



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*

“There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.”

–Elie Wiesel

*Seek justice
love mercy
walk humbly
with your god*
MICAH 6:8

Sunday June 14th, 2020 • 10:00 AM

Second Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor

• Allan Lane

Director of Music

• David Debick

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

Ministers

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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

June 14th, 2020 –Second Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

“Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.”

–Cornell West

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Never Turning Back
[Judy Small, vocalist]

Humphries

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: God often uses a voice in the wilderness to call for justice.

People: A voice speaking to the heart of the people, calling forth repentance, calling forth a new world.

Leader: God speaks in the cry of the poor, in the pain of the oppressed, in the shout of those demanding justice.

People: God speaks in us when we add our voices to those demanding a better world.

Leader: God is not silent in the face of injustice.

People: God is still speaking! Let us worship God!

Hymn of Praise

Community of Christ

Trad. Hebrew melody, adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

1. Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race and every song.
2. Community of Christ, look past the church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

3. Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound--
cry out for justice and for peace the whole world 'round:
Disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.
Shirley Erena Murray, 1985

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

O God, you have called us to be people who hunger and thirst after righteousness. You have called us to stand up for the meek, to risk persecution for righteousness' sake, to expect people to persecute us and slander us when we insist on justice for all. But we whisper when we should shout, and we are easily filled with a taste of justice when others are starving because they can't find any justice at all. Forgive us, and give us strength to fight for justice for our neighbors, until justice rolls down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen

Words of Assurance

Leader: Paul wrote to Timothy, "But I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost of sinners, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life" (1 Timothy 1:16)

People: God's grace is sufficient for me and for you, for all of us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen

***Song of Praise**

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.

Two Prophets on Justice Micah 6:1-8, Amos 5:18-24

Contemporary Reading *Justice From A Million Centers* Robert F. Kennedy

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering What Does the Lord Require of You? Miller
[Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Encino, CA]

Sermon *Seeking Justice In An Unjust World* Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection Let Justice Flow like Streams
Aaron Williams' *New Universal Psalmist*, 1770

1. Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.

2. Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
An ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

3. So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.
Jane Parker Huber, 1984

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

God calls us to do justice in the world, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. Let us present our humble offerings to God with a love of justice and kindness in our hearts.

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]**

Receive these offerings, O God of justice and mercy, and use them make the world more like your dream for humanity. Amen

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

Smart

1. Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow in your way;
loud rings your cry for justice, your call for peace this day:
Through prayerful preparation, your grace will make us strong,
to carry on the struggle to triumph over wrong.

2. Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow not with fear,
for in each human conflict your words of strength we hear:
That when we serve with gladness, you will not let us fall,
our trust is in your promise that love will conquer all.

3. Lead on eternal Sovereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and all your saints together will sing a hymn of peace;
Then all in your dominion will live with hearts set free,
to love and serve each other for all eternity.

Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887; 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 melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The first staff has lyrics under the notes, and the second staff has lyrics under the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E on the first staff; A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A on the second staff.

Benediction

Postlude

Make Them Hear You (from *Ragtime*) Flaherty/Ahrens
Brian Stokes Mitchell, vocalist;

Let Freedom Ring Choir, Rev. Nolan Williams Jr., director

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Richelle Petras, Sheila Day – friend of the Sniders, 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

Two Prophets on Justice - Micah 6:1-8, Amos 5:18-24

Micah 6:1-8

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.
“Hear, you mountains, the LORD’s accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.
For the LORD has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.
“My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you? Answer me.
I brought you up out of Egypt
and redeemed you from the land of slavery.
I sent Moses to lead you,
also Aaron and Miriam.
My people, remember
what Balak king of Moab plotted
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”
With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow down before the exalted God?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who long
for the day of the LORD!
Why do you long for the day of the LORD?
That day will be darkness, not light.
It will be as though a man fled from a lion
only to meet a bear,
as though he entered his house
and rested his hand on the wall
only to have a snake bite him.
Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?
“I hate, I despise your religious festivals;
your assemblies are a stench to me.
Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.
Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.
Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.
But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Contemporary Reading - *Justice From A Million Centers*, Robert F. Kennedy

“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

—Robert F. Kennedy

JUNE 14, 2020

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Responder: Bridget Sproul

JUNE 21, 2020 – Father's Day

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Responder: Carol Miller