



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364
2nd Sunday after Epiphany, January 19, 2025 • 10:00 AM

*"Love is the greatest
force in the universe.
It is the heartbeat of
the moral cosmos.
One who loves is a
participant in the
being of God."*

*-Martin Luther King
Jr.*



Pastor
• John King

Director of Music
• David Debick

Financial Secretary
• Joy Garapic

Administrative Assistant
Miranda Lacefield

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!

2nd Sunday after Epiphany Sunday January 19th, 2025

Prelude

Weave

Crow

"We are many textures, we are many colors, each one different from the other.
But we are entwined with one another in one great tapestry."

(Words and Music: Rosemary Crow, b. 1938; © 1979 Rosemary Crow)

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." -Martin Luther King Jr.



Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO PRAYER:**

Phrases from the speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr. have been woven into the prayer texts in today's bulletin.
They are identified by italics. These texts of King's work are copied from *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, edited by James M. Washington; © 1986 Coretta Scott King.

One: Our God
has made us to be One Body with many members.

All: United and uniting. This is our calling.

One: God calls us to share our diverse gifts
activated by the one and same Spirit.

All: United and uniting. This is our redemption.

One: God longs for us to be united in love
and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

All: United and uniting. This is our worship.

One: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship
to our Holy God, who challenges us
and calls us to create *the Beloved Community*.

Hymn of Praise: The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing Kendrick; see insert

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

O God, all people are your Beloved,
across all the ways we are distinctive from one another.
We are all manifestations of your image.
We are bound together in an inescapable network of mutuality
and tied to a single garment of destiny.
You call us into your unending work
of justice, peace and love.
Let us know your presence among us now:
Let us delight in our diversity
that offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty.
Strengthen us with your steadfast love and
transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.
Under the shadow of your wings in this hour
may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope.
We ask this, inspired by the example
of your disciple, Martin Luther King, Jr.,
and in Jesus' name.
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.

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." -Martin Luther King Jr.

Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading: - 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (NRSV)

Gospel Reading: - John 2:1-11 (NRSV)

Continuing Testament: Letter from a Birmingham Jail Written By: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Time with Young Worshipers



Anthem Water to Wine Houston

1. Everlasting, so infinite in wildest love.
My soul thirsts for the things above,
 turn this water into wine.

2. Blood and water, the mercy flowing from Your side.
A river made of endless light
 when my heart was running dry.
Chorus: So I'll stay, stay in Your love
 as long as life within me,
I will remain in who You are, Lord.

3. Take this wineskin, my spirit bursts for something new.
There's nothing I want more than You,
 'cause only You can satisfy. (Chorus)
So I'll stay, stay in Your love in the vintage of Your heart.
Lord, only You could satisfy me.
So I'll stay, fixed within Your life,
 a branch within Your vine.
Apart from You, Lord, I've got nothing.
Oh, so I'll stay, I will stay within Your hold.
I know You'll never let me go.
And my soul, it runs with mercy.
Oh, so I'll stay, stay in Your love,
I'll stay where You are as long as life remains.
So I'll stay, stay with You, I'll never walk away.
I'll never be the same.
Turn this water into wine. (three times)

((Words and Music: Joel Houston; © 2017 Hillsong Music Publishing))

Sermon: "The Master's Touch" by Pastor John King

Hymn of Reflection

We Shall Overcome

#570

The Church at Prayer

Gayle & Allison Colbert, Cliff Stenzel, 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, Kathy Repko, "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]**

O God, we commit to use all our gifts
in the service of acting as co-workers
with you and each other
for peace and justice to flow like a mighty stream.

Communion

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

Communion Music

Élévation

Boëllman

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion. [UNISON]

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 the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* Hymn of Departure

Forward through the Ages

#377

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)

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.

The musical notation is for two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). Chords above: A (first measure), E (second measure), A (third measure), D (fourth measure), Bm (fifth measure), E (sixth measure). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). Chords below: A (first measure), C#7 (second measure), F#m (third measure), Bm (fourth measure), E7sus4 (fifth measure), E7 (sixth measure), A (seventh measure).

*Benediction

Postlude

Fugue

Roberday

Readings

First Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (NRSV)

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
and there are varieties of services, but the same God;
and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates
all of them in everyone.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another
the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,
to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one
Spirit,
to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the
discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another
the interpretation of tongues.

All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each
one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Gospel Reading John 2:1-11 (NRSV)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother
of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no
wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?
My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of
purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the
brim.

He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward."
So they took it.

When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not
know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the
water knew), the steward called the bridegroom

and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Continuing Testament – Letter from a Birmingham Jail Written By: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

While confined here in the Birmingham city jail, I came across your recent statement calling our present activities "unwise and untimely." Seldom, if ever, do I pause to answer criticism of my work and ideas... But since I feel that you are [people] of genuine good will and your criticisms are sincerely set forth, I would like to answer your statement in what I hope will be patient and reasonable terms...

