



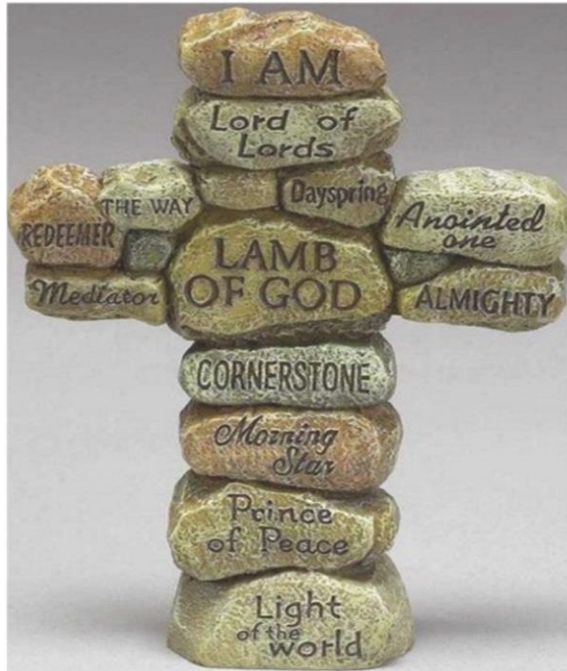
Brecksville

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***

*“Sometimes when
I consider what
tremendous
consequences
come from little
things, I’m tempted
to think, there are
no little things.”
- Bruce Barton*



27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, October 8th, 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 - 1:30pm

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!

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time - October 8th, 2023

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

*“I’ve been searching for ways to heal myself,
and I’ve found that kindness is the best way.” – Lady Gaga*

Gathering in God’s Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: We come from the East, the West, the South, and the North into this sacred space to worship the living God who walks with us.

People: O, God, we worship you for who you are, for loving and granting us your grace.

One: We lift our hands in praise to you and open our hearts to worship you in the fullness of who we are.

ALL: Let us worship our God with joyful and thankful hearts. Amen!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

#4

***INVOCATION: [UNISON]**

Jesus, we ask that You bless our time together, that we may hear Your words and apply them to our lives so that You will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

Lord Jesus, we need forgiveness. We have neglected to do your will and love our neighbor as ourselves. We seek your wisdom and ask that your Spirit create a pure heart that moves us to do what is right. We ask that your love overflow in us so we can live out our faith as a new creation to serve you and your people. Help us to strive towards a more just and kinder world for all. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us. Amen!

*** Assurance of Grace**

***Song of Praise:**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa 1988

Glory, glory, glory!
Glory to God in the highest, (twice)
And on earth be peace to all people,
for God loves us all. (twice)

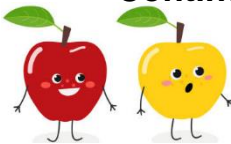
Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

Old Testament Reading - Psalm 118:1-7, 21-24, 29

New Testament Reading - Matthew 21:33

Continuing Testament by Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson



Time with Young Worshippers



Anthem

Cornerstone

Hillsong

- 1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' love and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus' name. (twice)*
*Refrain: Christ alone, cornerstone.
Weak made strong, in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.*
- 2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil – my anchor holds within the veil!
(Refrain sung twice)*
- 3. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Humble to stand before the throne. (Refrain sung twice)*

Lord of all! Lord of all!

(Words and music by Hillsong: Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero and Edward Mote. 2012 Hillsong Music Publishing, (APRA). Admin in the United States and Canada at capitolcmgpublishing.com. All rights reserved.)

Sermon by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

#400

The Church at Prayer

Carol Miller, Allison Colbert, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Joanne Frable (Sue Stenzel's sister), Russ King, George Snider, Mac Hoppel, Dassie Matsuoka, Kathy Smith, Jon Thompson, Rose Kaval, Bee Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Ann Klonowski, Sheila Day, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, 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]

Lord Jesus, we give thanks for each gift given. Bless them and multiply them so that others will be blessed, and your love will be shared worldwide. Amen!

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

#403

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.

Chords: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A

Benediction



Readings

Old Testament Reading Psalm 118:1-7, 21-24, 29

Give thanks to the Eternal who is always good, who never ceases to be loving and kind. (תָּוֶדָּ "hesed")

Let *the people of Israel* proclaim:

"God never ceases to be loving and kind." (תָּוֶדָּ "hesed")

Let *the priests of Aaron's line* proclaim:

"God never ceases to be loving and kind." (תָּוֶדָּ "hesed")

Let the people who fear the Eternal proclaim:

"God never ceases to be loving and kind." (תָּוֶדָּ "hesed")

When trouble surrounded me, I cried out to the Eternal; who answered me and brought me to a wide, open space. The Eternal is with me, so I will not be afraid of anything. If God is on my side, how can anyone hurt me? The Eternal is on my side, a champion for my cause; so when I look at those who hate me, victory will be in sight.

I will praise You because You answered me when I was in trouble. You have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the very stone that holds together the entire foundation. This is the work of the Eternal, and it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Eternal God has made; let us celebrate and be happy today.

