



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

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,
Whatever your race, ethnicity, or age,*

*Whatever your gender identity or
sexual orientation,*

*Whatever your religious background,
creed, or spirituality,*

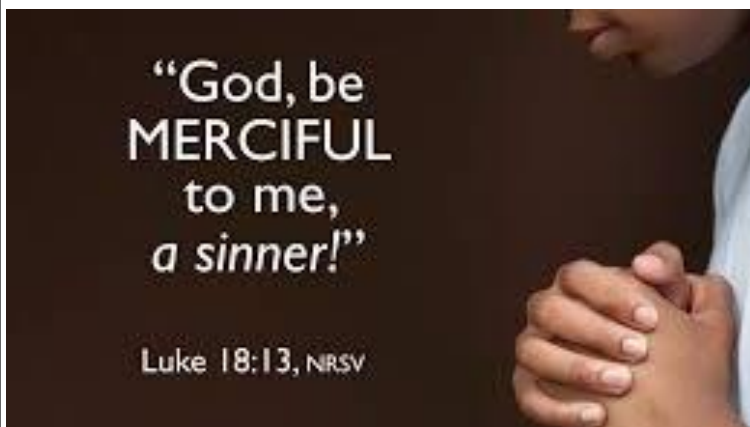
*Whatever your social or economic
circumstances,*

*Whatever your health conditions,
impairments, or mobility needs,*

*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!*



Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoffice23@gmail.com – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Pastor

• Jeff Jackson

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

Music Director

• Rob Keshock

****LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****

- 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.

Announcements:

Please submit the announcements you would like to have printed in the bulletin by noon on Wednesday – Thank You!


Sharing Good News -At the beginning of the Sunday service you are welcome to share announcements. Please keep these brief by avoiding details. Share the essentials, then share how people can learn more details (e.g., see the bulletin announcement or talk to somebody). Also, feel free to share good news such as birthdays, anniversaries, retirement, awards, etc.

Advent Devotional - The Spiritual Life Ministry is looking ahead to one of our most beloved BUCC traditions, the annual congregation-written Advent Devotional. In order to compile the booklet, please sign up after worship. Simply choose one of the pre-selected scriptures that speaks to you, and tell us why in a couple of paragraphs. Many people also choose to close with a one or two sentence prayer. We especially love to hear how it connects you and/or your family to a certain time or place. You'll be amazed by the stories your fellow members have to share! If you cannot attend worship in person, simply call Miranda in the office during the week and she can help you out. We are asking for your devotion to be submitted to the office at BUCCOffice23@gmail.com by OCTOBER 31.

The All Saints' Day service is a loving and reverent remembrance of loved ones who have passed away this year (from November of 2024 to the present). Please submit the names of your departed loved ones and friends to the office email at buccoffice23@gmail.com, or by calling Miranda at (440) 526-4364 by October 29th. All submitted names will be recognized during a moment of silence during the service.

All Saints' "We Remember" Table - Pictures are a loving way to remember family and friends who have passed into the next life, recently or long ago. A dedicated table space will be available in Pilgrim Hall after our All Saints' Day Sunday Service (11/2), for you to share a picture of someone who was dear to you, no matter when they passed away. Please bring your loved one's photo downstairs to the WE REMEMBER TABLE before church. You may write a short dedication at that time or bring one with the picture.

 **Calling All Kids! Be Part of Our Christmas Story!**  - We're looking for children in grades K through high school to silently act out the "Story of Christmas" during our Christmas Cantata Service on Sunday, December 14th—the third Sunday of Advent! Roles include Mary, Joseph, three Wise Men, three Angels, and three Shepherds. Extra kids will join as angels or shepherds. Costumes are already made—no sewing needed! We'll review simple blocking and character roles after each Sunday service during Advent. Commitment: attend three 25-minute rehearsals and the performance. To join, please sign up each weekend with Rob after service or email BuccMusic23@gmail.com. Parents, don't miss this special chance for your child to bring the Christmas story to life!

