



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***

"Memories of
our lives,
of our works
and our
deeds,
will continue
in others."

– Rosa Parks



4th Sunday after Epiphany, January 29th, 2023 • 10:00 AM

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!

Sunday January 29th, 2023
4th Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

Gather Us In Haugen

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

*“Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted;
the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of
justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph.”*
– Haile Selassie

Gathering in God’s Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

*** Call to Worship: *(inspired by Psalm 15)***

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who do justice. Those who confront inequities and uplift the oppressed.

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who love kindness. Those who love neighbor, friend and foe.

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who walk humbly with you. Those who follow your lead and answer your call.

*** Hymn of Praise**

Blessed Are They – See insert

*** Invocation [Unison]**

Just and Loving God, we enter into your sacred spaces, in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places. You bridge time and space to forge us as a beloved community. You, O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us. Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation, and to contribute to your reign on earth. Amen.

*** Assurance of God's Call**

*** 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)

Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading **Micah 6:1-5, 7-8**

Gospel Reading **Matthew 5:1-12**

Continuing Testament by Mary Oliver



Time With Young Worshippers



Anthem

As Long As We Follow

Kabemba (Congo)

Bob Chandler and Craig Ramsey, percussion

1. *As long as we follow in the way that God is leading,
we know God's reign will surely come.*

Refrain: Malembe, malembe, malembe tokotambola.

(Translation: We know this, we know this, yes, God's reign will surely come.)

2. *As long as we follow in the humble way of Jesus,
we know God's reign will surely come. (Refrain)*
3. *As long as we follow in the healing way of Jesus,
we know God's reign will surely come. (Refrain)*
4. *As long as we follow in the loving way of Jesus,
we know God's way will surely come. (Refrain)*
5. *As long as we hope, there is a future for creation,
a future for the universe. (Refrain)*

(Words and Music: Joseph Kabemba, Copyright 2004 Joseph Kabemba)

Sermon

Blessed

by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection ***Make Me a Channel of Your Peace***

Temple

1. Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

2. Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

3. O, Master, grant that I may never seek

so much to be consoled, as to console,

to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love, with all my soul.

4. Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

(Text: Anon., attrib. to Francis of Assisi, b. 1180s—d. 1226, music: Sebastian Temple, 1963; text and music Copyright 1967 OCP)

The Church at Prayer

Joanne Frable (Sue Stenzel's sister), Suzanne Patrick, George Snider, Dorie Gabor, Mac Hoppel, Dassie Matsuoka, Kathy Smith, 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), family and friends of Lenore Harris, friends of Bill Toneff, "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**

- * 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]**

Just God, we share our humble offering in hope and trust that, through these gifts, your reign comes and your will is done. Amen..

Going with God's Love

- * Hymn of Departure** *For the Healing of the Nations*

#576



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

Postlude

We Will Walk with God

Swaziland melody, arr. Bell

Announcements:

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION will be on break for 2 weeks in February – there will be no meditation group on 2/15 or 2/22. Sessions will resume on March 1. Thanks!

– Carol

MARDI GRAS – The first event for 2023 will be the Mardi Gras Potluck, after our spirited church service on Sunday, February 19th. We would like people to sign up with Kathy Smith over the next few Sundays, to bring either a Main Course, a Side Dish or a Salad. Cajun or Mardi Gras themed food is suggested, but is just an option for anyone who chooses to bring something. There is no need for desserts, as King Cakes will be provided. (King Cake is from the story of the 3 Kings, is iced in Mardi Gras colors, and there is a miniature plastic baby Jesus inside each cake to signify the Epiphany. If you find the baby Jesus you are a king!) Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!!

MUSIC – If you'd like to hear more contemporary music at Sunday services, please feel free to contact Dave Debeck with song titles or names of performers you're interested in. His church email is: buccmusic23@gmail.com. We can't promise that sheet music will be available for every request, but your input/feedback is always welcome and appreciated.

ALLAN LANE – Allan Lane was our interim pastor from August of 2019 through January of 2022. BUCC received the following email this week:

"At the end of February, we will be holding a surprise celebration for Allan's 25 years of ministry. As part of the surprise, I am trying to collect thank you cards from a few members of each of the congregations he has served. Would you be willing to help me with this? If so, please send a card to: Richfield UCC

ATTN: WPM

4340 Streetsboro Rd.

Richfield OH 44286

*Cheers,
Kate Lane"*

Attendance on Sunday, January 22, 2023 – Adults: 72; Kids: 7; Live Stream: 4; Total: 83

Readings

First Reading

Micah 6:1-5, 7-8

Listen to YHWH's indictment, you mountains
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for YHWH has a dispute with the people,
and is putting Israel on trial.
O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you?
Give me an answer!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent Moses to lead you,
and Aaron, and Miriam!

"What shall I bring when I come before YHWH,
and bow down before God on high?" you ask. "Am I to come before God with
burnt offerings? With year-old calves?
Will YHWH be placated by thousands of rams
or ten thousand rivers of oil?
Should I offer my firstborn for my wrongdoings—
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

Listen here, mortal:
God has already made abundantly clear what "good" is,
and what YHWH needs from you.
It is simply this:
do justice,
love kindness,
and humbly walk with your God.

Readings

Gospel Reading **Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

“Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:
the reign of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning:
they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle:
they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:
they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others:
they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean:
they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace:
they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice:
the reign of heaven is theirs.

You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.”

Readings

Continuing Testament – From *Evidence*, by Mary Oliver

An excerpt from the poem “To Begin With, the Sweet Grass”:

III.

The witchery of living
is my whole conversation
with you, my darlings.
All I can tell you is what I know.

Look, and look again.
This world is not just a little thrill for the eyes.

It's more than bones.
It's more than the delicate wrist with its personal pulse.
It's more than the beating of the single heart.
It's praising.
It's giving until the giving feels like receiving.
You have a life—just imagine that!
You have this day, and maybe another, and maybe
still another.



Special Thanks:

January 29, 2023

Head Usher: ***Volunteer Needed***
Ushers: Evelyn Seager
Volunteer Needed
Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul
Greeter: Carol Miller
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
Acolyte: ***Volunteers Needed***
Peace Candle: ***Volunteers Needed***
A/V Team: David Pastor
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Snack: ***Volunteers Needed***
Set Up/Serve: Caroline & Bob
Chandler
Clean Up: Caroline & Bob
Chandler
Snow Herder: ***Volunteers Needed***

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

Head Usher: ***Volunteer Needed***
Ushers: Allison Colbert
Evelyn Seager
Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Greeter: Jon Thompson
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
Acolyte: ***Volunteers Needed***
Peace Candle: ***Volunteers Needed***
A/V Team: Betsey Wilson
Flowers: Anne Melfo
Snack: *Caroline & Bob
Chandler*
Set Up/Serve: ***Volunteers Needed***
Clean Up: ***Volunteers Needed***
Snow Herder: ***Volunteer Needed***

NOTES: _____
