



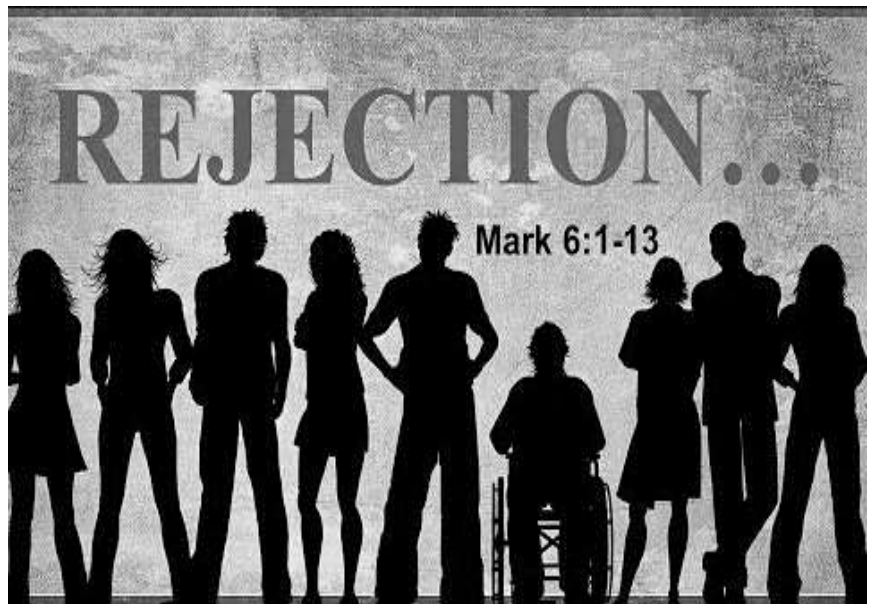
Brecksville United Church of Christ

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

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

"Let us not forget:
we are a pilgrim
church, subject to
misunderstanding,
to persecution, but
a church that
walks serene,
because it bears
the force of love."

-- Oscar Romero,
20th century



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 7th, 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 July 7th, 2024

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude

Lord Jesus, of You I Will Sing

French melody

*"Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey
I'll tell all my neighbors about you wherever I go.
You alone give us life, give us peace, give us love.
Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey."*

(Words: Les Petits Soeurs de Jésus; Eng. tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931; © 1970 S. Somerville)

Welcome & Announcements

Quiet Meditation

*"If you make people think they're thinking, they'll love you;
but if you really make them think, they'll hate you."*

-- Harlan Ellison, 20th century

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

* CALL TO PRAYER:

Leader: The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome.
Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching all who
would listen. Who will hear his message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place
that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews.
Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

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

Eternal One, source of all life and love, we are in awe of your magnificent power displayed through the entire universe. In you we live and move and have our being. We come before you with grateful hearts. And so we gather again this morning that we might be mindful enough to hear your still speaking voice. May we know the presence of your Holy Spirit with us today. May we be open to your leading, sensitive to your speaking and alert to your calling. Divine Creator, we invite the same power that was with Jesus of Nazareth to be with us now, in this place, at this time. Stir within us, O God. Renew, refresh, and revive us, 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 5:1-5, 9-10**Gospel Reading - Mark 6:1-13 (NRSV)****Continuing Testament - By Mary Oliver**



Time with Young Worshipers



Musical Offering

I Came to Believe

David Pastor, vocalist

Cash

*1. I couldn't manage the problems I brought on myself,
And it just made it worse when I laid them on somebody else.
So I finally surrendered it all, brought down in despair.
I cried out for help and I felt a warm Comforter there.*

*Refrain: And I came to believe in a power much higher than I.
I came to believe that I needed help to get by.
In childlike faith, I gave in and gave Him a try,
And I came to believe in a power much higher than I.*

*2. Nothing worked out when I handled it all on my own,
And each time I failed, it made me feel twice as alone.
Then I cried, "Lord, there must be a surer and easier way,
For it just cannot be that a man should lose hope every day.*

(Refrain)

(Music and Words: Johnny Cash; © 1996 Song of Cash, Inc.; ASCAP/Administered by Bug Music)

Sermon

“Astounded and Amazed”

by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection

O Jesus, I Have Promised

#493

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.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION: [UNISON]

Still-speaking God, hear the message we are speaking through these our gifts and aid us in spreading that message of hope and love to those whose voices have been silenced. May they strengthen our congregation so that we may continue to listen to those in need.

Communion

Communion Music

Élévation

René Vierne

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: [UNISON]

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

#76

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.

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: 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 are indicated above and below the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A.

* Benediction

Postlude

I Am for You

Cooney

"We are anointed, servants of God; we have been born again of the Spirit.

We are the word God speaks to the world,

Freedom and light to all who will hear it.

So let us be the word of the Lord:

I am for you, I am for you, I am for you ever-more."

(Music and Words: Rory Cooney, b. 1952; © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.)

Readings

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel."

So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:1-13 (NRSV)

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching.

He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics.

Readings

Gospel Reading (*continued*)

He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them."

So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Continuing Testament – By Mary Oliver

"Song of the Builders"

On a summer morning
I sat down
on a hillside
to think about God—
a worthy pastime.
Near me, I saw
a single cricket;
it was moving the grains of the hillside
this way and that way.
How great was its energy,
how humble its effort.
Let us hope
it will always be like this,
each of us going on
in our inexplicable ways
building the universe.

At the beginning of the Sunday service you are welcome to share announcements. Please keep these brief by avoiding details. Share the essentials, then share how people can learn more details (e.g., see the bulletin announcement or talk to somebody). Also, feel free to share good news such as anniversaries, retirement, awards, etc.

Announcements:

CLIMATE HOPE - The UCC is tackling climate change and inequality through its Climate Hope campaigns, which have been inspired by leaders in the environmental justice movement. In 2023, the Climate Hope Cards initiative collected petition postcards urging strong EPA protections to save lives and promote equity. Now in 2024, the UCC's Vote for Climate Hope campaign involves children and youth in an art contest, with winning artworks featured on voter pledge cards to engage communities in advocacy and awareness-building efforts.

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.

Announcements: *(continued)*

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.

PRIVACY MATTERS - Our services are broadcast live online, and recordings of services are available for replay and sharing. That allows us to expand our outreach, but it also brings additional concerns. Please keep in mind:

- Children who come up for the "Time with Young Worshipers" will be seen and heard online. By permitting your child to come forward, be aware that this implicitly gives the church permission to share their participation online.
- We are glad to include your prayer intentions in our communal prayer. But keep in mind that HIPAA laws do not permit us to disclose personal medical information without permission. With that in mind, please either:
 - Ask permission to publicly share their health information in our prayers, OR
 - Keep them anonymous by the way you phrase your prayer.
- If you sit in the first few pews, you will be visible online. If you prefer to avoid being seen online, avoid those pews. But if you don't mind, please consider migrating to the front pews. When our videos show empty pews, the sanctuary looks vacant even when it is full. So, please populate those first pews to ensure that our online presence accurately depicts the vibrant and growing congregation that we truly are.

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 30, 2024 – Adults: 56; Kids: 2; Live Stream: 6; Total: 64

Special Thanks

JULY 7, 2024

Early Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Late Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Greeter:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Reader:	Jim Duffy
Flowers:	Maggie McNamara
Counters:	Marge 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>

Thank
You



JULY 14, 2024

Early Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Late Usher:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Bridget Sproul
Flowers:	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counters:	Marjorie Culver Kathy Pastor David Pastor
A/V Team:	
Snack:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Set Up/Serve:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Clean Up:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>