



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

The kingdom of God is available to you in the here and the now. But the question is whether you are available to the kingdom.

~ Thich Nhat Hanh



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

****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!

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.

Our Community Meal will be held on November 30 at The Wholeness Project which is located at 3389 Fulton Road, Cleveland. We are planning to serve approximately 60 people and will need some help serving and making/providing deserts. We can carpool from BUCC if that would help. We will meet in the BUCC parking lot around 230 pm and then head to Cleveland. Right now, we need cookies and brownies, so if you would like to make or bring them to the church to take to the meal, that is also an option. If you would like to help, please let anyone on Social Justice Ministry know. Reach out to Diane Gressley for any questions. For more details on The Wholeness Project please check their website at www.bridgecle.org


Colony Cupboard- We are continuing to support the Colony Cupboard! This is a resource for students at Brecksville Broadview Hts High School who need essentials and school supplies. We donated a trunk full of supplies this summer and plan to make another donation over the holidays. Based on student needs for the new school year, below is the updated list of supplies they are requesting: Markers, highlighters, binders, graph paper, & headphones
Donations are collected in the back of the church.

Mitten Tree- The annual mitten tree is in the narthex. Last year we filled the tree over 4 times and the items were delivered to the shelters. Note that scarfs, mittens, gloves and even unopened packages of socks are always needed this time of year.

Pilgrimage: Common Grounds at the Border at Good Shepherd UCC in Arizona – will be January 12-18 2026. Diane has been helping planning with Plymouth UCC in Shaker Heights and the Heartland Conference and will attend. Check the bulletin board in the narthex for the official flyer. Deadline for registration is December 10. Please reach out to Diane Gressley for further details --- digressley@gmail.com.

Special Thank You to this week’s guest musician Eric Brubaker!

Attendance last Sunday, November 16th, 2025 – Adults: 69; Kids: 14; Online: 17; Additional Views: 2; Total: 102



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	Hanging of the Greens
Tue. Nov 25	6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
Wed. Nov 26	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
Thu. Nov 27	Happy Thanksgiving *OFFICE CLOSED*

Volunteers:

	<u>November 23rd, 2025</u>	<u>November 30th, 2025</u>
Early Usher:	Diane Gressley	Jill Zedan
Late Usher:	Annette Pedersen	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Kathy Pastor	Volunteers Needed
Reader:	Jill Zedan	Armand Eusanio
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel	Mary Kidd
Counters:	Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
	Sue Stenzel	Sue Stenzel
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	Volunteers Needed
Snack:	Joe Wilson	Volunteers Needed
Set up:	Joe Wilson	Volunteers Needed
Clean Up:	Joe Wilson	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	N/A	N/A
Snow Herder:	Betsey Wilson	Volunteers Needed

**Reign of Christ
Thanksgiving Sunday
Sunday November 23rd, 2025**

Prelude

Come now is the time to worship

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

Christ, remember us into your reign.

***Call to Prayer**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, our steady breath when the world feels unsteady.

People: Though nations roar and powers cling to might, Christ's way is mercy and peace.

Leader: A river of grace still runs through creation, refreshing hearts grown weary.

People: We come to be renewed—to plant peace with courage and hope.

Leader: Come, people of every story and song, find shelter in God's presence.

People: Be still and know: Love is sovereign, and Christ is here.

***Hymn of Praise**

We Praise You, O God

#420

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Steady Spirit,

when the world trembles, be our refuge and our strength. Quiet our anxious minds and open our hearts to your renewing peace. Let stillness make room for courage, and courage make way for love. 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.

First Reading: Ada María Isasi-Díaz — Mujerista Theology

Excerpt (adapted):

"We know God's reign by the laughter of our abuelas,

the songs sung over rice and beans,

the prayers whispered in kitchens and marches alike.

Gratitude is our resistance; joy is our testimony.

The reign of God is not someday — it is breaking bread right now,

in the ordinary holiness of our struggle and our celebration."

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,

in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,

for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Time with young worshipers

Sermon “Courageous Love and the Kin-Dom of God” - Rev. Jeff Jackson

Anthem

We Shall Overcome

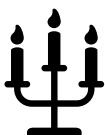
Prayers of the Church

In our Prayers

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Mac Hoppel, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Tony Cuninghame, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy,

“Edna House”, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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



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.

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]**

Source of wholeness, you weave the universe together in mercy and purpose.
Take these gifts and join them to your work of renewal. May our offering be
part of your mending of the world, so that every life and every land may know
the peace that is Christ's alone.
Amen.

***Hymn of Departure**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#76

***Circle of Community** Please join us in a circle around the sanctuary and lift
your voices together and again after the benediction.

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 image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style. The bottom staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style. The lyrics are 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' and 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Over My Head

Go, and let Christ's light rule through mercy.

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

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!