



Brecksville

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*

"It's not unpatriotic to denounce an injustice committed on our behalf. Perhaps it's the most patriotic thing we can do."

***–E. A. Bucchianeri
Brushstrokes of a Gadfly***



Sunday July 7th, 2020 • 10:00 am
Fifth 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.

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.: 8:00 - 12:00

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

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

July 7th, 2020 –Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

“There are thousands who are *in opinion* opposed to slavery and to the war, who yet in effect do nothing to put an end to them; who, esteeming themselves children of Washington and Franklin, sit down with their hands in their pockets, and say that they know not what to do, and do nothing...”

–Henry David Thoreau, *Civil Disobedience and Other Essays*

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Down to the River to Pray Traditional American song
[Alison Krauss, vocalist]

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: We are not meant to live alone, but to live in the presence of the living God.

People: We belong with God in life and death, and every time in between.

Leader: In Christ, God has come to be with us, so that one day, we shall go to be with God.

People: God is our destiny, and to be with God is to be at home.

Leader: Though the future is an unknown country, our citizenship is there, for it is God's country.

People: With great thankfulness for all that God has done for us, let us open our hearts in worship. Amen

Hymn of Praise

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hughes

1. God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2. From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways,
from the fears that long have bound us--free our hearts for faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

4. Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be armored with all Christlike graces, in the fight to set us free.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, in the quest for liberty,
in the quest for liberty.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

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

O God, you call us to prepare ourselves for a new world and a new time, when our heavenly citizenship is made clear in your coming reign. Help us to practice justice so that we will feel at home in a world of justice. Help us to judge others with mercy, so that we will learn to treasure mercy for ourselves. Help us to live in love, so that we will not be overwhelmed by your love. Where we have made mistakes, fallen short, or hurt others, we ask for your forgiveness, O God.

Words of Assurance

Leader: No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says Yahweh; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.(Jeremiah 31:34)

People: We are remembered, and our sin is forgotten. Thanks be to God for the chance to put down our burden and live. 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.

The Old Testament

Ruth 1: 1-18

Contemporary Reading *The Hare With Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss*, Edmund de Waal,

The New Testament

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Peace in the Valley
[David Pastor, bass]

Dorsey

Sermon

Citizenship

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection

The Church's One Foundation

Wesley

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;
we are Christ's new creation by water and the word;
From heav'n Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
with precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.

2. Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
one charter of salvation, one God, one faith, one birth,
One name together blessing, one holy food we share,
to one hope we are pressing, at one in work and prayer.

3. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious, our longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
Samuel J. Stone, 1866; 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.**

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

We are all part of many communities: the community of Brecksville; the community of our nation; the community of the world; the community of faith. Let us present our gifts to God as part of each community for the life of every community.

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 give you these gifts as part of our offering, O God, but we also offer ourselves to be your hands and heart in the world. Amen

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

Baker

1. Jesus, the joy of loving hearts, fount of our lives, and light of all:
From every bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

3. We taste of you, the living bread, and long to feast upon you still;
We drink of you, the fountainhead; our thirsty souls from you we fill.

5. O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments calm and bright!
Oh, chase the cloud of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.
Attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux, c. 1150; transl. Ray Palmer, 1858; alt.

The Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

The bread is from many grains, the wine from many grapes, but together they form one loaf, one cup, one body and blood of Christ through the Spirit's presence. We are from many nations, many places, but together we are one people, the body of Christ. Thanks be to God, who brings disparate things into harmony. Amen

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

This Is My Song

Sibelius

1. This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

Lloyd Stone, 1934

*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 simple and repetitive. The first staff has lyrics: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. The second staff has 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, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A.

Benediction

Postlude

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory--Improvisation

United States camp-meeting tune, 19th

[Dave Debick, organ]

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Jill Black, 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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;

where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.
Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.
May the LORD do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!”

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Contemporary *The Hare With Amber Eyes: A Family's Century of Art and Loss*, –Edmund de Waal

“It makes me wonder what belonging to a place means. Charles died a Russian in Paris. Viktor called it wrong and was a Russian in Vienna for fifty years, then Austrian, then a citizen of the Reich, and then stateless. Elisabeth kept Dutch citizenship in England for fifty years. And Iggie was Austrian, then American, then an Austrian living in Japan. You assimilate, but you need somewhere else to go. You keep your passport to hand. You keep something private.”.

The New Testament - Philippians 3:17- 4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

JULY 5, 2020

Lay Reader:

Responder:

Jim Duffy

Jon Thompson

JULY 12, 2020

Lay Reader:

Responder:

Diane Gressley

Kathy Smith