



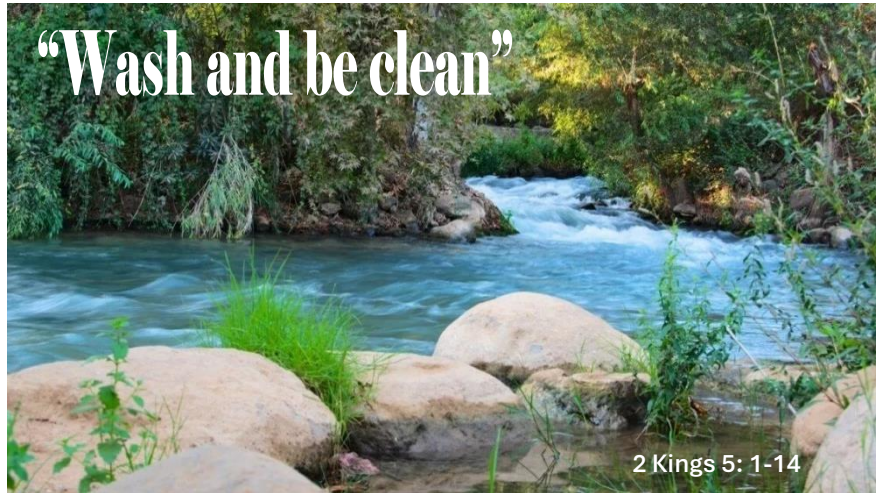
Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

*"Letting go
gives us
freedom,
and freedom is the
only condition for
happiness.
If, in our heart,
we still cling
to anything –
anger, anxiety,
or possessions –
we cannot be
free."*

— Thich Nhat Hanh



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 6th, 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!

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday July 6th, 2025

Prelude

Instrumental

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

“The commitment to social justice involves us in a never-ending process of analyzing the conditions that make for ill-being in our society and discerning the most gospel-centered ways of addressing these problems.” - Marjorie Hewitt Suchocki

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO PRAYER (Inspired by Psalm 30)**

One: Sing praises to the Holy One, O you faithful, and give thanks to
God's holy name

All: Shepherd and Source, you guide us in wisdom. You cover us in love.

One: Sing praises to the Holy One, O you faithful, and give thanks to
God's holy name

All: Comforter and Spirit, you encourage us in times of trouble. You strengthen us for the journey.

One: Sing praises to the Holy One, O you faithful, and give thanks to
God's holy name

All: Redeemer and Friend, you hear our cry, redeem the years of struggle, and restore our joy. Praise the Holy One!

Hymn of Praise

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

#495

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

God our Good Shepherd, we come to worship you, to tell of the story of your marvelous deeds, to lament the horrors and suffering in the world, to find strength to be your witnesses, and to remind ourselves of the truth of what is possible. May our prayers rise to your heart, and your heart infiltrate our prayers. May we sing songs that move you with delight and compassion. May we recognize and ponder the wisdom you impart to us. And, may peace rest upon us as we gather in your name. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

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

#283

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

Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading: - 2 Kings 5:1-14

Gospel Reading: - Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Continuing Testament- From Walden, Chapter Two, by Henry David Thoreau

Time with
Young Worshipers

Sermon: by Rev. David Loar

Musical Offering Soloist Evelyn Seager- The Battle Hymn of the Republic

The Church at Prayer

Gayle & Allison Colbert, The Family of 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, Midge Cassidy, Pat Rehm, Kate Benedict, Marge Culver, "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 give you thanks, Wise God, for cultivating generosity within us and alerting us to the needs around us. Use these gifts for the expansion of your will on earth and the blessing of your beloved. In your name and in hope, we give these gifts. 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 the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*** Hymn of Departure God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command #592**

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.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Instrumental

Readings

First Reading 2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease.

Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife.

She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said.

And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments.

He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel."

So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house.

Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean."

But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease!

Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage.

But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?"

So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Gospel Reading Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.

He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'

And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you.

Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.

Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;

cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,

'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"

He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.

Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you.

Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Continuing Testament From Walden, Chapter Two, by Henry David Thoreau

(modified for inclusive language) "Where I Lived and What I Lived For"

Our life is frittered away by detail. An honest person has hardly need to count more than ten fingers, or in extreme cases we may add ten toes, and lump the rest.

Simplicity, simplicity, simplicity! I say, let your affairs be as two or three, and not a hundred or a thousand; instead of a million count half a dozen, and keep your accounts on your thumb-nail. In the midst of this chopping sea of civilized life, such are the clouds and storms and quicksands and thousand-and-one items to be allowed for, that a person has to live, if we would not founder and go to the bottom and not make our port at all, by dead reckoning, and we must be a great calculator indeed who succeeds.

Simplify, simplify. Instead of three meals a day, if it be necessary eat but one; instead of a hundred dishes, five; and reduce other things in proportion.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

Today	Membership
Mon. Jul 7	7:00 pm – Facilities Meeting
Tue. Jul 8	6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
Wed. Jul 9	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation 7:00 pm – Council Meeting
Thu. Jul 10	10:30 am – Called to Care Meeting

Ice Cream Social- Please join us after worship next Sunday, July 13th outside by the back entrance for an old-fashioned Ice-cream social!

<u>Volunteers: July 6th, 2025</u>		<u>July 13th, 2025</u>	
Early Usher:	Annette Pedersen	Early Usher:	Diane Gressley
Late Usher:	Evelyn Seager	Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Sue Stenzel	Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Jill Zedan	Reader:	Volunteers Needed
Flowers:	Volunteers Needed	Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Counters:	Sue Stenzel Joe Wilson	Counters:	Sue Stenzel Janet Renovetz
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	A/V:	David Pastor
Communion Bread:	Sherrill Witt		