

## **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

"We are not just made by God. We are made of God."

- Mother Julian of Norwich, 14th century



Trinity Sunday, May 26th, 2024 • 10:00 AM

Pastor
•John King

Director of MusicDavid Debick

Financial Secretary
• Joy Garapic

• Anne Melfo

**Ministers** – All of Our Members

#### <u>Affirmation of Welcome</u>

### 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!

## Trinity Sunday May 26th, 2024

Prelude Ancient of Days Wyton

Welcome & Announcements
Quiet Meditation Music

"Our practice is to live our daily life in such a way that every moment, every act becomes an act of love." – Thich Nhat Hanh

#### Gathering in God's Presence

\* Please Stand as you are able

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: In the name of the Creator, the Teacher and the Enlivener.

Many: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

One: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

Many: In the beginning the Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters.

One: In the beginning God said, "Let us make humankind in our image."

Many: And so we came into being, created by God who exists in community.

Hymn of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy

#277

#### \* PRAYER OF INVOCATION: [UNISON]

Holy God, we were created in your image, an image of mutuality and love for one another; an image of a dance ever moving, ever in tune one with others; an image of community with shared blessing and mission. Open our eyes to perceive the reality of your being. May we see you CREATOR - in the wonder and beauty of creation. May we recognize the SON – in the saving love of Jesus. May we feel the HOLY SPIRIT – in that fire that enlivens our own spirit. Enlighten the limited boundaries of our consciousness, that we may glimpse your divine presence, reflect your presence by our actions in the world.

\* Pastor's Prayer

\* Song of Praise:

#### Glory to God

Pablo Sosa 1988

Glory, glory – glory to God in the highest! (2X's)

And on earth be peace to all people, for God loves us all!

#### Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading – Genesis 1:1 - 2:4 (NRSV)

Gospel Reading - Matthew 28:16-20 (First Nations Version: An Indigenous

Translation of the New Testament)

Continuing Testament - By John Donne

#### **Youth Anthem**

#### Trinity Song

The Worship Initiative

Holy Creator, Son, and Spirit, Holy Communion, Three in One. (twice) Come, with your peace, with your invitation. Bind us together in holy love. (twice)



Time with Young Worshipers



#### Anthem

#### The Mansions of the Lord

Glennie-Smith

Dedicated to the countless men and women who have lost their lives in service to our country.

Erin Tomlinson, flute

- 1. To fallen soldiers let us sing, where no rockets fly nor bullets wing. Our broken servants let us bring to the mansions of the Lord.
- 2. No more bleeding, no more fight, no prayers pleading through the night, just divine embrace, eternal light in the mansions of the Lord.
  - Where no mothers cry and no children weep, we will stand and guard though the angels sleep, all through the ages safely keep the mansions of the Lord.

(Music: Nick Glennie-Smith, b. 1951; words: Randall Wallace, b. 1949; Copyright © 2002 by Songs of Wheelhouse)

**Hymn of Reflection** 

Creator God, Creating Still

#278

#### The Church at Prayer

The Family and Friends of David Ritchey, of Ann Kelly and of Joanne Frable, Leroy Ford, Phyllis Hassler, Cliff Stenzel, George Snider, Sue Renovetz, Joe Blasko, Russ King, Jon Thompson, Gayle & Allison Colbert, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Mac Hoppel, Dassie Matsuoka, Kathy Smith, Rose Kaval, Bee Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Sheila Day, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, Kathleen Stewart, Ann Klonowski, "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

\* Doxology: [UNISON] Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low:

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore**;

One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

#### \* OFFERTORY PRAYER: [UNISON]

We delight in your Creation, Loving God. We rejoice in your hopes, visions and dreams. In a spirit of thanksgiving, we ask that you give us the courage to strengthen your Church in the world. Amen.

#### Going with God's Love

\* Hymn of Departure

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

#276

#### 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** 

God, Your Glory We Have Seen

Langlais

#### First Reading Genesis 1:1 - 2:4

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night.

And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky.

And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together God called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

#### First Reading (continued)

And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky."

So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so.

God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God they were created; male and female God created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that was made, and indeed, it was very good.

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.

(Continued on next page)

#### First Reading (continued)

And on the seventh day God finished the work, and rested on the seventh day from all the work that God had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

# Gospel Reading Matthew 28:16-20 (First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament)

It was now time for Creator Sets Free (Jesus) to return to the spirit-world above.

It had now been forty days since he had come back to life again. So he gathered his followers, one last time, to give them their final instructions.

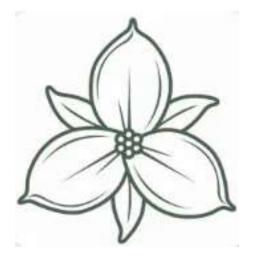
The remaining eleven of his followers journeyed to Circle of Nations (Galilee). There, at the mountain where Creator Sets Free (Jesus) had told them to go, they met with him. When they saw him, they gave to him the honor he deserved—but there were some who still doubted.

"All the authority of the spirit-world above and the earth below has been given to me," he told them. "So now I am sending you into all nations to teach them how to walk the road with me. You will represent me as you perform the purification ceremony with them, initiating them into the life of beauty and harmony represented in the name of the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit. You will then teach them all the ways that I have instructed you to walk in."

Creator Sets Free (Jesus) then looked into their faces with love and great affection. He lifted his hands toward them and spoke these final blessing words over them. "Never forget," he said as he began to rise up into the spirit-world above. "I will always be with you, your invisible guide, walking beside you, until the new age has fully come."

#### Continuing Testament – By John Donne (1572–1631)

Batter my heart, three-person'd God, for you
As yet but knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend;
That I may rise and stand, o'erthrow me, and bend
Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new.
I, like an usurp'd town to another due,
Labor to admit you, but oh, to no end;
Reason, your viceroy in me, me should defend,
But is captiv'd, and proves weak or untrue.
Yet dearly I love you, and would be lov'd fain,
But am betroth'd unto your enemy;
Divorce me, untie or break that knot again,
Take me to you, imprison me, for I,
Except you enthrall me, never shall be free,
Nor ever chaste, except you ravish me.



#### **Announcements:**

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are dedicated by Mindy Harris-Wade, "In memory of Lenore Harris's birthday on 5/30 & Bill Harris's birthday on 5/31," and also in honor of Peg Duffy, Lenore's "birthday buddy".

**MANY THANKS** to everyone who helped with last Sunday's percussion concert! The ensemble from CSU performed an inspiring program of music, there was a large audience turnout, and our members provided a wonderful assortment of food items for the reception following the program. Our free concerts are major outreach events to the greater Brecksville-Broadview Heights community, and they wouldn't be possible without the participation of our dedicated members. Thank you for making last Sunday's concert a huge success!

**SUMMER MUSIC MINISTRY** - Dave Debick will continue recruiting volunteer singers and instrumentalists for summer services today at coffee hour. Please consider sharing your musical gifts on a Sunday that's convenient for you. Dave can help you choose music and rehearse with you as needed. High school students are welcome to participate.

**PAPER RECYCLING BIN** – Unfortunately, Integrity Fiber is reducing the footprint of their routes, which includes the removal of the recycling bin in our parking lot. We're not sure when they'll remove our bin, but if anyone is looking for a nearby alternative, there are bins at the Brecksville United Methodist Church that will continue to be available.

**COMMUNION BREAD** – If you're interested in baking/providing bread for one of our communion Sundays, please put your name on the sign-up sheet located in the narthex. The bread needs to be at the church no later than 9:15 on Sunday morning. Call Pastor John if you have any questions.

**TO DONATE ELECTRONICALLY** – If you would like to make a donation to Brecksville United Church of Christ with your phone, please scan this QR code.

Open the camera on your smartphone, just like you would if you were taking a picture. Point your phone at this image to open a website where you can make an electronic donation. **Thank you!** 



Today's sanctuary artwork is a photograph taken in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, of a Trillium flower, often considered a symbol of the Trinity.

Attendance on Sunday, May 19, 2024 - Adults: 74; Kids: 6; Live Stream: 10; Total: 90

## Special Thanks

#### MAY 26, 2024

Head Usher:
Ushers:
Lay Reader:
Greeter:
Flowers:
Diane Gressley
Lori Molesky
Rose Kaval
Rose Kaval
Sherrill Witt
Peg Duffy

Counters: Marge Culver

Janet Renovetz

A/V Team: David Pastor Snack: Jenn Elting

Volunteer Needed

Set Up/Serve: Volunteers Needed
Clean Up: Volunteers Needed





#### JUNE 2, 2024

Head Usher: Volunteer Needed Ushers: Volunteer Needed

Lay Reader: Jenn Elting

Greeter: Maggie McNamara

Flowers: Jenn Elting
Acolyte: Amelia Elting
Peace Candle: Edison Elting
Counters: Marjorie Culver

Janet Renovetz

**A/V Team:** Jim Duffy

Snack: Volunteers Needed
Set Up/Serve: Volunteers Needed
Clean Up: Volunteers Needed