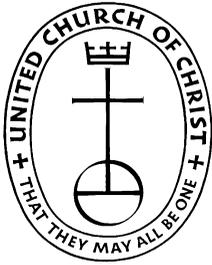


Brecksville



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 hear your Spirit calling our name. As long as we know you're with us, we know you'll give us the grace that we need."

-Bryan Sirchio



Sunday August 23rd, 2020 • 10:00 AM

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor

• Allan Lane

Director of Music

• David Debick

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

Ministers

All of our Members

Office Manager – Anne Melfo

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 30th, 2020 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Prelude in C Minor "pour le luth"
David Taylor, archlute

J. S. Bach

We are Bearing the Light of Peace

We are Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship (from Psalm 95)**

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

Leader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great Ruler above all gods.

People: In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God's also.

Leader: The sea is God's, for God made it, and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

People: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

Leader: O that today you would listen to God's voice!

People: For the Almighty is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

*** Hymn of Praise** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy Dutch melody, arr. Röntgen

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There's no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven;
there's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.

2. For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;
and our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

(Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.)

* Prayer of Approach and Confession

Leader: All-powerful and all-knowing God, you see the parts of us that we most desperately try to conceal, even from ourselves. We spend much time and energy hiding in the shadowlands of denial, mistrust, fear and pettiness. Bring us into the light of Your love! Help us to heed Your call, to listen more closely to Your voice -- whether You speak to us from the beauty of nature, the wisdom of friends, the circumstances of the world around us, or the silence of prayer and meditation. Forgive the wrongs we have committed. Lead us always, in all things, to You. Amen.

Words of Assurance

People: Heavenly Parent, origin of all that is divine, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair, in You is calmness, peace and concord. Heal what divides us from one another and bring us back into the unity of love, bearing some likeness to Your divine nature. Through the embrace of love and the bonds of godly affection, make us one in the Spirit by that peace of Yours that makes all things peaceful. We ask this through the grace, mercy and tenderness of Your only begotten Son, Jesus, Christ our Lord. Amen.

* The 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.

Old Testament

Exodus 3: 1-15

New Testament

Romans 12:9-21

Contemporary Reading

from The Catcher in the Rye

J. D. Salinger

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Blessed Assurance
Jan Renovetz & Dave Debick, vocalists

Knapp

Sermon

The Call You Can't Ignore

Robert Burt

Hymn of Reflection

Jesus--The Very Thought to Me

Dykes

1. Jesus--the very thought to me with sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far your face to see, and in your presence rest.

3. O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
How kind you are to those apart, how good to those who seek!

5. Jesus, our joy, our greatest bliss, and you our prize will be;
Our glory here and now is this, and through eternity.
(Latin, possibly 12th century; trans. Edward B. Caswall, 1849; 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.

Organ Response

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

God, you bless us each day with gifts too numerous to count. Help us to treasure our families and friends, the water that sustains all life, the air we breathe and the food we eat. Receive now our offerings, which make possible the work of Your Church in the world. Help us to become wise and trustworthy stewards of these gifts. Amen.

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]**

God of the universe and beyond, we dedicate ourselves to the coming of Your reign. Like Moses, send us forth to liberate the captives. Help us to open the eyes of the blind, the ears of the deaf, to feed the hungry and show hospitality to all who seek it. We are Yours, now and always. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian African American spiritual,
arr. J. F. Johnson

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Refrain: In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Refrain: In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

4. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Refrain: In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

***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.' with chords A, E, A, D, Bm, E written above. The second staff has the same lyrics and chords A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A written below.

Benediction

Postlude

Toccata for Brass Quartet and Organ

Stamm

[Ramsøe-Quartet: Dominik Stegemann & Michael Althoff: trumpets,
Holger Hansen: tenor trombone, Martin Jannasch: bass trombone; H. A. Stamm: organ]

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Joanne Cook, 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 Robert “Bobby” Burt, who is filling in for Pastor Allan, who’s on vacation. Bobby is a Massillon native and a lifetime member of the Meyers United Church of Christ. For most of his life, he’s been involved in the Heartland Conference’s Outdoor Ministries – starting at the age of 4 as a camper, and continuing in the present as a Co-director of the MMADD (Music, Mime, Art, Drama, and Dance) Camp. Bobby is attending his second year at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary (PCUSA), and before he started on the path to ordination, he was pursuing a career as a professional opera singer. We are sincerely grateful to him for sharing his time and message with us today!

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping with us today!

Readings

Old Testament Reading - Exodus 3: 1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I

Old Testament Reading - Exodus 3: 1-15 (continued)

have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.”

New Testament Reading - Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink"...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Contemporary Reading – from The Catcher in the Rye, by J. D. Salinger

“Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around - nobody big, I mean - except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff - I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That's all I do all day. I'd just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it's crazy, but that's the only thing I'd really like to be.”

AUGUST 30, 2020

Lay Reader: Betsey Wilson
Respondent: Sue Stenzel

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Respondent: