



# Brecksville

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# 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*

*"Bethlehem  
was God with  
us, Calvary  
was God for  
us, and  
Pentecost is  
God in us."  
—Robert Baer*



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**Sunday May 31st 2020 • 10:00 AM**  
**Pentecost 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.***

*Regardless of your race, creed, ethnicity or age,  
**You are welcome here.***

*Regardless of your gender identity or sexual orientation,  
**You are welcome here.***

*Regardless of your religious background or spirituality,  
**You are welcome here.***

*Regardless of your economic status,  
**You are welcome here.***

*If you have health conditions, impairments, or mobility needs,  
**You are welcome here.***

***Whoever you may be, and wherever you are on life's journey,  
we welcome you 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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

# May 31st, 2020 – Pentecost Sunday

## Meditation Music

“When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That’s what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost.” –David Wilkerson

## ***Gathering in God’s Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

### Prelude

Send Down the Fire

Haugen

*[Courtesy of Diocese of St. Benedict Old Catholic Missionaries]*

### Bearing the Light of Peace

### Bearing the Light of Christ

#### **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: The Spirit says, “Come!” and calls us to Christ.

**People: The Spirit joins us to Christ and to each other.**

L: The Spirit says, “Follow!” and leads us in the way of all truth.

**P: The Spirit guides us along God’s path for us in life.**

L: The Spirit says, “Go!” and sends us into God’s world with a message of God’s love for all people.

**P: The Spirit blows where it wills: blow on us this morning, we pray, O Spirit, and touch us with tongues of fire in our worship. Come, everyone, let us worship God in Spirit and in truth.**

### Hymn of Praise

Let Every Christian Pray

Joseph Barnby

1. Let ev-ry Christian pray, this day and ev'ry day,  
come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Was not the church we love commissioned from above?  
Come, Holy Spirit, come!
2. The Spirit brought to birth the church of Christ on earth  
to seek and save the lost:  
God never has withdrawn, since that tremendous dawn,  
the gifts of Pentecost.

3. Only the Spirit's power can fit us for this hour:  
    come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Unite, instruct, inspire and fill us with your fire:  
    come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Fred Pratt Green, 1970; rev. 1994

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

**Come, Holy Spirit, into the midst of your people on this day of Pentecost. May the light of your heavenly wisdom guide us in all our worship and in all our life. Teach us with your gentle prodding to wonder at the glories of our heavenly Parent's world; teach us with your tender mercy to wonder at the mysteries of our Savior's grace; teach us with your unending love to wonder at the boundless compassion of our God. Do not let us live lives of self-deception, thinking that we alone of all humankind have no sin before you, but let us confess our faults from our hearts, trusting in the forgiveness you have promised us long ago. Let us begin this new week free and easy, cleansed by your gracious pardon and empowered to be the people of God in a hurting and disillusioned world. Amen**

**Words of Assurance**

**L:** As Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "According to the riches of God's glory, may God strengthen you in your inner being with power through God's Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."

**P:** **In the Spirit's power, and in Christ's love, and in our Heavenly Parent's mercy, we have found forgiveness and new life. May we use it well. Amen**

**\*Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988

Musical notation for the first line of the song. It is in 6/8 time and F major. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, C, F, and C7. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est, And on earth be

Musical notation for the second line of the song. It continues in 6/8 time and F major. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, C, and F. The lyrics are: "peace to all peo - ple, for God loves us all."

**The First Lesson**

Acts 2:1-21

**The Second Lesson**

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

**The Contemporary Lesson**     ***Biblical Authority After Babel: Retrieving the Solas in the Spirit of Mere Protestant Christianity***

**Kevin J. Vanhoozer**

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Something Got a Hold of Me  
*[Performed by Detroit Mass Choir]*

James Cleveland

**Sermon**

**God-bleddygook?**

Pastor Allan Lane

**Hymn of Reflection**

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life  
Melody from "Piae Cantiones," 1582

1. O Holy Spirit, Root of life, Creator, cleanser of all things,  
anoint our wounds, awaken us with lustrous movement of your wings.

2. Eternal Vigor, Saving One, you free us by your living Word,  
becoming flesh to wear our pain, and all creation is restored.

3. O Holy Wisdom, Soaring Pow'r, encompass us with wings unfurled,  
and carry us, encircling all, above, below, and through the world.

