



# 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*

I have tried drugs and a little of everything else, and there is nothing in the world more soul-satisfying than having the kingdom of God building inside you and growing. ~ Johnny Cash

# Reign of Christ



November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 • 10:00 AM  
Reign of Christ Sunday

*Pastor*

• 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!**

November 20, 2022  
Reign of Christ Sunday

**Prelude/Gathering Music**      *Eternal Christ, You Rule*      Dan Damon, 1990  
**Welcome & Announcements**  
**Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward**

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The kingdom of God is available to you in the here and the now. But the question is  
whether you are available to the kingdom. ~ Thich Nhat Hanh

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**\* Call to Worship:**

Leader: Know that the Holy One is God.

**People: We are God's people.**

Leader: Worship the Holy One with gladness;

**People: Come into God's presence with singing.**

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

**People: Make a joyful noise!**

Leader: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to  
all generations.

**People: Let us worship with thanks and joy! Let us praise God in song and word  
and prayer!**

**Hymn of Praise**      *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*      #304

**\* Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious God, we long to live in your realm, we long to know you better. So open  
our eyes to recognize your presence, that your kingdom may come on Earth as it is  
in Heaven. Amen.

**\* Words of Grace (Pastor Only)**

**Song of Praise:**

**Glory to God**

**Pablo Sosa**

*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 1:11-20** (The New Testament and Psalms:  
An Inclusive Version)

**Gospel Reading** **Luke 23:33-43 (NRSV)**

**Continuing Testament** By Rainer Maria Rilke

★ **Time With Young Worshippers** ★

**Anthem**

**At His Name**

Raney

*At his name the mighty oceans roar. At his name the wind stands still.*

*At his name the eagle takes the sky. At his name the mighty nations cry.*

*At his name a newborn baby breathes. At his name a flower grows.*

*At his name the rushing rivers yield. At his name a broken heart is healed.*

**Refrain:** *At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him the King of glory now.*

*Every voice lift him up! His power and majesty proclaim,  
every knee shall bow down at his name.*

*At his name the mountains stand in awe. At his name the seasons change.*

*At his name the sunlight floods the sky. At his name the storm clouds hurry by.*

*At his name our guilt is washed away. At his name our spirit's freed.*

*At his name the gates of heaven open wide. At his name he welcomes us inside.*

**Refrain +** *At his name, at his name, at his name.*

**Refrain +** *his precious, holy name.*

(Music: Joel Raney, 2005; words: based on Philippians 2:9-11; © 2005 Hope Publishing Company)

**Sermon**

**How to Build the City of God**

Rev. John King

## Hymn of Reflection

## *City of God*

Schutte

1. Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!  
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.  
The people in darkness have seen a great light -  
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

**Refrain: Let us build the city of God  
May our tears be turned into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love,  
Has turned the night into day!**

2. We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day,  
The One who has loved us has brightened our way. (**Refrain**)

3. God is light; in God there is no darkness.  
Let us walk in God's light, God's children, one and all.

4. O comfort My people; make gentle your words -  
Proclaim to My city the day of her birth (**Refrain**)

(Music and words by Daniel Schutte, b. 1947; Copyright 1981, Daniel Schutte & New Dawn Music)

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

Family and Friends of Lenore Harris, Friends of Bill Toneff, Suzanne Patrick, George Snider, Dorie Gabor, Mac Hoppel, Dassie Matsuoka, Kathy Smith, Allison Colbert, Phyllis Hassler, Jeanne Cowden, Rose Kaval, Tina Ortiz, Terry Heiman, 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*

\*The Invitation (Pastor Only)

\* 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 abundance, we give these offerings of material goods as our commitment to give back to you and to care for your people. Let our giving remind us to see Jesus all around us. Use our offerings of money and of our lives for ministry to your purposes. Amen.

## *Going with God's Love*

Hymn of Departure

*Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing*

#303



*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.

A musical score for a hymn. The top staff shows a melody with lyrics: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The chords are marked above the staff as A, E, A, D, Bm, E. The bottom staff shows a harmonic progression: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A. The lyrics for the bottom staff are: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The score is in common time, with a key signature of two sharps.

