



Brecksville United Church of Christ

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

*"You pray in your
distress and in
your need;
would that you
might pray also
in the fullness of
your joy and in
your days of
abundance."*

*- Kahlil Gibran,
"The Prophet"*



33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, November 17th, 2024 • 10:00 AM

Pastor

• John King

Director of Music

• David Debick

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

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:

Monday – Thursday 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 November 17th, 2024
33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Prelude In the Morning Light
Welcome & Announcements

Yanni

Silent Meditation

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

Call to Prayer Reader:

One: Come into this time of prayer by the new and living way in
Christ Jesus.

Many: **We come with thanksgiving for the promises of our faith.**

One: Come with joyful expectation.

Many: **We gather in thanksgiving for the Realm of God.**

One: Let us give thanks together and open ourselves to the
power of the God's love

Many: **That we may be a grateful people**

Love God, and one another

and become instruments of God's grace and peace.

Opening Hymn *Canticle of the Sun* Haugen; see insert

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

In you, O God, we find refuge from our turbulent world.

We work each day to bear witness to your love and justice through our ministries.

The journey towards true peace is long,

Yet our incremental steps continue to take us closer to that promise.

Renew in us the strength, faith, and courage we need to persevere

so that the promised day will come when your will

will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

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 Corinthians 4:7-15 (NRSV)

Gospel Reading: - Mark 13:1-8 (NRSV)

Continuing Testament: by Josephus, 1st Century AD



Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Goodness of God J. Johnson/Fielding/Cash/Ingram/B. Johnson

1. I love You, Lord, for Your mercy never fails me.

All my days I've been held in Your hands.

From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head

Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Refrain: And all my life You have been faithful.

And all my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able,

Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

2. I love Your voice; You have led me through the fire,

And in darkest night You are close like no other.

I've known You as a Parent; I've known You as a Friend,

And I have lived in the goodness of God. (Refrain)

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me. (twice)

With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now.

I give You everything.

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after, it's runnin' after me... (Refrain)

*(Words and Music: Jenn Johnson, Ben Fielding, Ed Cash, Brian Johnson, and Jason Ingram;
arr. by Jay Rouse; Copyright 2019 Shout! Music Publishing, APRA)*



Sermon: "Rerouting" by Rev. John King

Stewardship Moment – by Jim Duffy

Dedication of Pledges

The Church at Prayer

Gayle & Allison Colbert, the family and friends of Dassie Matsuoka, Cliff Stenzel, George Snider, Sue Renovetz, Joe Blasko, Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Mac Hoppel, 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.)

Prayers of the Church

Silent Meditation

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]**

We lift up these offerings. We return a portion of what we have received from you, O God, in gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us. Bless this offering. Grant that it may continue to sustain and support the ministries of this church to bring the light of Christ into this community and the world beyond. Amen.

Communion

At Brecksville UCC, ALL are welcome to receive communion.
No exceptions. No Kidding.

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion.

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure *In the Midst of New Dimensions* #391

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.

*** Circle of Community (continued)**

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 written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

Staff 1: A E A D Bm E
Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Staff 2: A C#7 F#m Bm E7sus4 E7 A
Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Benediction

Postlude *The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God* Haydn

Readings

First Reading 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 (NRSV)

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;

persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.

So death is at work in us, but life in you.

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading Mark 13:1–8 (NRSV)

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Continuing Testament – from The “Jewish War”, by Josephus, 1st century AD

Josephus was a first-century Jewish historian and former military leader who documented significant events of Jewish history. His writings provide a valuable perspective on Jewish life and the relationship between the Jews and the Roman Empire during that period.

Josephus provided a contemporaneous, detailed and harrowing history of the events of 70 AD. His book, The Jewish War, describing the brutal Roman siege of Jerusalem that led to widespread famine, internal strife among Jewish factions, and the eventual destruction of the city and its Temple. Here is an excerpt from his ancient history book.

“Throughout the city people were dying of hunger in large numbers, and enduring unspeakable sufferings. In every house the merest hint of food sparked violence, and close relatives fell to blows, snatching from one another the pitiful supports of life. No respect was paid even to the dying; the ruffians [anti-Roman zealots] searched them, in case they were concealing food somewhere in their clothes, or just pretending to be near death. Gaping with hunger, like mad dogs, lawless gangs went staggering and reeling through the streets, battering upon the doors like drunkards, and so bewildered that they broke into the same house two or three times in an hour. Need drove the starving to gnaw at anything. Refuse which even animals would reject was collected and turned into food. In the end they were eating belts and shoes, and the leather stripped off their shields. Tufts of withered grass were devoured, and sold in little bundles for four drachmas.”

Announcements:

TODAY IS PLEDGE SUNDAY – This is the day that we pledge what we plan to donate to Brecksville UCC in 2025. If circumstances change and you want to modify that later, no problem. Your church needs your support to thrive. Please prayerfully consider what amount is right for you and your family. If you need a pledge card, ask an usher at the back of church. Fill out the Pledge Card and drop it in the plate after the sermon today. Thank you.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK – Stewardship Sunday is today!

