy," hear the hymn ascending,  
angels, saints, their voices blending!

Bow your ear to us here; hear, O Christ, the praises that your  
Church now raises.

3. Source of every blessing, bless the ones who name you,  
let our words and deeds proclaim you.

Like the saints and angels praising you in glory,  
may your servants sing your story.

And in all, great and small, may we do most nearly what you love most dearly.

(Music: Joachim Neander, c. 1680; words: Gehard Tersteegen, 1729; transl. Frederick W. Foster and others; alt.)

**\* Prayer of Invocation: [UNISON]**

Wonderful, surprising God, you bring us hope when we are discouraged, peace when we are anxious, and joy when we are least expecting it. Help us, now, to rest in your presence. Be our welcome Guest not only here but everywhere we go this week. Show us how to receive all that you have to offer us. May we remain open even to what seems too incredible to be true, for with you, so much more is possible than we even imagine. We pray this in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**\* Words of Grace:** (Rev. John)

**\* Song of Praise:**      **Glory to God**      Pablo Sosa, 1988

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

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

**God Is Still Speaking**

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

**First Reading**      **Colossians 1:15-20 (The Inclusive Bible)**

**Gospel Reading**      **Luke 10:38-42 (NRSV)**

**Continuing Testament** By Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins



**Time with Young Worshippers**



**Musical Offering**

**Spirit Song**

Wimber

Cliff Cribbs, vocalist

1. *O let the Son of God enfold you with His Spirit and His love.  
Let Him fill your life and satisfy your soul.*

*O let Him have the things that hold you and His Spirit, like a dove,  
will descend upon your life and make you whole.*

*Refrain: Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill Your lambs. (twice)*

2. *O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are  
filled with joy.*

*Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.*

*O give Him all your tears and sadness, give Him all your years of pain  
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' Name. (Refrain)*

(Words and music for John Wimber; copyright © 1979 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing)

**Hymn of Reflection: *Be Now My Vision* #451, v. 1-3**

1. Be now my vision, O God of my heart;  
nothing surpasses the love you impart--  
You my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
2. Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;  
ever within me, my soul is assured;  
Mother and Father, you are both to me,  
now and forever your child I will be.
3. Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,  
you, my inheritance, now and always;  
You and you only are first in my heart,  
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

(Music: Traditional Irish melody; words: ancient Irish text, c. 8th century;  
transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.)

***The Church at Prayer***

The family and friends of Anna Mary Fisher, the family and friends of Edie O'Donnell, Dorie Gabor, Phyllis Hassler, Lenore Harris, Bill Toneff, Rose Kaval, Suzanne Patrick, David Pastor, George Snider, Tina Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Dassie Matsuoka, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Ann Klonowski, Sheila Day, Betty Kaul, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, Jon Thompson, 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: [UNISON]**

...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***

**Invitation to Share:** (Rev. John)

**\* 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]**

Generous God, we share what we have because we wish to serve you with the best we have to offer. Bless our tithes and offerings that they may become a bountiful feast for all who need to be filled with good things. Open our eyes to see the strangers you call us to welcome. Empower us to receive them as you do, with radically inclusive hospitality. May we recognize and delight in the gifts they share with us. Amen.

## ***Going with God's Love***

**\*Hymn of Departure      *O Christ, the Great Foundation*      #387, v. 1-3**

1. O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand  
to preach your true salvation in every age and land:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure,  
to keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.
2. Baptized in one confession, one church in all the earth,  
we bear Christ's own impression, the sign of second birth:  
One holy people gathered in love beyond our own,  
by grace we were invited, by grace we make you known.
3. Where tyrants' hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak,  
where innocents are frightened, the righteous fear to speak,  
There let your church awaking attack the powers of sin  
and, all their ramparts breaking, with you the victory win.

(Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864; words: Timothy Tingfang Lew, 1933; alt.; transl. Frank W. Price, 1953; alt.)



## ***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 (Rev. John)

## Postlude:

## ***Extol the Sovereign, Our God***

Jennings



## **Announcements**

**REMEMBERING ANNA MARY** – There will be a memorial service this afternoon at 1 pm, for long-time member Anna Mary Fisher. Her family extends an open invitation to all those who wish to honor her.

**NURSERY** - If you know in advance that you will be bringing nursery age children (ages 0-3), or will be bringing a guest with children to church and would like to drop them off in the nursery, please contact the church office at 440-526-4364 or Evie Novak at 440-479-9743. This is necessary so that we may arrange for a volunteer attendant to be available. If you are unable to provide notice, please check with our Head Usher before the service (can be found in the Narthex at the back of the church), and they will enlist a volunteer if one is available. If no one is available, you are welcome to accompany your child in the nursery. If you would like to serve as an as-needed volunteer, please let Evie know.

