



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

*It is the heart that
makes a man rich. He
is rich according to
what he is, not
according to what he
has.*

— Henry Ward
Beecher



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, August 3rd, 2025 • 10:00 AM

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

Music Director

• Rob Keshock

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!

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday August 3rd, 2025

Prelude

Instrumental

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

"Happiness is not something readymade; it comes from your own actions."

—The Dalai Lama

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able*

***CALL TO PRAYER (Inspired by Psalm 107)**

One: Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!

All: For the Holy One redeemed us and sustained us through the time of trouble.

One: Give thanks to the Holy One, for God is good!

All: For the Compassionate One heard our cry and sustained us through the time of trouble.

One: Give thanks to the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

All: Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!

Hymn of Praise

We Sing to You, O God

#9

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

Amazing God, we honor and celebrate your presence among us. We rejoice in your goodness and delight in your wonderful works. We lament the suffering of the world and take courage that you are with us. We ask that you make your presence known to us. Speak, O God, for we attune our attention for your guidance. Receive our praise as we glorify your name! Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song:**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa 1988



Readings

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading: - Psalm 107: 1-9, 43

Gospel Reading: - Luke 12:13-21

Continuing Testament- From Then What - by John Jewell [edited]

Time with
Young Worshipers

Sermon: by Rev. David Loar

Musical Offering Soloist Jan Renovetz- "Softly and Tenderly" (W. Thompson)

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]**

Holy One, bless these offerings, prosper the work of our hands, and the gifts we bring. We dedicate them to your kingdom forever and ever. Amen.

Communion

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: [UNISON]

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus 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; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*** Hymn of Departure** **We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky** **#563**

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.' repeated twice. Chords are indicated above and below the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, and A.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Instrumental

Readings

First Reading Psalm 107:1-9, 43

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;

he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Let those who are wise pay attention to these things and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

Gospel Reading Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'

Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Continuing Testament from Then What - by John Jewell [edited]

A reporter asked a young Wall Street broker on the fast track what his chief goal was in life. "To make my first million dollars by the time I am 28," was the answer. "Then what?" the reporter continued. "Well, I suppose I would like to become a multi-millionaire." The news man pressed on. "Then what?"

Beginning to get a bit irritated, the broker said, "I want to have a family and enough money to retire at 40 and travel around the world."

Do you see the next question coming? "Then what?" Exasperated, the would be multi-millionaire said, "Well, like everyone else, I guess someday I will die!"

The young man's last answer begs the question - "Then what?"



Like the rich man in Jesus' story, the difficulty with the young broker was not that he desired to have possessions - it was that his desire for possession had him. Jesus' warning is strong. "Watch closely! Be on your guard! When your desire for things gets its claws into your life, it can lead you down a very dangerous road!" In other words, desire for material things may grow into greed, which can distort and then destroy the meaning of your life.

Announcements:

Welcome to Rob Keshock- Officially our New Music Director!

Worship in the Park- Join us Sunday August 17th at Sagamore Hills TWP. Park Rosemary Snell Pavilion 11550 Valley View Rd Sagamore Hills OH 44067 for worship in the park followed by BUCC World Diversity Potluck- Bring a shareable dish that reflects your heritage or a culture you admire for our annual potluck luncheon!

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

Today	Membership Meeting
Mon Aug 4	7:00 pm – Facilities Meeting
Tue. Aug 5	6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall) 7:00 pm – Spiritual Life
Wed. Aug 6	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation 4:00 pm – Stewardship Leadership

Volunteers:

<u>August 3rd, 2025</u>		<u>August 10th, 2025</u>	
Early Usher:	Peg Duffy	Early Usher:	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Late Usher:	Sue Stenzel
Greeter:	Sue Stenzel	Greeter:	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Jim Duffy	Reader:	Jill Zedan
Flowers:	Peg Duffy	Flowers:	Carole Snider
Counters:	Carole Snider Sue Stenzel	Counters:	Kathy Pastor Sue Stenzel
A/V:	David Pastor	A/V:	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	David Pastor		

Liturgy from Worship Ways

Attendance last Sunday, July 27th, 2025 – Adults: 35; Kids: 0; Online: 5;
Additional Views: 14; Total: 54