Several months ago our local affiliate here in Birmingham invited us to be on call to engage in a nonviolent direct-action program if such were deemed necessary. We readily consented, and when the hour came we lived up to our promises. So I am here, along with several members of my staff, because we were invited here. I am here because I have basic organizational ties here.

Beyond this, I am in Birmingham because injustice is here. Just as the eighth-century prophets left their little villages and carried their "thus saith the Lord" far beyond the boundaries of their hometowns; and just as the Apostle Paul left his little village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to practically every hamlet and city of the Greco-Roman world, I too am compelled to carry the gospel of freedom beyond my particular hometown. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.

Moreover, I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states. I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial "outside agitator" idea. Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider.

You deplore the demonstrations that are presently taking place in Birmingham. But I am sorry that your statement did not express a similar concern for the conditions that brought the demonstrations into being.

Announcements:

Congregational Meeting on January 26th: The BUCC Congregational Meeting will be on January 26, 2025 directly after our worship service. We hope that all members can attend this important meeting where we approve and vote on our Officers for the year 2025 as well as approve our Operating Budget.

Called to Care- Do you know of a church member that could use a little extra TLC? Maybe they are ill, injured, have lost a loved one, have lost a job, or are homebound. If so, please notify Pastor John or send a message to Miranda in the church office. We have a group of volunteer members who would love to reach out to those in need with prayer, phone calls, cards, or a visit. If you would like to join our team, we would love to have you. Just contact Evie Novak at 440-479-9743 or evienovak1@gmail.com or show up at our next meeting on February 5 at 6:30 in the Parlor or on Zoom

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. If you need assistance, ask an usher - or a grandchild. Thank you!



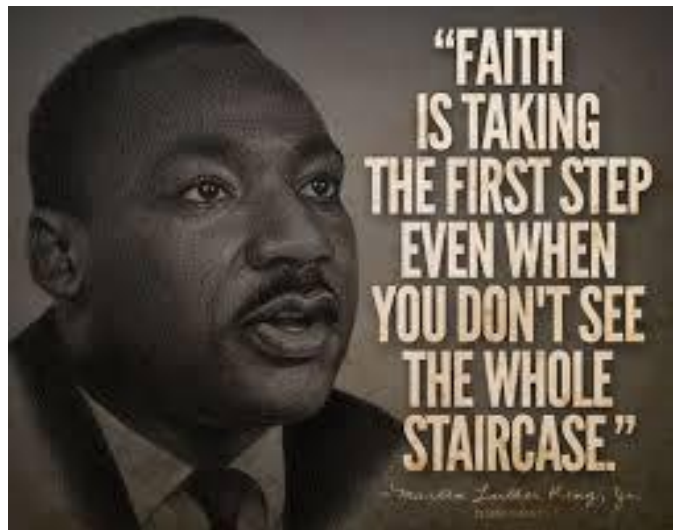
Office Hours- In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the church office will be closed on Monday January 20th.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following:

Today	After Worship - Fellowship Meeting
Mon. Jan 20	*Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day*
Tue. Jan 21	8:15 am – “Holy Grounds” at Panera 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall) 7:30 pm – Communications and outreach
Wed. Jan 22	11:00 am – Mindfulness & Meditation (Parlor) 7:00 pm – Stewardship/Leadership Development
Thur. Jan 23	5:30 pm – Youth Choir 7:00 pm - Choir Practice

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.





THANK YOU

Volunteers

January 19th, 2025

Early Usher:	Evelyn Seager
Late Usher:	Mark Lehman
Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Kate Matthews
Flowers:	Tia Began
Counters:	Marjorie Culver Kathy Pastor
A/V:	Betsey Wilson
Snacks:	Sue Stenzel
Set Up/Serve:	Sue Stenzel
Clean Up:	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	Kathy Pastor
Snow Herder:	Nate Elting



January 26th, 2025

Early Usher:	Evie Novak
Late Usher:	Annette Pedersen
Greeter:	Volunteers Needed
Reader:	Jill Zedan
Flowers:	Volunteers Needed
Counters:	Marjorie Culver Janet Renovetz
A/V:	Fred Pedersen
Snack:	Jenn Elting Lois Lorenzo
Set Up/Serve:	Jenn Elting
Clean Up:	Volunteer Needed
Snow Herder:	Nate Elting

"Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Attendance last Sunday, January 12th, 2024 – Adults: 59; Kids: 12; Online: 33; Total: 104
Next week's scripture readings will be, **1 Corinthians 12:12-31 (NRSV)** and **Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)**