**THE OPERA IS COMING TO BUCC!** - On August 6, the premier of a locally produced oratorio/opera, “Coming Home” will be performed in the sanctuary. It’s the true story of Jim Stulz’s journey from teaching high school to becoming one of the moral leaders of San Francisco’s gay community. Jim was a co-founder of both a “Gays and Grays” ministry and America’s first residential AIDS hospice, called “Coming Home”. It’s an uplifting story about being the best one can be “under the circumstances” and concludes with an audience sing along! Afterwards, there will be a question/answer period with the work’s principal lyricist. The performance begins at 4 pm, and free-will donations will be used to defray production costs, with any excess revenue going to BUCC’s LBGTQ ministries.



**HOLY GROUNDS** – I will be at the Brecksville Panera for coffee at 8:15 most Tuesday mornings. Anyone is welcome to stop by. There’s no need for an RSVP or agenda, so you never know who might show up. Of course, if you are looking for a more traditional meeting in my office, you can always set that up too. But if you’re just looking for casual conversation, stop by at Panera any Tuesday for a visit and some “holy grounds.” – Pastor John

## Readings

### First Reading

#### Colossians 1:15-20 (The Inclusive Bible)

Christ is the image of the unseen God and the firstborn of all creation, for in Christ were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers – all things were created through Christ and for Christ. Before anything was created, Christ existed, and all things hold together in Christ.

The church is the body; Christ is its head. Christ is the Beginning, the firstborn from the dead, and so Christ is first in every way. God wanted all perfection to be found in Christ, and all things to be reconciled to God through Christ - everything in heaven and everything on earth - when Christ made peace by dying on the cross.

### Gospel Reading

#### Luke 10:38-42 (NRSV)

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me."

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

## Readings

### Continuing Testament - By Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins

Grant me grace, Loving God,  
To savor today.

Help me savor the rising  
To early morning's bird song  
And stretch of sunrise  
Bearing gradual light  
Kissing the night goodbye  
In thanks for rest  
Offered to all creation  
Forming dreams mysterious  
For necessary renewal  
Of body, mind and spirit.

Help me savor the quiet  
Of worlds outer and inner  
Reordering my thinking  
And beating heart of being  
In a chapel unnamable  
Formed by You deep within  
Everything breath of life  
In Your whole creation.

Help me savor the exercise  
Of body, mind and heart  
In thankful joy for pressure  
Just enough for growth  
But not too much to crush  
As often world's weightiness  
Is want to do.

Help me savor the learning  
From books and friends  
And strangers often unknown  
Whose path will cross mine  
At just the right moment  
For openings I cannot imagine  
Carrying wisdom from You  
For unexpected growth in me.

Help me savor the beauty  
You lavishly throw around  
Landing everywhere eye turns  
In beckoning abundance  
Calling out for notice  
And worshipful praise  
At all You give and make  
Possible through evolutions  
Of the marriage of life and death  
In constant cosmic creation  
Never finally losing anything  
Or anyone in Your grand unfolding.

Yes, Love,  
Despite every challenge  
And word resistant to You  
In a world gone mad  
In a thousand ways,  
Let me savor the gift  
You give in this precious day.

# Special Thanks:

## July 17, 2022

**Head Usher:** Diane Gressley  
**Ushers:** Evelyn Seager  
**Volunteer Needed**

**Lay Reader:** Sue Stenzel  
**Greeter:** Dave Bernard  
**Nursery:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Counters:** Marge Culver  
Janet Renovetz

**Acolyte:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Peace Candle:** **Volunteer Needed**

**A/V Team:** David Pastor

**Flowers:** Sue Stenzel

**Snack:** Lois Lorenzo  
Bridget Sproul

**Set Up/Serve:** Bridget Sproul  
**Volunteer Needed**

**Clean Up:** Bridget Sproul  
**Volunteer Needed**

## July 24, 2022

**Head Usher:** Jill Zedan  
**Ushers:** Dave Bernard  
Carole Snider

**Lay Reader:** Jon Thompson  
**Greeters:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Nursery:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Counters:** Marge Culver  
**Volunteer Needed**

**Acolyte:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Peace Candle:** **Volunteer Needed**

**A/V Team:** **Volunteer Needed**

**Flowers:** Carole Snider

**Set Up/Serve:** Sue Stenzel  
Cliff Stenzel

**Clean Up:** Sue Stenzel  
**Volunteer Needed**

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