† Benediction



Postlude

*Fugue in C Major*

Buxtehude

Pause,

pray,

proceed.



## **BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS . . .**

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** – Please join us after church **TODAY** for the annual Hanging of The Greens. We are putting up the tree, hanging the garland, and setting up all the other Christmas decorations, in preparation for the Advent season. Pizza will be provided - bring the whole family - it's a lot of fun!

**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!

**MEMORIAL FOR BILL TONEFF** - There will be a memorial service in the sanctuary for Bill on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:00 pm. All are welcome!

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** - There will be a post-worship congregational meeting on Sunday, December 4. This is an annual meeting to approve a provisional budget and the slate of officers for the 2023 church year. This is NOT the final budget approval meeting -- that gathering will be held mid to late January, per usual. Please plan on attending; this is a congregationally led church, so your voice matters!

**STAFF/CONGREGATION RELATIONS** would like to remind everyone that if you have a request or reminder for the Church Office, there are several ways to ensure that your needs can be recognized and handled properly. Either: 1) Send an email to [buccoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:buccoffice23@gmail.com); or 2) Leave a note on the Church Secretary's desk. This enables us to have a written or voice record of your request and makes it easier to respond in a timely manner. It also allows Anne to enjoy her time as just a regular congregation member on Sundays.

***NOTE: We're currently experiencing technical difficulties with our voicemail system, so leaving a voice message on the phone is not available right now. The congregation will be notified when that service is up and running again.***

**Attendance on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Adults: 71; Kids: 7; Live Stream: 12; Total: 90**

## Readings

### First Reading

#### Colossians 1:11-20 (The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version)

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from God's glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father-Mother, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the Saints in light. God has rescued us from the power of evil and transformed us into the dominion of God's beloved Child, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation; for in Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers all things have been created through Christ and for Christ.

Christ is before all things and in Christ all things hold together. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and is the beginning, the first born from the dead, so that Christ might come to have first place in everything. For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell and through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to God's self all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of the cross.

### Gospel Reading

#### Luke 23:33-43 (NRSV)

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, the chosen one!"

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

## Readings

### Continuing Testament – From the *Book of Hours*, by Rainer Maria Rilke

We must not portray you in king's robes,  
you drifting mist that brought forth the morning.

Once again from the old paintboxes  
we take the same gold for scepter and crown  
that has disguised you through the ages.

Piously we produce our images of you  
till they stand around you like a thousand walls.  
And when our hearts would simply open,  
our fervent hands hide you.

You create yourself in ever-changing shapes  
that rise from the stuff of our days—  
unsung, un-mourned, undescribed,  
like a forest we never knew.

You are the deep innerness of all things,  
the last word that can never be spoken.  
To each of us you reveal yourself differently:  
to the ship as a coastline, to the shore as a ship.

# Special Thanks:

## November 20, 2022

**Head Usher:** Betsey Wilson  
**Ushers:** Evelyn Seager  
                  Sue Stenzel  
**Lay Reader:** Rose Kaval  
**Greeter:** Jon Thompson  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
                  Janet Renovetz  
**Acolyte:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Peace Candle:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**A/V Team:** Jim Duffy  
**Flowers:** Janet Renovetz  
**Snack:** Jon Thompson  
                  *Volunteer Needed*  
**Set Up/Serve:** *Volunteer Needed*  
                  *Volunteer Needed*  
**Clean Up:** *Volunteer Needed*  
                  *Volunteer Needed*

## November 27, 2022

**Head Usher:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Ushers:** Evelyn Seager  
                  Jill Zedan  
**Lay Reader:** Jon Thompson  
**Greeter:** Dave Bernard  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
                  Janet Renovetz  
**Acolyte:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Peace Candle:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**A/V Team:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Flowers:** Julie Bernard  
**Snack:** *Volunteer Needed*  
                  *Volunteer Needed*  
**Set Up/Serve:** *Volunteer Needed*  
                  *Volunteer Needed* ||  
**Clean Up:** *Volunteer Needed*  
                  *Volunteer Needed*  
**Snow Herder:** *Volunteer Needed*

## notes: