



BRECKSVILLE

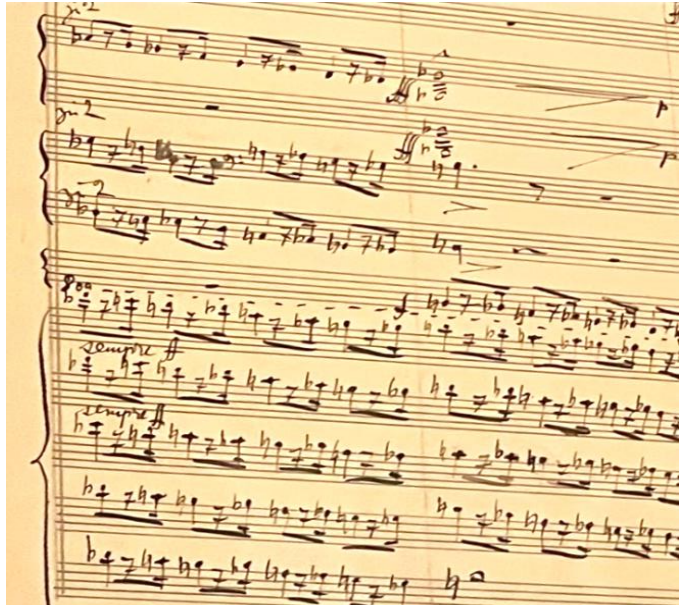
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

***Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power***

"If you are
neutral
in situations of
injustice,
you have chosen
the side of
the oppressor.
If an elephant
has its foot
on the tail
of a mouse,
and you say that
you are neutral,
the mouse will
not appreciate
your neutrality."

- Archbishop
Desmond Tutu



Mahler's handwritten manuscript of the Second Symphony
"Resurrection"

N

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!

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – October 16th, 2022

Prelude/Gathering Music *Christ, You Call Us All to Service* Horman

*"Fire a passion for your justice, in us kindle love of peace;
help us heal the brokenhearted, to the captive bring release."*

Words: Joy F. Patterson, b. 1931

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

*"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged
as those who are."* - Benjamin Franklin

Gathering in God's Presence

(Please Stand as you are able.)

*** Call to Worship:**

One: Some of us wonder what this faith is all about,

All: And come hoping to learn things useful and heart-full.

One: Some of us are confident in "what we have learned and what we have believed."

All: And come longing to share our heart-full knowledge.

One: We have all come to learn from each other and from the words of scripture:

All: You write your sacred texts, O God, in scripture and on our hearts; you welcome us into depths of understanding. Meet us here and lead us deeper into you; equip us for every good work. Join our desire to learn with your willingness to teach us your ways of justice and joy. For this purpose we gather, O Holy One. Amen.

*** Hymn of Praise:** *God of Grace and God of Glory* #436, v. 1-4

1. God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2. From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways,
from the fears that long have bound us-- free our hearts for faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3. Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control.

Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole,
make our broken spirits whole.

*** Invocation: [UNISON]**

Righteous One, we are thankful that justice flows from you like a stream. You bid us to come and experience the equity of your love. We rejoice in knowing that justice is an aspect of your love and is without end. Enable us to be steadfast in our hope in you as we work alongside you to ensure those who need justice receive it. Amen

Assurance of God's Grace

*** 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 2 Timothy 3:12-17, 4:1-2 (The Message)

Gospel Reading Luke 18:1-8 (The Message)

Continuing Testament by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Time with Young Worshippers



Anthem

We Shall Not Give Up the Fight

So. African freedom song

Assisted by Percussion Group

1. *We shall not give up the fight, we have only started, we have only started,
we have only started. (repeat)*
2. *Together we'll have victory, hand holding hand, hand holding hand,
hand holding hand. (repeat)*
3. *Never, ever put to flight, we're bound to win, we're bound to win,
we are bound to win. (repeat)*
4. *We shall not give up the fight, we have only started, we have only started,
we have only started. (repeat)*

Sermon:

How the Resurrection Got Locked in a Drawer

Rev. John King

Hymn of Reflection:

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

#476

1. My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul-- how can I keep from singing?
 2. What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Love commands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?
 3. When tyrants tremble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?
 4. I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing;
All things are mine since I am Christ's-- how can I keep from singing?
- (Music: attrib. to Robert Lowry in *Bright Jewels for the Sunday School*, New York, 1869;
words: Anon. in *Bright Jewels*, ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt; St 3: Doris Plenn, c. 1957)

The Church at Prayer

Friends of Bill Toneff, Allison Colbert, Dorie Gabor, Phyllis Hassler, Lenore Harris, Jeanne Cowden, Bill Toneff, Rose Kaval, Suzanne Patrick, David Pastor, 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

Call to Offering: (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]**

God of our hearts, accept our offering and bless these gifts to your use in the name of Jesus, our Savior and our brother.

Going with God's Love

Hymn of Departure** ***Sent Forth by God's Blessing #76

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The service is ended, O now be extended - the fruits of our worship in all who believe.

The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,
unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

(Music: Welsh folk melody; words: Omer Westendorf, 1964)



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.

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 (Rev. John)

Postlude:

With God All Things Are Possible

Bell

Be *Strong* and *Courageous*
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
For the *Lord* your *God*
Will be with you wherever you go.
~ Joshua 1:9

Announcements

DON'T MISS the Cleveland Institute of Music's *Cleveland Wind Trio*, performing next Sunday, Oct. 23rd at 4 PM, in the sanctuary. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow.

