



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***

“When you
choose to
collect
experiences
rather than
things, you
never run out
of storage
space.”

- Joshua Becker



14th Sunday of Ordinary Time, July 9th, 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!

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 9th, 2023

Prelude

I've Got a Feeling

African American traditional

Assisted by Percussion Group

"I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right."

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

"It was only a sunny smile, and little it cost in the giving,
but like morning light it scattered the night and made the day worth living."
~F. Scott Fitzgerald

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

*** Call to Worship:**

One: God is gracious and merciful.

All: God is good. God's love is eternal.

One: You are God's beloved child.

All: We listen for God's voice.

One: In the beauty of the morning, and the calm of the night,

All: We call on you, knowing that you have already met us here.

One: And so we pause for this hour of prayer, leaning back into your open arms,

All: Inclining our ears to hear your voice, opening our eyes to behold your grace.

*** Hymn of Praise**

Sweet Hour of Prayer

#505

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

You are present to us, O God. Help us to be present to you, may we hear your *stillspeaking* voice, may we feel the beating rhythm of your Spirit pulsing through the cosmos. May we dance to the rhythm of the Spirit, who moves in mysterious ways, stirring within us now. In this sweet hour of prayer may we be fully present to you and be mindful of the presence of your spirit within us, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

*** Song of Praise:**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est, And on earth be



peace to all peo - ple, for God loves us all.

Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

Old Testament Reading - Song of Solomon 2:8-13

New Testament Reading - Matthew 11:16-19, 28-30 (The Inclusive Bible)

Continuing Testament by James Burklo



***Time With Young
Worshippers***



Musical Offering

Pride (In the Name of Love)

U2

David Pastor, vocalist; Charles Nance, narrator

One man come in the name of love

One man come and go

One man come, he to justify

One man to overthrow

Refrain: In the name of love - what more in the name of love? (twice)

One man caught on a barbed wire fence

One man he resists

One man washed on an empty beach

One man betrayed with a kiss (Refrain)

In the evening, April 4th

Shot rings out in the Memphis sky

Free at last, they took your life

They could not take your pride (Refrain)

(Written by Hewson/Clayton/ Mullen/Evans; lyrics Copyright Universal Music Publishing Int. B.v.)

Sermon by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

#489

(sung to the hymn tune KINGSFOLD)

The Church at Prayer

Marilyn Pay, Joanne Frable (Sue Stenzel's sister), Russ King, George Snider, Mac Hoppel, Dassi Matsuka, Kathy Smith, Jon Thompson, Rose Kaval, Tina Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Ann Klonowski, Sheila Day, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, 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 the Offering**

*** 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.**

*** Dedication Prayer: [UNISON]**

O God, you invite us to share the load. Through these gifts, we see that your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Use them, with us, to your service. Multiply them, through us, for your use. Strengthen them, in us, to meet the needs of this weary world, until the day comes when every need is met. Through Christ, our Savior. Amen.



Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Blessed Assurance

#473

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.

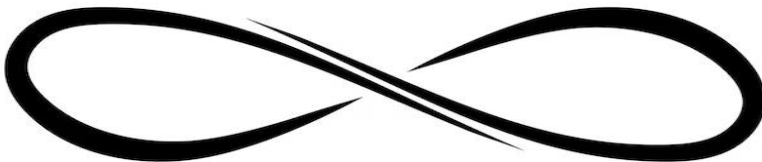


* Benediction

Postlude

From Everlasting to Everlasting

Kirkland



Announcements:

FLOWERS – Today's flowers are dedicated by Laura Lucic, "In memory of Betty Kaul."

FOR OUR WEBSITE – If you have a couple of minutes after worship today, please remain in the sanctuary. We are making some short videos of people talking about Brecksville UCC. Don't worry about planning something brilliant to say, just be natural and genuine.

What do you love about Brecksville UCC? What were your first impressions? Why do you keep coming back? With so many worthy causes, why do you choose to contribute to Brecksville UCC? These are some of the questions you can consider as we make the videos.

We will add these videos to our website to give people a feeling of what it is like here, and how they can expect to be welcomed. Just imagine that you are talking to a friend about BUCC. Imagine that they asked you some of the questions above - you wouldn't write a dissertation; you would speak from the heart. That's all we are asking you to do.

"AIR QUALITY" – Too hot? Too cold? Feel free to send Pastor John a text - we care about you and want to make sure you feel comfortable.

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

Welcome
So glad you're here

Readings

Old Testament Reading **Song of Solomon 2:8-13**

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

"The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

New Testament Reading **Matthew 11:16-19 - 28-30 (The Inclusive Bible)**

Jesus said, "What comparison can I make with this generation? They are like children shouting to others as they sit in the marketplace, 'We piped you a tune, but you wouldn't dance. We sang you a dirge, but you wouldn't mourn.'

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He is possessed.'

"The Chosen One comes, eating and drinking, and they say, 'This one is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' Wisdom will be vindicated by her actions."

Jesus continued, "Come to me, all you who labor and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. Here you will find rest for your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Readings

Continuing Testament - *Eyes for God* by James Burklo, 2015

Because the earth is all around
The earth I cannot see
Because I use my eyes to look
My eyes are lost to me
Because my God is everywhere
And flames my heart with awe
The face of the One I love the most
Is the hardest one to draw



Special Thanks:

JULY 9, 2023

Head Usher: Sue Maier
Ushers: Annette Pedersen
Evelyn Seager
Lay Reader: Michelle Rogers
Greeter: Jon Thompson
Counters: Marge Culver
Kathy Pastor
A/V Team: Fred Pedersen
Flowers: Tia Began
Set Up/Serve: Betsey Wilson
Volunteer Needed
Clean Up: ***Volunteers Needed***



JULY 16, 2023

Head Usher: ***Volunteer Needed***
Ushers: Allison Colbert
Evelyn Seager
Lay Reader: Sherrill Witt
Greeter: Carol Miller
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Carole Snider
Snack: Jon Thompson
Set Up/Serve: ***Volunteers Needed***
Clean Up: ***Volunteers Needed***

NOTES