 **Join Our Choir and Music Team!**  -Are you a singer or musician in high school or older? We'd love to have you join us for choir rehearsals every Thursday from 7:00 to 8:30 PM right here at the church! We're preparing beautiful music for Advent and Christmas, and we could really use more voices and instruments to make this season extra special. Whether you love to sing or play, this is a fun, welcoming group where you can grow your skills, connect with others, and share the joy of the season through music. Come be part of something uplifting and joyful! Everyone is welcome—no experience needed, just a love for making music together. See Rob after the Service for more information!

Confirmation classes- Christian education is coordinating confirmation classes with Reverend Jackson. Classes would be one time a month and would include approximately eight classes total. Classes will most likely start in January. Please contact Danyel Esser (330-221-1599) if you are interested in having your child participate in Confirmation classes. Once we know who is interested we will reach out to schedule a time and day for classes.



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!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following

Today	After worship Junior Choir
Tue. Oct 28	6:00 pm – AA "Love & Tolerance" (Pilgrim Hall)
Wed. Oct 29	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
Thu. Oct 30	7:00 pm – Choir Practice
Fri. Oct 31	Happy Halloween! 6:30 pm – Brecksville Squares

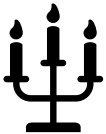
Volunteers:

	<u>October 26th, 2025</u>	<u>November 2nd, 2025</u>
Early Usher:	Jill Zedan	Diane Gressley
Late Usher:	Evelyn Seager	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Sue Stenzel	Annette Pedersen
Reader:	Betsey Wilson	Bee Ortiz
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel	Annette Pedersen
Counters:	Volunteers Needed Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed
A/V:	Volunteers Needed	Fred Pedersen
Snack:	Carole Snider	Annette Pedersen
	Dave Bernard	Peg Duffy
Set up:	Carole Snider	Volunteers Needed
Clean Up:	Carole Snider	Peg Duffy
Communion Bread:		Gayle Colbert

In our Prayers:

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 and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Joanne Cook, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy, Kate Benedict, "Edna House", people who are unemployed and under employed.

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)



Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday October 26th, 2025

Prelude

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

(B. Doerksen)

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

Give me courage to walk with my neighbors in love and faith.

*Call to Prayer (Inspired by Psalm 65)

One: God moves with us throughout this earth and nurtures the soil,

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's works.

One: God's river flows with water, and the fields are blessed by the Spirit,

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's gifts.

One: God's wilderness fields overflow with joy.

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's grace.

*Hymn of Praise

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling

#600

*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

God of Love, Divine Friend,

Our hearts are open to you. If a thought crosses our minds, you are present and are ready to hold it for us. There is no emotion radiating from our souls that is too heavy or painful for you. Your Spirit encourages our dreams as we seek to find ways to build your Realm here on earth. May we work side-by-side, co-creating a world of possibilities where all experience your love and joy. Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

*Gathering Song

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.

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Sirach 35:12-17

Give to the Most High as he has given to you and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it, and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice, for the Lord is the judge, and with him there is no partiality. He will not show partiality to the poor, but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

New Testament Reading: Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.'

But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Time with young worshipers

Sermon

From Opposite Sides to Alongside - Rev. Jeff Jackson

Anthem

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Prayers of the Church

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Meditation

The Savior'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.

Stewardship Moment – Betsey Wilson

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

*Doxology

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 God, Source of Goodness and Grace,
We thank you today for all you have given to us. When we bear more power and privilege, we are called to share more of our talents, time, and treasures. In our efforts to seek humility and balance, may we soberly evaluate our gifts and understand the healthiest ways to apportion them to strengthen your Realm and love your children. Amen.



***Hymn of Departure**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#76

***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 the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, and A.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Lord, Make Me More Holy

Go in Christ's light, belonging to God and to one another.



BUCC Mission Loving Serving and Accepting All People with God's Life Changing Power

BUCC Core Values

Inclusiveness in all things

Community of acceptance love and forgiveness

Unleashing people's gift of ministry to grow through serving others

Environment of learning and spiritual growth

Creative and dynamic worship

Reaching out and welcoming the community