

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

"We want to bring the presence of God to the people, but forget in the process that only God is able to do that." -Sunday Adelaja



Sunday August 16th, 2020 • 10:00 AM **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor •Allan Lane Director of Music Financial Secretary

David Debick

• 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 - web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

August 16th, 2020 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation Music

"Signs must be read with caution. The history of Christendom is replete with instances of people who misread the signs."

-Sheldon Vanauken, A Severe Mercy: A Story of Faith, Tragedy, and Triumph

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude

Wayfaring Stranger Old American folk tune [Hayde Bluegrass Orchestra, Alison Kraus, vocalist]

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Your hand, O God, has guided us on the journey of faith to this point. People: You have brought us here as your people, sometimes through the wilderness, sometimes into glory.

Leader: Each life tells a story of faith: a hanging on and an exultant cry, a dropped head

in despair and prayer, a raised face in wonder and admiration.

People: In our tears there is still hope; in our laughter is unbridled joy in God's presence.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Hymn of Praise

Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Gläser

- 1. Come, let us join with faithful souls our song of faith to raise; One family in heart are we, and one the God we praise.
- 2. Faithful are all who love the truth and perfect truth proclaim, Who steadfast stand at God's right hand and glorify God's name.
- 3. And faithful are the gentle hearts to whom the power is given Of every hearth to make a home, of every home a heaven.

 William G. Tarrant, 1892; alt

* Prayer of Approach and Confession [Unison]

Don't let love pass us by, O God, but take our hand and lead us into your presence. We rush through life so quickly, and we miss so much from you because we aren't paying attention. Slow us down, and don't let our lives fly by without getting to know you. Keep us from diving headlong and heedlessly into actions and attitudes that drive you away. And when we do, come back to us so that we can come back to you. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

Words of Assurance

Leader: The sin which burdened you has been lifted by Christ. The past which weighed you down as been dissolved by a new future with God. For freedom Christ has set you free, so now live free from sin and guilt in Christ's name.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen

* The Song of Praise



God Is Still Speaking

Lessons are contained in the sermon, which is based on Genesis 37-50, the story of Joseph

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

It Is Well with My Soul [Kate Lane, cello]

Bliss

Sermon

Interview with Joseph

Pastor Allan Lane and Kate Lane

Adapt. from a Welsh ballad

- We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears for all of the fam'lies we've known through the years, The intimate networks on whom we depend of parents and partners and children and friends.
- 3. Through fam'lies we've tasted the value of trust and felt what it means to be loving and just, Yet fam'lies have also betrayed their best goals, mistreating their members and bruising their souls.
- 4. Help fam'lies in all of their various forms to face with integrity struggles and storms; Grant peace to our homes that will nurture the bud of peace for the fam'lies you made from one blood. Thomas H. Troeger, 1988

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

Leader: In all the ups and downs of life, God is with us. God has worked through many others to offer us the help we need. Let us now make our offerings to God, so that through us, God presence will be made known to others.

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]

O God of our destiny, God of our history, God of our present, accept these gifts and offerings as tokens of our commitment to you in every time of our lives. Amen

Holy Communion

The Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

In times of trouble and in times of joy, you are with us, O God, making your presence felt through the bread and the wine in the Spirit. With gratitude for what we have received, we offer you our thanks. Amen

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

There's a Spirit in the Air

Medieval French melody

- There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
 "Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world."
- 3. When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed: Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

4. Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.

Brian Wren, 1969; rev. 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



Benediction

Postlude

"Summer" from Four Seasons [Trans-Siberian Art Festival 2017 Chamber Orchestra, Giuliano Carmignola, conductor & solo violinist] Vivaldi

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Curt Bailey, Sheila Day – friend of the Sniders, Bob R, and Julie J. Friends of Ed & June Puwal, Max Roha, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), 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

Lessons are contained in the Sermon, which is based on Genesis 37-50, the story of Joseph

AUGUST 16, 2020

Lay Reader: Jon Thompson Responder: Sherrill Witt

AUGUST 23, 2020

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert Responder: Leroy Ford