

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

November 8th, 2020

“The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.” –G. K. Chesterton

Announcements

WELCOME to all guests or visitors worshipping with us today in this Zoom format! We are doing everything we can to keep the service open to all, yet secure. In the eventuality of a disruption of the service, we will email information on how to re-enter the service with a password.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - We encourage you to share this service with your children, as well as take part in the virtual activities with Ms. Mindy at 9:30 (1/2 hour before every service). The link for this can be found in the email you may have received, on our Facebook page and/or on our church website:

<https://brecksvilleucc.orghttps://brecksvilleucc.org/services/childrens-time-online/>

THE PASTOR IS IN – Pastor Allan would like to remind folks that he’s available every Tuesday, between 11 am and noon. You can contact him either by mail, email or phone (feel free to call either the church or his cell phone directly). You can also catch him online, by clicking on the same Zoom link that we use for Sunday services. He’d love to hear from you! Here’s his contact information:

- BUCC address: **23 Public Square, Brecksville OH 44141**
- Email: **buccpastor@sbcglobal.net**
- BUCC Office phone: **(440) 526-4364**
- Pastor Allan’s cell phone: **(513) 417-1537**
- Zoom link: **https://zoom.us/j/4780705901**

THE MITTEN TREE RETURNS! The Mitten Tree is set up in the lower lobby of the church (inside the back door). It would be wonderful if its magical branches could be replenished again this year for our neighbors in need! You are welcome to bring in any new/gently-used (or newly-created!) hats, mittens, gloves and scarves, which will find new homes when we provide hunger meals. The back doors will be open during regular church hours, for those who are able to deliver their items. If you have a contribution but are unable to stop by the church, please reach out to **Kate Klonowski** at **(216) 534-3498** or **keightykay@gmail.com**, to arrange for a pickup.

*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!*

Announcements (continued)

SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAY begins this month! **Elizabeth Gadus** is starting a campaign to collect socks for the homeless. She will distribute the socks on the last Sunday of every month, hereby referred to as "Sock It To Me Sunday" until further notice. Although her primary target is St. Herman's, she'll also be on the lookout for other shelters in need. Your donations can be placed in the brown quilted bag, located on the bench inside the back entrance. Interested persons may contact Elizabeth by phone call or text at **440-319-6384**, or by email at **elizgadus@gmail.com**. Please take this opportunity to share during this giving season, and thank you in advance!

LITTLE FREE ANTI-RACIST LIBRARY- Don't forget to check out the cover of this month's *Brecksville Magazine*! If you don't receive this publication, you can find it online at:

<http://www.scriptype.com/2020/10/19/november-2020-brecksville-magazine/>

The library's inventory is still low at the moment, so if you're able to donate a book (or more!), please consider it. You can do so either through Gina, online via Amazon, or just drop one directly into the mailbox (please alert Gina so she can ID and add the book to her catalog). The wish list can be found on amazon.com - you can either search the wish list for "Anti-racist Free Little Library of Brecksville", or access it through this link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/36F1K25B5001N?ref_=wl_share

Gina is happy to answer any questions you may have - please feel free to contact her at **ginamthomas@gmail.com**.

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB - The book club has started on it's second selection, *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*, by David Wallace-Wells. The theme of this book is environmental stewardship. The next meeting is set for Thursday, November 12th at 7:00 pm, via Zoom (the same codes we use for church services). We will cover Part 2: Elements of Chaos: Hot Death - Freshwater Drain (pp. 43-102). Please feel free to contact **Kate Klonowski** at **(216) 534-3498** or **keightykay@gmail.com** with any questions!

AUTUMN MUSIC INVITATION* - Because of ongoing precautions due to COVID-19, our choirs and instrumental groups will continue to refrain from rehearsing and presenting music. Therefore, the opportunity for volunteers to sing or play instruments for our musical offerings remains available! If you'd like to share your musical gifts with the congregation during our on-line services, please let Dave D. know -- he is glad to help you find music and rehearse before recording. Dave can be reached either by email at buccmusic@sbcglobal.net, or by phone at 216-408-7949. High school students are welcome to participate!

***NOTE: Social distancing is practiced and masks are worn during these rehearsal/recording sessions.**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Christian Education is checking in to see who would be interested in a virtual Adult Bible Study while the church building remains closed (or even after reopening)! Please weigh in with your responses here: <https://rb.gy/ywjarw> - type this web address in the top bar of your internet browser, fill out the response form, and your answers will be automatically sent to Kate! If you have any questions, please reach out to CE Chair Kate Klonowski at (216) 534-3498 or keightykay@gmail.com.

Announcements (continued)

BUCC MASKS - If you would like your very own “still speaking” mask, please contact Kate Klonowski at 216-534-3498 or email at keightykay@gmail.com and she will mail or deliver (contact-free) one to you! Suggested donation \$10 (proceeds go toward the BUCC general fund).