Jean Janzen 1991; based on writings by Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, 12th century

## ***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.**

## ***Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings***

### **The Invitation**

**The Spirit is calling us to share the resources which God has bestowed on us. In the Spirit's power, we can change the world. Let us present our gifts and offerings to God.**

### **Offertory**

#### **\*Offertory Hymn**

**We bring our gifts because we care,  
They are a part of what we share.**

**Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts. With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen**

#### **\* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

**It is hard to be the people you have called us to be, O God, but you help us to grow as the Spirit moves in our hearts. May these gifts go out with the Spirit's power and deliver life to those who need it. Amen**

## ***Going with God's Love***

### **\* Hymn of Departure**

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813

1. Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and blight;  
Holy Spirit, ever raising earthbound souls to glory high;  
Living, life-imparting Spirit; you we praise and magnify.
2. Holy Spirit, ever breathing on the church the breath of life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving through your people's ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:  
In our worship we will praise you for your fruit and gifts unpriced.
3. Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry--  
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul,  
In community unending you we worship and extol.  
Timothy Rees, 1922; alt.

**\*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

Acolyte

**\*Circle of Community - Caribbean melody**

As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (3 times) Hallelujah, Hallelujah.** 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

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 A D (above B, C, D), Bm (above E), and E (above D). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. 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 E7 (below E), and A (below D).

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

Hoe-down from *Rodeo*

Aaron Copland

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Michelle – friend of Ed & June Puwal, 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 worshiping with us today.

**SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM** - If you would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation over the summer months, please let Dave D know you're interested, and he will get you signed up. High school students are welcome to participate. We will continue prerecording our musical offerings as long as we're worshiping together via Zoom. If you sign up to sing or play your instrument, social distancing and face mask guidelines will be followed during recording per Gov. DeWine's recommendations. Dave can help you choose music and rehearse with you before recording. Feel free to contact him with any questions.

**HELLO TO ALL.** With the corona virus pandemic in force, I haven't been able to visit my usual hospice patients, and I have been sending cards once a week for them to enjoy. I have enough cards already made to send one more time so I am asking if any of you would like to make a donation of "used" cards for me to send.

I take the front of card off, repurpose it onto some card stock I have on hand and write a message on the back. I get a list of names from Heartland Hospice and I send them out. It's not quite the same as a visitation but I hope it brings a bit of joy to the patients since no visitors are allowed at this time.

If you have any I can put to good use, just give me a call and I will be happy to stop by and pick them up hanging on your front door. Thanks for helping in this ministry.

Jan Renovetz, 330-467-9357 (landline with ans machine) or cell 330-671-2322

## *Readings*

### **The First Lesson - Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

## **The Second Lesson - 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**The Contemporary Lesson - Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *Biblical Authority After Babel: Retrieving the Solas in the Spirit of Mere Protestant Christianity*  
(slightly modified for clarity and inclusive language)**

“It is well known that Pentecost reverses Babel. The people who built the tower of Babel sought to make a name, and a unity, for themselves. At Pentecost, God builds God’s temple, uniting people in Christ. Unity – interpretive agreement and mutual understanding – is, it would appear, something that only God can accomplish. And accomplish it God does, but not in the way we might have expected. Although onlookers thought that the believers who received the Spirit at Pentecost were babbling (Acts 2:13), in fact they were speaking intelligibly in several languages (Acts 2:8-11).

Note well: they were all saying the same thing (testifying about Jesus) in different languages. It takes a thousand tongues to say and sing our great Redeemer’s praise.

Protestantism evidences a Pentecostal plurality: the various Protestant streams testify to Jesus in their own vocabularies, and it takes many languages (i.e. interpretive traditions) to minister the meaning of God’s Word and the fullness of Christ. As the body is made up of many members, so many interpretations may be needed to do justice to the body of the biblical text. Why else are there four Gospels, but that the one story of Jesus was too rich to be told from one perspective only? Could it be that the various Protestant traditions function similarly as witnesses who testify to the same Jesus from different situations and perspectives?”

**MAY 31, 2020**

**Lay Reader:**

**Jim Duffy**

**Responder:**

**Jan Renovetz**

**JUNE 7, 2020**

**Lay Reader:**

**Jill Zedan**

**Responder:**

***A Note from the Mail***

**Hello to all, we never miss a day of praying for everyone at our Church, God Bless.**

**Love, Leroy & Moey Ford**