



# 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*

*"Faith never  
knows where it  
is being led,  
but it loves  
and knows the  
One who is  
leading."*

**—Oswald  
Chambers**



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**Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 • 10:00 AM**

**Tenth 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.: 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)***

# August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

## Meditation Music

“Only in a world where faith is difficult can faith exist.”

–Peter Kreeft

## ***Gathering in God's Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Sing Gently

Whitacre

*[Sung by virtual choir of 17,000+ voices from 129 countries]*

**Bearing the Light of Peace**  
**Bearing the Light of Christ**

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

Leader: A small child will be hesitant to go into a dark room she's never been in before. But if she hears her mother's voice calling from the room for her to come in, she gathers up her courage and perhaps even runs into the darkness.

**People: The unknown future lies ahead of us in darkness. We've never been there before, and it may scare us. We don't know what lies ahead. But we gather up our courage and forge boldly into the darkness because we know Who lies ahead.**

Leader: God calls us to step out for faith, to try to do more than we think we can.

**People: God calls us into worship to give us the courage to do what is necessary. Let us worship God! Amen**

### **\* Hymn of Praise**

How Firm a Foundation

Early U. S. melody, from Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832

1. How firm a foundation for you has been laid,  
by God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!  
What more can God say than to you has been said,  
to you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand  
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand."

3. "When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
 the rivers of woe shall not over you flow;  
 For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
 delivering you from your deepest distress."  
 "K" in John Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787; alt.

**\* Prayer of Approach and Confession**

[from Tony Peterson, *The Africana Worship Book*, based on today's lesson from Matthew]

**Leader:** Lord, if it's you, we need to hear from you: when we are alone; when we go away to pray; when we have little faith; when we are battered by the waves; when the wind is against us; when we get in the boat; when we're terrified by our ghosts; when we seek you on the mountain; when we cry out in fear; when we start walking on water; when we begin to sink; when we are far from land. Amen

**Words of Assurance**

**People:** Lord, if it's you, speak to us; calm our fears; calm our storms; strengthen our resolve; remind us who you are; walk to us; call to us; save us; reach out your hand and catch us; quiet the wind around us. Lord, if it's you, we worship you, for "Truly, you are the Son of God." 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 Reading**

Psalm 85:8-13

**Contemporary Reading**

*Creation And Impulse*

**Riitta Klint**

**New Testament**

Matthew 14:22-33



## ***Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings***

### **The Invitation**

**You call us to step out of the boat, and to come to you, O Jesus, the walker on the waves. Let us present our gifts with courage and boldness, with faith that you will be there to lift us up.**

### **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]**

**In the midst of the wind, with our feet in the waves, we present these offerings to you, O God. May they go forth to bring a helping hand to those who are sinking.  
Amen**

## ***Going with God's Love***

### **\* Hymn of Departure**

**Savior, Again to Your Dear Name**

**Hopkins**

**1. Savior, again to your dear name we raise  
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
We join to bless you ere our worship cease,  
then, in the silence, wait your word of peace.**

**4. Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,  
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;  
Then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
call us, O God, to your eternal peace.**

**John Ellerton, 1866; 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.

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

Hornpipe from *Water Music*

Handel

[FestspielOrchester Göttingen, Laurence Cummings, director]

**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.

**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***

### **Old Testament Reading - Psalm 85: 8-13**

[Inclusivized: Psalm 85 <sup>8</sup>Let me hear what Yahweh God will speak, for God will speak peace to God's people, to God's faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts. <sup>9</sup>Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear God, that God's glory may dwell in our land. <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness will look down from the sky. <sup>12</sup>Yahweh will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. <sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before God, and will make a path for God's steps.

### **Contemporary Reading – Riitta Klint (Contemporary Painter), *Creation and Impulse***

“Creation is often a destructive act, in the sense that in order to evolve, we sometimes have to destroy what has become like sitting in traffic waiting for the world's slowest train to go by. Once past that, the angst fades and the ideas come in like a fresh breeze through an open car window. It feels like a trip with no particular destination, just impulsive turns onto unfamiliar roads, full of excitement and anticipation of discovery. If every now and then we can let go and trust the road we are on, the rewards can be endless. Live, trust, drive.”

### **New Testament - Matthew 14:22-33**

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

<sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” <sup>29</sup> He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

<sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

**AUGUST 9, 2020**

**Lay Reader: David Ritchey**  
**Responder: Betsey Wilson**

**AUGUST 16, 2020**

**Lay Reader: Jon Thompson**  
**Responder: Sherrill Witt**