



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

*"Hearts rebuilt from hope resurrect
dreams killed by hate."
—Aberjhani, The River of Winged
Dreams*



Sunday April 5, 2026

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

• Wes Novak

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

Music Director

• Olivia Tassone

****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 Tuesday – Thank You!

Missions Café- Mark your calendars and bring your enthusiasm for our third Missions Café session... your input is invaluable!

Session 3: Choose one:

Wednesday, April 8th, 6 pm;
Sunday, April 12th after church

Wrap-Up session: Choose one:

Sunday, June 7th after church;
Wednesday, June 10th, 1 pm
Wednesday, June 10th, 6 pm

Bread Tag Collection- BUCC is glad to announce that we are now collecting plastic bread tags for recycling in partnership with SCARCE. Funds used by recycling our tags will provide wheelchairs for children in need! This win-win story has many steps. It takes about 260,000 tags to fund a wheelchair. So have fun and get your friends, family and neighborhood involved in this easy way to make a difference. Look for the BREAD TAG COLLECTION container in our church entry way and drop yours in. No plastic bags please.

For more information about SCARCE, an award-winning environmental education nonprofit dedicated to creating sustainable communities, and the Bread Tag Project, talk to Peg Duffy and go to the website at:

<https://www.scarce.org/bread-tag-recycling-provides-wheelchair>

Attendance last Sunday, March 29, 2026 – Adults: 37; Kids: 0; Online: 7;
Additional Views: 7; Total: 51

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following

Mon. Apr 6 7:00 pm – Facilities Meeting
Tue. Apr 7 2:00 pm – Spiritual Life
 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
 6:30 pm – Social Justice
Wed. Apr 8 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
 6:00 pm – Missions Café
 7:00 pm – Council
Thu. Apr 9 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Volunteers:

	<u>April 5, 2026</u>	<u>April 12, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	Joe Wilson	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Late Usher:	Annette Pedersen	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Reader:	Sherrill Witt	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Flowers:	Easter Flowers	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Counters:	Sue Stenzel	Sue Stenzel
	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	Betsey Wilson
Snack:	Jenn Elting	Sherrill Witt
Set up:	Jenn Elting	Sherrill Witt
	Sherrill Witt	
Clean Up:	Sherrill Witt	Sherrill Witt
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A

Easter Sunday

And now, in this quiet moment, I receive the life that is mine to live.

Prelude

Hallelujah arr. Hal H. Hopson

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Bringing of the Light

The Strife is O'er

#242 v. 1

*Call to Prayer

One: Something has shifted. What was closed is opening.

All: We can sense it—something new rising among us.

One: What we thought was the end is not the end. What we could not see is here.

All: We begin to see—new life coming into view.

One: The Living One is among us. Nothing will hold life back.

All: We rise with it—new life breaking through!

*Hymn of Praise

Now the Green Blade Rises

#238

*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Gracious and Eternal God, you call us together from many places into this one moment. Settle us here in your presence. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and with joy. Speak to our spirits and receive our worship. Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

*Gathering Song

The Strife is O'er

#242 v. 2

First Reading: John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.

The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there,

and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb,

and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Time with young worshipers

Anthem

Risen Indeed! Joseph M. Martin

Sermon

"The Ending We Didn't See Coming" By Rev. Jeff Jackson

Hymn of Reflection

Because He Lives

God sent a Son— they called him Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive. He bled and died to buy my pardon; an empty grave is there to prove my savior lives.

Refrain: Because He lives I can face tomorrow; because He lives all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives.

And then one day, I'll cross that river; I'll fight life's final war with pain. And then, as death gives way to vict'ry, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. *(Refrain)*

Prayers of the Church

In our Prayers



Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, 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, Gabe Tassone, Carolyn Chandler, Allison Colbert, Thea Cunningham, Tony Cunningham, "Edna House"

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

I Will Sing of My Redeemer arr. Cindy Berry

***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]**

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

Communion Invitation

ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.

Communion Hymn

Alleluia

#765

*During the hymn, please come forward up the center aisle to gather a piece of bread and a cup and return to your seats via the outer aisles.
We will partake each together as directed. A gluten-free loaf is being used for communion today.*

Invitation to Share the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion [Unison]

Gracious and Living God, we thank you for meeting us here and giving us what we could not give ourselves. As we have remembered you in the bread and cup, you have made yourself known to us in the gift of life shared. Amen.

***Hymn of Departure**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today
congregation joins on v. 1 & 4

#233

***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) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single line. Chords are indicated above the staff: A, E, A, D, Bm, E. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single line. Chords are indicated below the staff: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A. The lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' are written below the first staff, and 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' are written below the second staff.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Christ Arose arr. James Koerts

Freeing yourself was one thing; claiming ownership of that freed self was another.
—Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

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!