



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

*"Pentecost is a
celebration of God
... a celebration of
God's power ... a
celebration of
God's desire to
empower us and
to dwell within us."*

-Mark Hart



Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, 2025 • 10:00 AM

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.

****LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILIABLE UPON REQUEST****

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!

Pentecost Sunday

Sunday June 8th, 2025

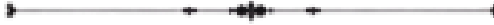
Prelude

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

#59

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation



"Without Pentecost the Christ-event – the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus – remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now."

-Henri Nouwen



Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO PRAYER (Inspired by Acts 2:1 and Psalm 104)**

One: When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

ALL: We join for worship online and onsite, in real time and sometimes days later, and yet,

One: The Holy One sends forth the Spirit.

ALL: Who unites us, connects us, and forms us as a community.

One: We were created in spirit and in truth, wonderfully and fearfully, in the image of Holy Love.

ALL: God renews the face of the earth and the cosmos, this faith community and the church.

One: May the glory of God the Fire endure forever!

ALL: Bless the Holy One, oh my soul. Praise God!

Hymn of Praise

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

#281

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

Spirit of Unity, you knit us together with all of our connections and distinctions. You make us one and yet unique. We gather to hear your voice and to attune ourselves to the language of the other, to celebrate the diversity of your creation and to immerse ourselves in compassionate care, to give you glory and to recognize the gift of community. May our hearts be opened and our lips declare your praise. Inhabit our worship with your abiding presence and inflame us with your love. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song: Spirit of the Living God #283**

*Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me;
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.*

Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading: - Acts 2:1-21

Gospel Reading: - John 14: 8-17 (25-27)

Continuing Testament- Think Differently About Difference by Eric Barreto

Time with
Young Worshipers

Sermon: By Rev. Monica Harmon

Hymn of Reflection Breathe on Me, Breath of God #292

The Church at Prayer

Gayle & Allison Colbert, Joe Blasko, Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Mac Hoppel, Bee Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Jonathan Langham, Tony Cuninghame, Chad Sproul, Dot Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Joanne Cook, Kathy Ford, Miriam Rosewicz, Midge Cassidy, Pat Rehm, Kate Benedict, the Renovetz family, "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]**

Spirit of the Living God, receive our gifts as tangible expressions of our belonging to your church and our commitment to the ministry begun in Christ and continued through this faith community. Magnify them in miraculous ways, and make our generosity a demonstration of the love you have given us and we return to the world you love. Amen.

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

* Circle of Community

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 score is written for two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja'. Chords are indicated above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, and A.

*Benediction

Postlude

Instrumental

Readings

First Reading Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.

And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"

And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

Cretans and Arabs--in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Gospel Reading John 14:8-17, (25-27)

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Continuing Testament from Think Differently About Difference by Eric Barreto [edited]

The story of Pentecost helps us understand how the Holy One sees human diversity: as one of God's greatest gifts to the world. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit doesn't erase our differences, but embraces the fact that we are all so wonderfully different. At Pentecost, the Holy One chooses to meet us in the midst of a multitude of languages and experiences. The Spirit translates the Good News of Jesus into numerous languages. If you think this is easy, then you've never tried learning a new language! Language is messy and intricate, rooted in wide and complex cultural ways of thinking and living. Even when we speak the same language, we still have a hard time understanding one another. At Pentecost, the Spirit's choice is clear: to join us in the midst of the messiness and difficulties of speaking different languages, eating different foods, and living in different cultures. The problem we face across cultures, is not our differences. It's when we imbue those differences with judgements and prejudice; when our differences become a way to determine who is in and who is out - who is better and who is inferior. It is then that we corrupt the Divine Gift of Diversity. So, we must set-aside those prejudices that infect our relationships with one another. They are poisons that lead to hatred and destruction. But let us also set aside the equally infectious, equally destructive delusion that our differences are a problem to be solved. Such delusion may be as harmful

as direct prejudice, for they both work on the same logic: That it's better to be the same than to be different. For the Holy One's Wonderfully Diverse Family, nothing could be further from the truth.

Announcements:

Flowers- *Today's flowers are dedicated by Carole Snider- "Thanks to all our volunteers, you are, each one of you; remarkably awesome."*

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!

Pride Fest!

JUNE 14
NOON - 7PM



BROADVIEW HEIGHTS AMPHITHEATER
9543 BROADVIEW ROAD
BROADVIEW HTS., OH 44147

FREE Entrance!
Scan QR to register



SECONDHAND RADIO BAND | DJ & DANCING | PERFORMERS
SPOTLIGHTS THEATER | WINDSONG FEMINIST CHORUS
ARTS & CRAFTS | FUN FOR ALL AGES | OVER 65 VENDORS!

For a complete vendor list, visit BBHPride.org

On Saturday June 14 the BBH Pride event will be held from noon to 7pm. We do have a booth and are looking for several members to participate at the booth to have conversations with attendees about our church. Melanie Falls and Diane Gressley will have sign up information so please reach out if you are interested in joining us. We plan to have Rainbow Rocks and other BUCC swag to engage the community.

Little Annie's Hope Train - We will continue to collect items for the homeless in Northeast Ohio and chemotherapy care packets through the end of August. Members of Little Annie's Hope Train go into homeless camps and pass out food, toiletries and other items. The founder of the organization is battling cancer herself, so she's started a side project of providing Chemotherapy Care Packets to various chemotherapy centers. If you stay in any hotels this summer, please save the mini soaps, shampoos, etc. If you get take-out, please save the pre-wrapped silverware. If you are doing spring/summer cleaning, you can donate journals or pens you don't need. Below is a more extensive list of items being distributed.

Place any donations in the bin on the pew bench at the parking lot entrance door. Claudia Griesmer will collect them (regularly) and deliver them to the organization. There is also a copy of this list on the pew bench

Items Distributed in Homeless Camps

- Personal sized toiletries (what you get from hotel rooms)
- Travel size dental floss and toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Mini hand sanitizers
- Small combs
- Chapstick
- Kleenex packets
- Individually wrapped toilet paper
- Wrapped plastic silverware (what you get with carry-out food)
- NEW adult heavy socks
- Inexpensive manual can openers
- Canned items with pull tabs (but no cream soups)

Items Included in Chemotherapy Care Packets

- Puzzle books
- Journals
- Pens
- Saltine crackers
- Ginger tea
- Spearmints
- Kleenex packets

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following

Tue. Jun 10	6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall) 6:30 pm – Social Justice
Wed. Jun 11	11:00 am -- Mindfulness and Meditation 7:00 pm – Council
Thu. Jun 12	10:30 am – Called to Care
Sat. Jun 14	12:00 pm – BBH Pride Fest

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 avoid disclosing personal medical information without permission. With that in mind, please either:

Ask permission to publicly share their health information in our prayers,
OR

Avoid details or keep anonymity 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.



FYI: THERE'S A TOOOOOOON OF PEOPLE DOWN THERE THANKING YOU THAT IT IS FRIDAY



June 8th, 2025

Early Usher:	Evie Novak
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Betsey Wilson
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Counters:	Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed
A/V:	David Pastor
Snacks:	Carole Snider
Set Up/Serve:	Carole Snider
Clean Up:	Carole Snider

June 15th, 2025

Early Usher:	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Volunteers Needed
Reader:	Diane Gressley
Flowers:	Volunteers Needed
Counters:	Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed
A/V:	Volunteers Needed
Snack:	Volunteers Needed
Set Up/Serve:	Volunteers Needed
Clean Up:	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	Volunteers Needed



Attendance last Sunday, June 1st, 2025 – Adults: 36; Kids: 6; Online: 12;
Additional Views: 27 Total: 81