



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



6th Sunday after Pentecost, July 17th, 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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

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

6th Sunday after Pentecost – July 17th, 2022

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

Adapt. from a medieval plainsong in Petri's Piaae 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 LGBTQ 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

Attendance on Sunday, July 10th, 2022 – Adults: 50; Kids: 7; Live Stream: 6; Total: 63

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, Sovereignities, 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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