Give thanks to our Eternal, who is always good; who never ceases to be loving and kind. (תָּוֶדָּ "hesed")

Readings

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said, to the chief priests and elders,
“Here is another story:

A landowner planted a vineyard, put a wall around it, fitted it with a winepress, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard and left town. When harvest time came, the landowner sent his servants to collect rent—in the form of grapes—from *his tenants*. The tenants attacked these rent-collecting servants. They killed one, stoned another, and beat a third. The *dismayed* landowner sent another band of servants *to try to collect his due*, a larger group of servants this time, but the tenants did the same thing—*capturing, beating, killing*.

Finally the landowner sent his son to the tenants, thinking, ‘They will at least respect my son.’

But the tenants knew the son was the best way to get to the landowner, so when they saw the son approaching, they said, ‘This is the landowner’s heir apparent! Let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ And so they did; they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

What do you think the landowner will do when he comes and sees those tenants?”

The chief priests and elders said, “He will destroy them, *to be sure!* Then he will rent the vineyard to other tenants who will pay him at harvesttime.”

Jesus responded, “I wonder if any of you has ever opened your Psalms and read: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very stone that holds together the entire foundation. This is the work of the Eternal One, and it is marvelous in our eyes.’”

“Therefore, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to people who will tend its *sweet fruit and who will give the Creator what is rightly due.*”

Readings

Continuing Testament – Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson, General Minister and President of the UCC

we walk side by side
people of faith
boldly building new communities
connected by Spirit's fire
balancing bounty and need
we flourish
committed to the body of Christ
together

we are the gift
the presence of God revealed
reflected in the beauty of all we are
at one across the miles of our
differences
we embrace unity in our diversity
the church as one
impacting the world around us
together

we like trees firmly planted
blossom and bloom
courageously changing lives
we nurture each others spirits
needing each other
learning from each other
we are the Holy Spirit poured out
together

we breathe love
visioning the possibilities:
new churches
revitalized worship communities
developing new leaders
providing for our neighbors in crisis
we are evidence of the church in
action
together

we are miracles
insightful and creative
Spirit-inspired, generosity-filled
children of love and life
giving from the abundance of
who we are
giving to build the whole church
giving to strengthen the Church
together

we emanate the spirit of Pentecost
extending extravagant welcome
with arms outstretched we heal
touching each other's lives with grace
tearing down walls and
building bridges
erasing borders and boundaries
we are the church
growing stronger
together

Announcements:

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION - This coming Wednesday's labyrinth walk has been cancelled. We will meet in our usual place (the parlor) at 11 am.

SEASONAL CHOIR - The first practice for this year's Christmas cantata has been moved to this coming Thursday, October 12 from 7:00-7:45 PM. The cantata is called *Sing Christmas*, and it's written and arranged by Joel Raney and Mary McDonald. The piece includes a variety of contemporary and traditional music. If you enjoy singing in a group setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, please consider joining seasonal choir: it's a great way to prepare for the Advent and Christmas seasons, and it's a lot of fun! Listening tracks are provided to help with the learning process. High school students are welcome to participate. Contact Dave D with any questions.

BUCC NURSERY – If you love little children and want to share some of your time with our infants and toddlers, please consider signing up on Breeze to be a Nursery helper on Sundays during the church service. Our own Amelia Elting has volunteered to be our Nursery Attendant, and although very capable, she might require a helping hand on occasion. We are looking for several volunteers to check in with her prior to the start of the service, to see if she needs help.

If you are thinking about utilizing the nursery on Sunday, please let Amelia know, prior to the start of service. We ask parents to please fill out an information form, which can be found in the Nursery in a binder near the door. Thank you. - Evie Novak, SCR

FALL MINI-RETREAT – Join us on Saturday, October 28th, from 10:30 – 2:30, for the return to our traditional Fall retreat. It will occur at Canalway Center Nature Preserve in Cuyahoga Heights, and lunch will be included! The theme will be “Joy” and the suggested donation is \$10, but whatever works for your budget will do. So keep an eye out for the orange sign-up sheet circulated during coffee hour for the next couple weeks.

FREE CONCERT - On Sunday **October 29th** at **4:00 PM**, BUCC will host a free concert featuring The Western Campus Chorale of Tri-C. Also performing will be the Tri-C Community Band. The ensembles will be playing a variety of light classical and popular music. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the program. Make sure to reserve October 29th at 4:00 on your calendars, so you can enjoy this free musical event with us!

Attendance on Sunday, October 1st, 2023 – Adults: 72; Kids: 4; Livestream: 19; Total: 95

Special Thanks:

OCTOBER 8, 2023


Head Usher: *Volunteer Needed*
Ushers: Kate Matthews
Volunteer Needed
Lay Reader: Michelle Rogers
Greeter: Peg Duffy
Counters: Marge Culver
Volunteer Needed
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Dot Bailey
Snack: Peg Duffy
Lois Lorenzo
Set Up/Serve: *Volunteers Needed*
Clean Up: *Volunteers Needed*



OCTOBER 15, 2023

Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: *Volunteers Needed*
Lay Reader: Kate Matthews
Greeter: Carol Miller
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
A/V Team: David Pastor
Flowers: Carole Snider
Snack: Lois Lorenzo
Connie Schultz
Set Up/Serve: *Volunteers Needed*
Clean Up: *Volunteers Needed*



QR code for 
Questionnaire



NOTES:
