



Brecksville United Church of Christ

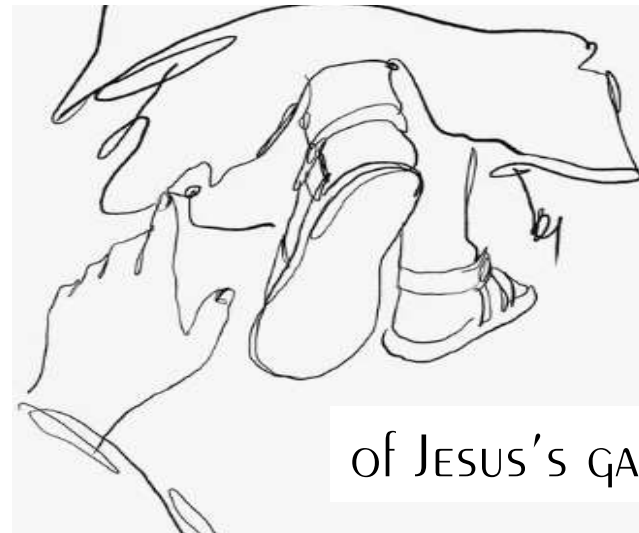
23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

*Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power*

"The darker the
night, the brighter
the stars.
The deeper the
grief, the closer is
God!"

-- Fyodor
Dostoyevsky,
Crime and
Punishment, 19th
century

WHEN YOU'RE HANGING ON BY A THREAD,



MAKE
SURE
IT'S
THE
HEM

of JESUS'S GARMENT.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, June 30th, 2024 • 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!

Sunday June 30th, 2024

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude

Healer of Our Every Ill

Haugen

*"You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart."*

(Music and Words: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.)

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation

"I wish grace and healing were more abracadabra kind of things. Also, that delicate silver bells would ring to announce grace's arrival. But no, it's clog and slog and scootch, on the floor, in the silence, in the dark."

-- Anne Lamott, **Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith**, 21st century

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

*** CALL TO PRAYER:** *(Adapted from Psalm 30)*

One: Sing Praises to God, all you faithful ones.

Many: God hears us in our fear and our sorrow.

One: Where there was no way,

Many: God leads us in a new way.

One: Where there was no mercy,

Many: God surprises us with fresh mercy.

One: Where there was weeping,

Many: God invites us to step into a new dance.

Hymn of Praise

How Firm a Foundation

#407

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

O Faithful God, you yearn to be so close to us that we can know you in every breath, in every hope, in every relationship.

You long for us to trust in your power to bring to life new possibilities where there has been no hope. Meet us here today and teach us to recognize the ways of life and hope into which you are leading us.

So may our desires become your desires, our work become your work, and our community the place where you are sought and found. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*** Pastor's Prayer**

*** 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)

First Reading - 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 (NRSV)

Gospel Reading - Mark 5:21-43 (NRSV)

Continuing Testament - By Jim Palmer



Time with Young Worshipers



Musical Offering

In the Garden

Miles

Jan Renovetz, alto

*1. I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.*

*Refrain: And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

*2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. (Refrain)*

*3. I'd stay in the garden with him, though the night around me be falling;
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling. (Refrain)*

(Music and Words: C. Austin Miles, 1912)

Sermon by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection

We Live by Faith and Not by Sight

#256

(sung to the hymn tune ST. AGNES by John B. Dykes, 1866)

The Church at Prayer

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.

*** BLESSING OVER THE GIFTS: [UNISON]**

Generous God, take our gifts this day and use them so that we may be part of your great work in this world.

Through our giving, bring a brighter day of justice and love, not just in our community but in the world beyond these walls.

Strengthen our church and the whole United Church of Christ so that we grow together each day into a powerful voice for healing and peace. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Immortal Love, Forever Full

#166

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

Sing Praise to God, Whose Mighty Acts

Kentucky Harmony, 1816

*"Let not the needy cry unheard, the suffering hope in vain;
restore the fallen, bless the meek, till peace and justice reign."*

(Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1996; © 1996 Hope Publishing Co.)

Readings

First Reading

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 (NRSV)

After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.

David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan. (He ordered that The Song of the Bow be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said:

Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places! How the mighty have fallen! Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice, the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.

You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor bounteous fields! For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.

From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, nor the sword of Saul return empty.

Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with crimson, in luxury, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

Gospel Reading

Mark 5:21-43 (NRSV)

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live."

So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him.

(Continued on next page)

Readings

Gospel Reading (*continued*)

Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse.

She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease.

Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?"

And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it.

But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?"

But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James.

When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping."

And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Readings

Continuing Testament – By Jim Palmer

It's unfortunate for all those years as a pastor that I cheapened Jesus by making him into supernatural being who would save the world, and not as a courageous and revolutionary human person who came to love it. I can't relate to the religious Jesus as a sinless saint, but I feel like I understand the Jesus who found deep peace within himself, but could also become unhinged by the abuses of religion. With that in mind, here are 10 things about Christianity that Jesus would not endorse if he had a say:

1. That his vision for a transformed society, became a vision of a heavenly afterlife.
2. That a religion was formed to worship his name, instead of a movement to advance his message.
3. That the gospel says his death solved the problem of humankind's separation from God, instead of accepting that his life revealed the truth that there is no separation from God.
4. That the religion bearing his name was conceived by the theories and doctrines of Paul, instead of the truth Jesus lived and demonstrated.
5. That he was said to exclusively be God in the flesh, putting his example out of reach, rather than teaching that we all share in the same spirit that empowered his character and life.
6. That the religion that claims his name, teaches that his wisdom and teachings are the only legitimate way to know truth and God.
7. The idea that humankind stands condemned before God and deserving of Divine wrath and eternal conscious judgement, requiring the death of Jesus to fix it.
8. That people are waiting on Jesus to return to save the world and end suffering, rather than taking responsibility for saving the world and solving suffering ourselves.
9. That people think there is magical potency in uttering the name of Jesus, rather than accessing our own natural powers and capabilities to effect change.
10. That people have come to associate Jesus with church, theology, politics and power, rather than courage, justice, humanity, beauty and love.

Announcements:

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY will be collecting items for an initiative with Brecksville Broadview Heights School District called the Colony Cupboard. The goal of the program is to provide students in need with basic necessities, such as school supplies, toiletries, and food supplies. A collection area will be set up in the narthex, along with copies of their wish list. Please provide donations for the initial stocking of the cupboard before 8/4/2024.

A NOTE FROM THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY - Are you interested in helping the youth and adults of BUCC? Please consider becoming the chairperson of the Christian Education Ministry. No experience necessary! Miss Mindy does a wonderful job with the kids, so what we need is someone to help coordinate activities for adults and report to council. Please talk to Bridget Sproul or Pastor John if interested.

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. **Thank you!**



Attendance on Sunday, June 23, 2024 – Adults: 60; Kids: 5; Live Stream: 6; Total: 71

Special Thanks

JUNE 30, 2024

Early Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Late Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Flowers:	Maggie McNamara
Counters:	Marge Culver Janet Renovetz
A/V Team:	Jim Duffy
Snack:	Armand Eusanio Lois Lorenzo
Set Up/Serve:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Clean Up:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>



JULY 7, 2024

Early Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Late Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Greeter:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Reader:	Jim Duffy
Flowers:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counters:	Marjorie Culver Janet Renovetz
A/V Team:	Fred Pedersen
Snack:	Jenn Elting <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Set Up/Serve:	Jenn Elting <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Clean Up:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>