



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!



Sunday May 17, 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!

Wisdom Café (Final Missions Café Wrap-Up Session)- Mark your calendars and bring your enthusiasm for our final Missions Café sessions... Your input is invaluable!

Sunday May 31st after Church;

Wednesday June 10th 1pm

Wednesday June 10th 6pm

Check your email for the Wisdom Café Preparation Survey, please complete the survey by Sunday May 24th, your response matters.

Strengthen the Church offering- On Sunday May 24, Pentecost Sunday - we will be collecting the UCC offering for Strengthen the Church. The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. The theme for 2026 is Sent Forth in Love. Participating in the offering helps foster connections with the wider church and create possibilities for the church of tomorrow.

Pride Events- Save the Dates- Saturday June 6- Cleveland Pride March. We are hoping to March with the group of local UCC churches, but are still waiting to hear back from Living Waters about where to meet and who is organizing it.

Saturday June 27 is the 4th annual BBH Pridefest at Broadview Heights City Campus & Amphitheater 9543 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights from noon to 7 <https://bbhpride.org/pride-events/pridefest-2026/>

BUCC T-Shirts and Swag- If you would like a BUCC T-shirt (long- or short-sleeved, v-neck or crew neck, 100% cotton or a blend), sweatshirt, hoodie, baseball cap, or bag featuring the BUCC logo and our message of welcome, you can place an order using the link below. Items can be customized and orders are typically processed within 3–5 days. Heidi will pick up orders each week and bring them to church. The deadline to place an order is June 30th, but if you order within the next week or two, your apparel should be ready in time to wear to our pride events. <https://brecksville-united-church.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

Pentecost Sunday- Pentecost Sunday is May 24. Please wear something red to symbolize the fire of the Holy Spirit. As we gather in worship, we remember, "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:4)

Rock Painting- BBH Pride is coming up, we have a tradition of passing out painted rainbow rocks. This year we are hoping to paint 250 rocks together after church on June 7th. We are looking for tray donations to dry the rocks.

Attendance last Sunday, May 10, 2026 – Adults: 28; Kids: 2; Online: 15; Total: 45
Additional Views: 1

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following

Tue. May 19 6:00 pm – AA "Love & Tolerance" (Pilgrim Hall)
 7:30 pm – Communication and Outreach

Wed. May 20 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
 6:00 pm – Braver Angels

Thu. May 21 10:30 am – Called to Care
 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Volunteers:

	<u>May 17, 2026</u>	<u>May 24, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	Jeff Thompson
Reader:	Diane Gressley	Volunteers Needed
Flowers:	Volunteers Needed	Jan Renovetz
Counters:	Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
A/V:	David Pastor	Volunteers Needed
Snack:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Set up:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Clean Up:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy God, hold me in the love that refuses to let anyone go.

Prelude

Holiness Medley

arr. Melody Bober

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Bringing of the Light

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In vs. 1-4

#73

Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Don't be afraid of some change. Don't be afraid of some change.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

***Call to Prayer** (inspired by Psalm 68)

One: Let God rise up! Sing to God; lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds—the Holy One— be exultant before God.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy!

One: Let God rise up! Ascribe power to God, full of majesty and power.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy!

One: Let God rise up! Awesome is God in the sanctuary, who gives power and strength to the people.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy! Blessed be God!

***Hymn of Praise**

Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped vs. 1-2

#22

***Prayer of Openness [Unison]**

Holy Love, our Companion and Source, shower us with your presence, shelter us in your sanctuary, shield us with your peace. Open our receptivity to your word, wisdom, and way. May our worship honor your name and draw us nearer to you and to our neighbors. Be glorified in our midst as we exalt your Many Names. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song** *My God, Accept My Heart This Day vs. 1* **#352**
My God, accept my heart this day, and make it always yours,
That I from you no more may stray as long as life endures.

First Reading: Mark 1:35-39

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Second Reading: Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Time with young worshipers

Anthem

Blessed Be Your Name

arr. Jack Schrader

Sermon

By Rev. David Loar

Hymn of Reflection

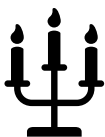
O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free vs. 1, 6 #209

Prayers of the Church

In our Prayers

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Gabe Tassone, Carolyn Chandler, Allison Colbert, Gayle 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

Be Still My Soul

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 God, may these gifts we bring be used to bless, to build, and to beautify through generous and faithful care. Amen.

Communion Invitation

ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.

Communion Hymn

Let us Break Bread Together

#330

Let us break bread together on our knees. (2x)

Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
My God, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. (2x) **(Refrain)**

Let us praise God together on our knees. (2x) **(Refrain)**

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]

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of 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. Amen.

***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: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Chords above the staff are: A (above G), E (above B), A (above C), D (above D), Bm (above E), and E (above G). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). Chords below the staff are: A (below G), C#7 (below B), F#m (below C), Bm (below D), E7sus4 (below E), E7 (below F#), and A (below G).

***Benediction**

Postlude

How Great Is Our God

arr. Tom Fettke

Let me live as though no one is outside your care.