



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

*"Do not dwell on the
past.
Do not dwell on the
future. Concentrate
the mind on the
present moment."*

– Buddha



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 20th, 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!

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday July 20th, 2025

Prelude

Instrumental

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

“Let the truth be in your hearts, as it will be if you practice meditation, and you will see clearly what love we are bound to have for our neighbors.” - St. Teresa of Avila

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO PRAYER (Inspired by Psalm 52)**

One: In the presence of the faithful, we proclaim the name of God, for it is good.

All: We thank you forever because of what you have done.

One: Holy One, we trust in you. We take refuge in your safety. We call your presence our home.

All: We are like olive trees rooted in your soil—growing and fruitful. You nourish us and shine your light upon us.

One: Faithful God, in you, we find love and truth, abundance and compassion, community and care.

All: We praise and exalt you, Eternal One. We trust in your steadfast love forever and ever.

Hymn of Praise

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

#539

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

Abiding God, we invite you to inhabit our space. We long to renew our minds, restore our souls, and rest our presence before you. Still, we bring the burdens we carry into this gathering. We hold our responsibilities, cares, and concerns. Let us bind ourselves in your love and strength and the community of faithful and curious. We affirm that this time with you and one another equips and fortifies us for the journey and helps us discern the better way. Be glorified in our worship. Be honored by our praise. Be known by your people, O Creator, Teacher, and Friend. In your many names, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song:**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa 1988



Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading: - Psalm 15

Gospel Reading: - Luke 10:38-42

**Continuing Testament- From The First Duty of Love Is to Listen - by Gordon
Livingston [edited]**

Time with
Young Worshipers

Sermon: *by Rev. David Loar*

Musical Offering

Chris Hatala

The Church at Prayer

Gayle & Allison Colbert, Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Mac Hoppel, Bee Ortiz, 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]

Giver of all good and perfect gifts, we celebrate the opportunity to contribute to the ministry of this faith community. Receive the resources we offer in love and hope that needs will be met, lives will be changed, and the world will receive the testimony of compassionate care, action, and sharing. Amen.

* Hymn of Departure O Christ, the Great Foundation #387, v. 1-3

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 notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. 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 the staff are: A (above G), E A D (above B-A), Bm E (above G-F#), and E (above E). The second staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. 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 the staff are: A (above G), C#7 (above B-A), F#m (above G-F#), Bm (above G), E7sus4 E7 (above B-A), and A (above E).

*Benediction

Postlude

Instrumental

Readings

First Reading Psalm 15

O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from
their heart;
who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor
heap shame upon their neighbors;
in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the
LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the
innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Gospel Reading Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a
woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what
he was saying.
But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and
asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the
work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."
But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and
distracted by many things,
but few things are needed--indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better
part, which will not be taken away from her."

Continuing Testament from The First Duty of Love Is to Listen - by Gordon Livingston [edited]

No single characteristic reveals as much about a person as their ability to
pay attention to others. As a therapist I wish I could say that people benefit
most from the wisdom and brilliant insights that I bring. Truthfully, most of
what I do is sit in silence and try to formulate questions that will assist
patients to figure out what they should do to change their lives. To do this I
must pay close attention to what they are saying. Why would people
spend good money to engage in such a process with another human
being whose own life may be no happier than their own? The answer is
that most people find it beneficial to be listened to nonjudgmentally. Many


benefit equally from similar [and less expensive] interactions with their hairdresser, bartender, or clergy.

To be able to focus on the expressed needs and desires of another person, reflects a generosity of spirit that is not randomly distributed in the population. It conveys a respect for the person being listened to that is unmistakable, and satisfies our deepest human longing for connectedness. If it is true that we enter and leave this world alone, few of us can live that way for very long without going mad. People alone on desert islands do not flourish.

Little wonder then that we crave the experience of being listened to, and respond gratefully to anyone who will do this for us. We are aware at some level that the ability to listen is highly correlated with other desirable traits such as kindness, unselfishness, and empathy. The opposite is also true. The most obvious characteristic of people who are unable to listen, is a basic lack of interest in what the other person is saying, and a general lack of concern for that individual. To really listen to another is more than good manners; it is an affirmation that the person who is speaking has something to teach us.

Announcements:

Colony Cupboard- We have a new collection box for the Colony Cupboard! This program helps support students from BBH high school and middle school by providing essentials for those who need them. We will collect over the next month and donate supplies in the middle of August in time for the next school year. Items they need at this time include: Individually packaged snacks, highlighters, tissues, headphones, spiral bound notebooks.

 **Nursery Attendant Needed**  As Amelia Elting prepares to leave for college in mid-August, we are seeking a caring and dependable individual to serve as our Nursery Attendant.

Position Overview:

The Nursery Attendant will provide safe, secure, and nurturing care for children ages 0 through 4 years old during church services and events. This individual may also assist Miss Mindy in the classroom as needed.

The position pays \$50/Sunday. The hours are 9:45 am until the children are secured by their parents after the service.

Qualifications:

Experience caring for children ages 0–4

At least 18 years of age (we will consider current church members 16 and older)

CPR certification for infants and children is preferred

A heart for ministry and a love for children

If you or someone you know is interested in this important ministry role, please contact the church office at BUCCoffice23@gmail.com or 440-526-4364 or speak with a member of the Christian Education Committee.

Let’s continue to provide a warm and welcoming space for our youngest members to grow in God’s love!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

Tue. Jul 22 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)

Wed. Jul 16 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation

Volunteers:

July 20th, 2025

Early Usher: Annette Pedersen
Late Usher: Diane Gressley
Greeter: Kathy Pastor
Reader: Betsey Wilson
Flowers: ***Volunteers Needed***
Counters: Sue Stenzel
 Jan Renovetz
A/V: Fred Pedersen

July 27th, 2025

Early Usher: ***Volunteers Needed***
Late Usher: Sue Stenzel
Greeter: Lori Molesky
Reader: Diane Gressley
Flowers: ***Volunteers Needed***
Counters: Jan Renovetz
 Sue Stenzel
A/V: ***Volunteers Needed***

Attendance last Sunday, July 13th, 2025 – Adults: 47 ; Kids: 3; Online: 5;
Additional Views: 41 Total: 96

Liturgy from Worship Ways