Celebrate Pledge Sunday by feasting on a turkey lunch after the service. Everyone is invited. Please come and share with gratitude for our faith family at BUCC. We always have more than we need, so come on down!



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY event on Saturday, November 23rd ! Volunteers are needed from 9am – 3pm, and tools and water will be provided. The site address is 10522 Grandview Ave. in Cleveland - if you would like to participate, contact Dan Maier at dmaier68@aol.com. More info to come!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following:

Today, Sunday 17- *Thanksgiving Potluck after services.*

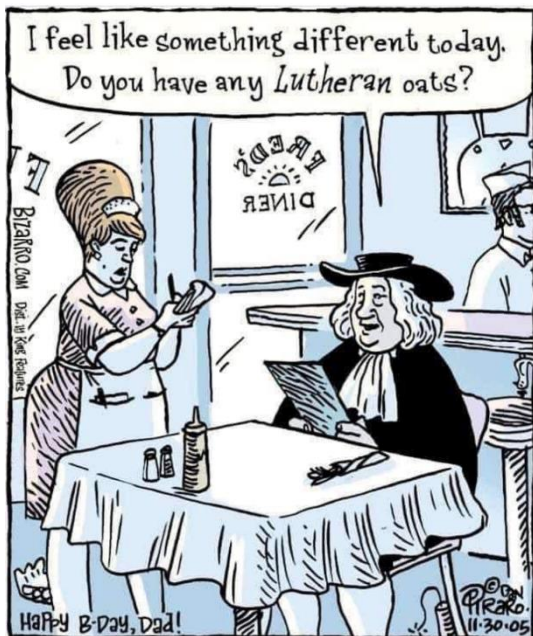
Tue., 11-19 8:15 am – “Holy Grounds” at Panera
6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
6:30 pm – Communications & Outreach Ministry (Online)

Wed. 11-20 11:00 am – Mindfulness & Meditation (Parlor)
6:30 pm – Braver Angels (Pilgrim Hall)

Sat. 11-23 7:00 pm – Seasonal Choir Practice
8:00 pm – Regular Choir Practice

Attendance last Sunday, November 10, 2024 – Adults: 58; Kids: 11; Online: 35; Total: 104

Next week's scripture readings will be **Revelation 1:4-8** and **Matthew 5:3-12 (The Beatitudes)**



SHARE YOUR INSPIRATION – As a congregational church, input from you, the congregation, is essential. The Spiritual Life Ministry is inviting you to keep an eye out during your week for potential continuing testament readings, bulletin cover art, quotes, and hymns. When you find something that speaks to you, please email it to Pastor John (buccpastor23@gmail.com)

You'll notice scriptures for upcoming weeks listed in the Sunday bulletin – ideas that connect to those particular scriptures are especially welcome. In October, our Music Director started a once-monthly brainstorming session

scheduled on the first Thursday of the month, at 6:15 pm in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited! At BUCC, WE ARE ONE, and we look forward to your unique input into our shared journey.

DECK THE HALLS! - "Hanging of the Greens" refers to the practice of adding evergreen plants (live or artificial) to a congregation's worship space. The tradition had its origin in pagan pre-Christian culture, but like many other traditions, Christians adopted this practice and understand it to be a symbol of the Eternal, coming to dwell among us as Word made flesh. The Greens can also be seen as a sign of life and growth, overcoming and flourishing in the dead of winter. Please join us following worship on Sunday, November 24th, when BUCC will ring in the holiday season with our own "Hanging of the Greens" celebration/pizza party.

PLANNING AHEAD – If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia that will decorate our sanctuary at Christmas, please use the form in today's bulletin.

2024 POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

DEADLINE – Monday, November 25th

Please leave your completed form in the Church Office with payment.

_____ I Enclose \$15.00 **OR** Other _____ for _____ Poinsettias.
AMOUNT #

YOUR NAME(S): _____

(Circle one) *“In Memory of”* *“In Honor of”*

DEDICATION:

Please let us know if you would like to take your poinsettia or leave it here after Christmas. Poinsettias that are left will be delivered to shut-ins or kept for sanctuary decoration.

_____ WILL KEEP _____ WILL NOT KEEP



we are thankful for you

November 17, 2024

Early Usher: Betsey Wilson
Late Usher: Joe Wilson
Greeter: Lori Molesky
Reader: Kate Matthews
Communion Bread: Jenn Elting
Flowers: Katie MacKeigan King
Counters: Marge Culver,
Janet Renovetz
A/V: Bryan Chaikin
Snacks: **Volunteers Needed**
Set Up/Serve: **Volunteers Needed**
Clean Up: **Volunteers Needed**

November 24, 2024

Early Usher: **Jill Zedan**
Late Usher: **Volunteer Needed**
Greeter: **Lori Moleski**
Reader: Jill Zedan
Flowers: Katie MacKeigan King
Counters: Marge Culver
Janet Renovetz
A/V: **Bryan Chaikin**
Snack: **Volunteers Needed**
Set Up/Serve: **Volunteers Needed**
Clean Up: **Volunteers Needed**

Our sanctuary art this week is
"Autumn Vineyard"
by Lauren Forcella