SELF-CARE SESSIONS with Carol VanDuyne (long time member of BUCC) are happening **every Wednesday in October**. The sessions include meditation, mindfulness, gentle movement, and breath work. Join Carol **in the Parlor from 11am to noon** - the sessions are free and open to all. Please plan to wear a mask to keep everyone protected.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA 2022 – Your voices are needed! Rehearsals for this year's cantata are on **Thursday evenings, from 7- 8 pm**. Please join us even if you've never done it before - it's a lot of fun, and a great way to prepare for the holidays! The cantata will be presented at a regular Sunday service in mid-December, and high school students are welcome to participate.

ADVENT BOOK – We are moving up the BUCC Advent Book submission date this year to **OCTOBER 31**. See one of the ushers for the clipboard with the list of scriptures/dates. Meanwhile, please be on the alert for examples of God's wonder, and jot down your thoughts. Then submit your reflections/devotion to **Anne** at **buccoffice23@gmail.com**, as soon as the moment strikes - we look forward to reading your contribution!

VOTE FORWARD LETTER WRITING – For people of faith, voting and sharing our ideas on public policy is a way of living out Jesus' commandment to love our neighbor. To that end, OCWM has started a monthly letter/postcard writing project.

The first of these is a non-partisan way to encourage others to vote. If you are interested, this is something you can do on your own. You can get started by going to the website VoteFWD.org, where you will create an account and wait a day or two to be "approved." Then, you can "adopt" groups of 5 or 20 people to receive your letters. Using names and addresses provided by VoteFWD.org, you'll add handwritten messages to a printed letter, and personally encourage others to get out and vote. This is a proven method of boosting voter turnout up to 3.4%. All letters are to be mailed on October 29. If you have any questions, feel free to contact **Ann Kelley** (contact information can be found by going to the church website and logging into Breeze or by contacting the church office.)

After that, we'll continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month (at Panera) to write to our legislators on issues that matter to us. Drawing on resources endorsed by the UCC, we'll make our voices heard.

SNOW HERDING – It's that time of year again when the Facilities Ministry is looking for "snow herders" to attack the winter snows. Please sign up through Breeze, beginning with the first Sunday after Thanksgiving (11/27). Thank you for volunteering!

Readings

First Reading

2 Timothy 3:12-17, 4:1-2 (The Message)

Anyone who wants to live all out for Christ is in for a lot of trouble; there's no getting around it. Unscrupulous fakes will continue to exploit the faith. They're as deceived as the people they lead astray. As long as they are out there, things can only get worse.

But don't let it faze you. Stick with what you learned and believed, sure of the integrity of your teachers - why, you took in the sacred Scriptures with your mother's milk! There's nothing like the written Word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another - showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

I can't impress this on you too strongly. God is looking over your shoulder. Christ himself is the Judge, with the final say on everyone, living and dead. He is about to break into the open with his rule, so proclaim the Message with intensity; keep on your watch. Challenge, warn, and urge your people. Don't ever quit. Just keep it simple.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8 (The Message)

Jesus told them a story showing that it was necessary for them to pray consistently and never quit. He said, "There was once a judge in some city who never gave God a thought and cared nothing for people. A widow in that city kept after him: 'My rights are being violated. Protect me!' He never gave her the time of day. But after this went on and on he said to himself, 'I care nothing what God thinks, even less what people think. But because this widow won't quit badgering me, I'd better do something and see that she gets justice - otherwise I'm going to end up beaten black-and-blue by her pounding.'"

Then the Master said, "Do you hear what that judge, corrupt as he is, is saying? So what makes you think God won't step in and work justice for those who continue to cry out for help? Won't God defend them? I assure you, God will not delay. But, upon returning, how much of that kind of persistent faith will the Promised One find on the earth?"

(Readings continued next page)

Readings

Continuing Testament - by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.

Let us realize that the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice. Let us realize that William Cullen Bryant is right: "Truth, crushed to earth, will rise again."

Let us go out realizing that the Bible is right: "Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Whatsoever one soweth, that shall they also reap." This is our hope for the future, and with this faith we will be able to sing in some not too distant tomorrow, with a cosmic past tense, "We have overcome! We have overcome! Deep in my heart, I did believe we would overcome."

From his *"Where Do We Go From Here"* speech, delivered August 16, 1967, to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Atlanta.

http://kingencyclopedia.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/documentsentry/where_do_we_go_from_here_delivered_at_the_11th_annual_sclc_convention/



Special Thanks:

October 16, 2022

Head Usher: ***Volunteer Needed***
Ushers: Evelyn Seager
Volunteer Needed
Lay Reader: Diane Gressley
Greeter: Dave Bernard
Nursery: ***Volunteer Needed***
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
Acolyte: ***Volunteer Needed***
Peace Candle: ***Volunteer Needed***
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Carole Snider
Snack: Jon Thompson
Set Up/Serve: Sherrill Witt
Bill Witt
Clean Up: Bill Witt
Sherrill Witt

October 23, 2022

Head Usher: ***Volunteer Needed***
Ushers: Evelyn Seager
Dave Bernard
Lay Reader: Jon Thompson
Greeter: Tia Began
Nursery: ***Volunteer Needed***
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
Acolyte: ***Volunteer Needed***
Peace Candle: ***Volunteer Needed***
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Carole Snider
Snack: Jon Thompson
Set Up/Serve: ***Volunteer Needed***
Clean Up: ***Volunteer Needed***
Volunteer Needed

NOTES: _____
