



# Brecksville

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# United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364  
*To be Loving, Serving, and Accepting Of All People with God's  
Life-changing Power and Grace*

***"I had crossed the line. I was free; but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land."***

**–Harriet Tubman, Ex-Enslaved Person, Underground Railroad Conductor, Hero**

ALL ARE  
WELCOME

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**Sunday June 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2020 • 10:00 AM**  
**Third Sunday After Pentecost/Father's Day**

*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.***

Whether you are single, married, divorced, separated,  
or partnered,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your race, ethnicity, or age,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your gender identity or sexual orientation,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your religious background, creed, or spirituality,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your social or economic circumstances,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your health conditions, impairments, or mobility needs,

***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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)***

## June 21st, 2020 –Third Sunday After Pentecost/Father’s Day

### Meditation Music

“Nineteen centuries would have been worth very little if we had not made some advance in welcoming the stranger, in feeding the hungry, in clothing the naked, and in caring for the prisoner.”

–Edward Everett Hale, Author, Historian, Minister

### ***Gathering in God’s Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**                      Lean On (from their album *Peace Is the Mission*)                      Major Lazer  
*Four Play clarinet: Dwayne Burrell, Gaby Castro, Claire Grellier, Rani Oliveira*

### **Bearing the Light of Peace**

### **Bearing the Light of Christ**

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

Leader: God calls us to welcome all who come to us, native and foreigner alike.

**People: Jesus embraces all who believe in him, all who want to explore what it means to believe in him, all who have their doubts, but want to check him out. All are welcome here.**

Leader: God’s Law says, “The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God. (Leviticus 19:34)

**People: As God has welcomed us, so we throw out arms open to welcome others.**

Leader: Jesus said, “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me.

**People: We welcome everyone in the name of Christ! Come, let us worship the God who welcomes us all home!**

### **Hymn of Praise**

Rising in Darkness

*La Feillée's Méthode de plain-chant, 1782*

1. Rising in darkness, let us all keep watching,  
let psalms provide our source of meditation;  
And sing with all our strength; hymns of adoration  
to our Creator bring.

2. As we might praises bring a holy ruler,  
so may we sing, your heavenly courts to enter,  
There with the saints to join, now and ever after,  
blessings on us confer.

3. Grant, O blessed Godhead, this our prayer at dawning,  
that we reflect the goodness of your presence;  
Your beauty shines, O Light, O Sun, O Radiance,  
glory re-echoing.

Attrib. to Gregory the Great (540-604); transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

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

You, O God, are the one who welcomes all who are unwelcome. You embrace those whom society has excluded. You celebrate those whom society denigrates. You see the full humanity of those whom society dehumanizes. No one is a stranger to you, for all are made in your image; no one is unworthy of your love, for all have value in your sight. Forgive us when we have been part of excluding or denigrating or dehumanizing anyone, either by what we ourselves have said or done, or by our failure to speak up to stop others from doing it. Open our arms to others as you have opened your arms to us in Christ. Amen

### Words of Assurance

Leader: The Apostle Paul wrote to Titus: "When the kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. ... Having been justified by his grace, we have the hope of eternal life."

**People: Thanks be to God for the good news of the gospel! In it we have forgiveness, and in it we have eternal life! 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.

## **Three Scriptures**

**Genesis 18:1-8**

**Genesis 18:16-33**

**Genesis 19:1-13**

## **Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Follow You Cash/J. Mooring/L. Mooring  
*[Leeland Mooring & Brandon Heath, vocalists]*

**Sermon**

***Welcoming Strangers***

Pastor Allan Lane

**Hymn of Reflection**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love  
Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969

***Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

1. Knelt at the feet of his friends, silently washing their feet,  
Jesu, you acted as servant to them.
2. Neighbors are rich and poor, varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near and far away.
3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you. (repeat Refrain)

## ***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 Apostle Paul wrote, "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you, through his poverty, might become rich." Let us respond to Christ's grace with a portion of what God has given us. Let us present our 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]**

**We have received many gifts from you, O God, and so now we return these gifts to you, so that they may be a blessing to others. Receive them with our thanksgiving. Amen.**

***Holy Communion***

**The Thanksgiving**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**The Invitation**

**Receiving the Bread and Cup**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

You welcome us to the table as strangers, O Christ, and we arise from it as friends of you, and of each other, though the sharing of the bread and the wine. At your table, all are welcome. Amen

## Going with God's Love

\* Hymn of Departure      In Christ There Is No East or West  
African American melody, arr. Burleigh

1. In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;  
But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.
2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
God's service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.
3. In Christ is neither Jew or Greek, and neither slave nor free;  
For men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.  
John Oxenham, 1908 (alt.); St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987

\*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

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Halle, Halle, Hallelujah'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has the lyrics: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. The second staff has the lyrics: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Chords are indicated above and below the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A.

Benediction

Postlude

River Flows in You

Yiruma

[Mykyte Sierov, oboe; Jessyca Flemming, harp]

**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.

## ***Readings***

### **Genesis 18:1-8**

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

### **Genesis 18:16-33**

Then the men set out from there, and they looked toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to set them on their way. The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice; so that the LORD may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him." Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."

Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

### **Genesis 19:1-13**

The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and bowed down with his face to the ground. He said, "Please, my lords, turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you can rise early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the square." But he urged them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house; and they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, so that we may know them." Lot went out of the door to the men, shut the door after him, and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Look, I have two daughters who have not known a man; let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please; only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof." But they replied, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came here as an alien, and he would play the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near the door to break it down. But the men inside reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. And they struck with blindness the men who were at the door of the house, both small and great, so that they were unable to find the door.

Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city—bring them out of the place. For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”

**JUNE 21, 2020 – Father’s Day**

**Lay Reader: Jim Duffy**  
**Responder: Carol Miller**

**JUNE 28, 2020**

**Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson**  
**Responder: Susan Snyder**