WEEKLY COLLECTION is still happening! Please don't forget to send in your pledges to the church by mail or (preferably) PayPal! Check out **[BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving](https://www.brecksvilleucc.org/giving)** for more info.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! If you would like to be the Zoom Host or the Slide Runner, (both very easy and done from the comfort of your own home!), please reach out to Heidi Spangler at heidi@heidihoonthego.com. We'd love to teach you.

COFFEE HOUR! After the service, we welcome all attendees to stay on Zoom to enjoy some time and fellowship with each other. Brew your favorite fairly-traded coffee or tea and a snack and catch up with friends!

*Many thanks for all the donations of time,
money, and talent that you provide to the
Church!*

Gathering in God's Presence

Meditation: "We can't have moral obligations to every single person in this world. We have moral obligations to those who we come up against, who enter into our moral space, so to speak. That means neighbors, people we deal with, and so on."

–Alexander McCall Smith, The Sunday Philosophy Club

Prelude: *Ubi Caritas (Where Charity and Love Are)*

Gregorian melody

Audrey Assad, vocalist

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_Pp0jKn1zQ

Call to Worship

Leader(Leroy): Day and night the cherubim and seraphim adore God in the heavenly places.

People (Linda): Let us join their chorus of worship with our own praises for God.

Leader: God calls us into worship to empower us to go back out into the world to serve our neighbors.

People: The church is a charging station for good deeds, to renew us and refresh us to be Christ in the world to all whom we meet.

Leader: May our prayers and our praise strengthen our faith in the One who calls us and sends us.
Let us worship God!

Hymn of Praise: *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Gläser

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories ever echoing the triumphs of God's grace!
2. My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.
3. Jesus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
Is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
(Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.)

Prayer of Approach & Confession

(Based on Psalm 90)

People (Linda): O Gracious God of love, You are the one who has gone beyond where we would go to show love to the world, love to our ancestors, love to us. You call on us to love others with the same love we have received from You, yet we find that hard. Our hearts and souls and strength and minds are often otherwise occupied and do not find time to love either You or our neighbor. Change our hearts to be more like Your heart. Forgive us our pale shadow of love with the searchlight of Your love. We ask it in the name of Christ. Amen

Words of Assurance

Leader (Leroy): The Apostle John wrote in his first letter: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

People (Linda): But John continued: "If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." We have confessed our sins to God, and so our sins are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen

Song of Praise:

Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!
 Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!
 And on earth be peace to all people, with whom God is pleased.
 And on earth be peace to all people, with whom God is pleased.

Readings

Gospel Lesson I

Luke 10: 25-28

The Greatest Commandments

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

Gospel Lesson II

Luke 10: 29-37

But Who Is My Neighbor?

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’ Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Contemporary Lesson

Margaret Mead

“Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.”

Based on Matthew 22:37-38

Woven throughout the entire Bible, there are stories that compel us over and over to Love our Neighbor. The Gospel of Matthew tells us that the greatest commandment of all is “Love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” To this, Jesus added a second, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

“The Love of Neighbor” by Pat Rehm

Musical Offering **That's How You Change the World** Newsboys
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kc8mtV-nQwM>

Sermon: **Stewardship As Love Of Neighbor** Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection: **Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**
Ghanaian folk song, adapt. Colvin

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.
4. Loving puts us on our knees, showing our faith by our deeds,
serving the neighbors we have from you. **REFRAIN**
(Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994)

The Church at Prayer

All family and friends of the following: **Curt Bailey, Pat Bailey, Jill Black, Paul Klonowski, Dennis Lane, Rudy Lornezo, Phyllis Molnar, Bob & Jean Murphy, George Pastor, Richelle Petras, Don Seager, Kathleen Unetic and Alice Vargo.** David Pastor, Elizabeth Gadus, Phyllis Hassler, Joanne Cook, Sheila Day (friend of the Sniders), Joanne K. and Jim C. (friends of Ed & June Puwal), Max Roha, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (niece of Linda Smith), Stan McCain, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Leroy 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.)

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:

Leader (Leroy): Let us give so that our neighbors know that we care. Let us give so that the church will continue to stand as a witness for justice in our neighborhood. Let us give so that we may love our neighbors as ourselves..

BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving

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:

People (Linda): Who is my neighbor? My neighbor is the one in need. O loving God, use our gifts to fill the needs of many neighbors. Amen

Hymn of Departure: *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* African American spiritual

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.

Going With God's Love**Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World:**

Circle of Community

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:*****With All My Heart***

Sechrest

Dale Sechrest, vocalist

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzaYC6eyKqI>

Special Thanks

November 8, 2020

Lay Reader	Leroy Ford
Responder	Linda Kriynovich
CE	Mindy Wade
Slide Runner	Kate Klonowski
Zoom Host	Heidi Spangler

November 15, 2020

Lay Reader	Carol Miller
Responder	Pat Rehm
CE	Mindy Wade
Slide Runner	Kate Klonowski
Zoom Host	Heidi Spangler

Thank You for Joining Us!

