



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

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

*Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power*

*"I walked with
them, as
crowds have
that effect on
me, I want to
do what they
do, to journey
towards some
point of
revelation,
which of
course never
comes."*

**–Neil Jordan,
Mistaken**



Sunday April 5, 2020 • 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday

Pastor
• Allan Lane

Director of Music *Financial Secretary* *Ministers*
• David Debick • Joy Garapic All of our Members
Office Manager – Jeannette Kroeger

Affirmation of Welcome

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all of God's children.

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered,
You Are Welcome Here!

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White,
You Are Welcome Here!

If you are male, female, or transgender,
You Are Welcome Here!

If you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old,
You Are Welcome Here!

*If you've never been in a church, if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic,
Or a life-long member of the UCC,*
You Are Welcome Here!

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or pangender
You Are Welcome Here!

If you are fully abled, or a person with differing abilities,
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 and join us for refreshments in Pilgrim Hall downstairs following the service. If you are interested in learning more about our church, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Simply ask an usher. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use. Pillows for back support are also available, if needed

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 - 12:00

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday

Meditation Music

“It is always the enemy who started it; even if he was not the first to speak out, he was certainly planning it; and if he was not actually planning it, he was thinking of it; and, if he was not thinking of it, he would have thought of it.” –Elias Canetti, *Crowds and Power*

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Processional

Shaw

Bearing the Light of Peace
Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Who is this that comes our way?

People: It is the Lord of Glory. Make room so that he may enter our gates.

L: And who is this Lord of Glory?

P: He is Christ our Savior; he is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

L: And who are we, who greet him this morning?

P: We are his people, the sheep of his pasture, his faithful disciples. Make room, for the Lord of Glory is entering our worship!

Palm Procession Music

Ride On, King Jesus

African American spiritual

Arranged and performed by Steve Bell

* Hymn of Praise

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Teschner

1. All glory, laud, and honor to you, O Christ, we sing,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
The people of the Hebrews with palms adorned your way;
our praise and prayer and anthems we offer you this day.

(Continued next page)

2. O Promised One of Israel, of David's royal line,
the one called "God's beloved," of flesh and yet divine,
To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Theodulph of Orléans, 9th century; trans. John Mason Neale, 1854;

*** Prayer of Approach and Confession [Unison]**

Hosanna, Jesus, hosanna! We welcome you this morning, for you are the Lord of Glory and the Friend of Sinners, you are the Son of the Most High and the Humble One riding on a donkey, you are the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end. By the side of the road so long ago they cried, "Hosanna, son of David, Son of God! Save us!" They waved palms and sang songs; we say prayers and sing hymns; but all celebrate your glory. We confess our need of you, our need of being rescued. Forgive us as you pass by. Hosanna in the highest, O Jesus! Amen

Words of Assurance

L: The crowds cried out to Jesus, "Save us!" And the good news of the gospel is that Jesus did save them, and us, through his life, death and resurrection. In him we are healed, in him we are restored, in him we have eternal life.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen

*** The Song of Praise Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]**

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains measures 1 and 2, with lyrics "Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong". The second staff contains measures 3 and 4, with lyrics "bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

The Old Testament Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

The New Testament Matthew 21:1-11

Contemporary Reading *The Psychology of Revolution*, Gustave Le Bon

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering Osanna II (from *Mass in B minor*) J. S. Bach
[Performed by Collegium Vocale Gent, Philippe Herreweghe, conductor]
Translation: Hosanna in the highest.

Sermon

The Fickle Crowd: A Capricious Love Story

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection

Dear God, Embracing Humankind

Maker

1. Dear God, embracing humankind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives your service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

4. Drop your still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of your peace.

5. Breathe through the pulses of desire your coolness and your balm;
Let sense be numb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.
John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; alt.

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer *[the additional use of "Mother" is optional, according to One's Theological understanding]*

...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.

Organ Response

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

**It is one thing to cheer Jesus when he is popular. It is another to commit your life
to him when what he asks is hard. As a symbol of our commitment to the life Jesus
calls us to, let us remember to send our offerings for the work of love in the world.**

*** Offertory Hymn**

**We now are in the time of Lent,
To learn again what Jesus meant.
His life and message are so great,
We send these gifts to celebrate. Amen.**

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

O Donkey Rider amidst the palms, as you once received the cheers of crowds, now receive the gifts of your people. May they bring grace and love to a hurting and fearful world. Amen

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

Berthier

**Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst. (twice)
The Taizé Community, 1983**

The Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

When we share this sacrament with you, O Jesus, bread is more than bread and the fruit of the vine is more than fruit, for by your Spirit's power you make yourself present to us in our need. Send us forth to do what is right even when it is hard, and make us your people now and always.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

Dykes

1. Ride on! Ride on in majesty! O Christ, with brave humility,
On lowly colt, your road pursue, as palms and cloaks are spread for you.

3. Ride on! Ride on in majesty! Ride on in humble dignity;
Behold the ones you came to save from senseless life and endless grave.

4. Ride on! Ride on in majesty! For you have set your people free
And we, rememb'ring all your pain, now meet again to hail your reign.

Henry H. Milman, 1827; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1993

*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

* Circle of Community

Hear Our Prayer, O God - sung twice

*As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Hear our Prayer, O God.** After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Hear our prayer, O God'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.'

Benediction

Postlude

O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free

15th cent. English tune

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Max Roha, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Don Seager, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshipping with us today. Please sign our guest book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for our Coffee Hour.

WE WELCOME VISITING PARENTS - We offer several childcare options and fun activities for kids during worship hour: Infants and toddlers will be cared for in the nursery. Kindergarten through seventh grade will go to class after the Word to Young Worshipers. Crayons and paper are also available from ushers for children.

PFLAG - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This is a local and national organization that has been in the Cleveland Area for 35 years. One of the services provided is a Monthly Support Group Meeting. The group is led by a licensed Psychologist and Social Workers. The purpose is to provide support and education to family and friends of people coming out Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bisexual or Questioning. The group is free and meets at Trinity Cathedral on the second Tuesday of the month 6:45p-8:30p. For more information, call Mark Lehman, LISW at 330.631.4415

STAFF CONGREGATION RELATIONS is creating a team of member volunteers who might be willing to perform small office tasks on an occasional basis in order to help Jeannette during busy times or when she is out sick or on vacation. These tasks might include answering phones during office hours, copying, folding, stapling, typing, mail distribution, preparing the weekly bulletin, or assisting with the monthly pillar. If you are willing to be called on occasion to perform one or more of these tasks, please contact SCR Chairperson Evie Novak at 440-479-9743 or evienovak1@gmail.com. Thank you to David Ritchey, Marge Culver, Jan Renovetz and Jim Duffy who are currently assisting with office responsibilities as needed. We would like to have a few more volunteers, if possible.

Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.^[a]

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.^[b]
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.^[c]

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.

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

The New Testament - Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately.^[a]" This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd^[b] spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Contemporary Ready - *The Psychology of Revolution*, Gustave Le Bon

"To the Jacobins of this epoch [the French Revolution], as well as to those our times, this popular entity [the crowd] constitutes a superior personality possessing attributes peculiar to the gods of never having to answer for their actions and never making a mistake. Their wishes must be humbly acceded to. The people may kill, burn, ravage, commit the most frightening cruelties, glorify their hero today and throw him into the gutter tomorrow, it is all the same; the politicians will not cease to vaunt the people's virtues and to bow to their every decision."

LAY READERS

April 5, 2020

Lay Reader:

Kathleen Stewart

April 12, 2020

Lay Reader:

Matt Wolbert

