

April 25th, 2021  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/  
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**

*“Parenthood...  
It’s about guiding the next generation,  
and forgiving the last.”*

–Peter Krause (**Parenthood**)

**Announcements**

**WELCOME** to all guests or visitors worshiping 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.org/services/childrens-time-online/>

**COVID VACCINE:** If you are eligible for a COVID vaccine and want to be vaccinated, but are struggling to secure an appointment, you can contact **Evie Novak** at **440-479-9743**, **Nancy Stella** at **440-724-3101**, and **Kim Wallis** at **440-655-7267** for assistance.

**AS WE LOOK TO RE-OPEN -- AND MORE!** There have been some great ideas for additional special services, and the Spiritual Life committee is all for it! However, we are a very small group right now, and we’d need more hands to implement your ideas. Currently, we need readers, ushers, and general helpers with setting up before and cleaning up after services. For special services like Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, we provide soup, the setup/cleanup crew and servers. We purchase palms, juice, wine, bread and anything else needed to ensure that services run smoothly. If there is any aspect of this type of activity that you are willing and able to do, we could really use your help! Please reach out to **Sue Maier** at [Eyerienne@aol.com](mailto:Eyerienne@aol.com), or **Betsey Wilson** at [betseywilson10@gmail.com](mailto:betseywilson10@gmail.com), so we can talk about how you can participate in this ministry. Help us make 2021 the year that we come back stronger and better than ever!

***We are an Open and Affirming  
Congregation, welcoming all of God's  
children.***

Whether you are single, married, divorced,  
separated,  
or partnered,  
***ou 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)

**OCWM** - Once again we are collecting donations for Edna House - a place for women to recover from drug and alcohol addiction, learn life skills and maintain a lifetime of sobriety. You may make monetary donations either through BUCC (if by check, be sure to include "Edna House" in the memo), or directly through their donate links, on their webpage: <https://ednahouse.org/donate> .

If you wish to donate specific items\*, please see the list below (by priority):

- ★ ▪ Women's clothing and shoes (clean and in season please)
- ★ ▪ Canned food, condiments, and non perishable snacks, coffee, creamer and sugar
- Big Books (Alcoholics Anonymous) and 12 x 12 Books (no paperback novels, please)
- Cleaning products such as Murphy's Oil Soap, floor cleaner, bathroom cleaner, bleach, sponges, spray bottles, mops, and large black garbage bags
- Paper towels, toilet paper, and tampons
- Gift Cards, Bus Passes, Postage Stamps
- Flash drives, resume and copier paper (for Job Development)

**\*PLEASE NOTE: They do not mend, repair, or launder donations. They cannot accept donations of luggage, bedding or furniture.**

Items may be brought to the church and left inside the back doors with a note (contact **Anne** at **330-635-2106** to unlock doors), or you can arrange a pickup through **Kate Klonowski**, by calling/texting **(216) 534-3498**, or by email at [keightykay@gmail.com](mailto:keightykay@gmail.com). Physical donations will be delivered the week following Mother's Day (May 9th) -- Thank you in advance for your kind generosity!

**SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB:** Book Club will NOT be meeting next Thursday, April 29th. We will reconvene the following Thursday (May 6th), at 7:00 pm. For chapter assignments, please contact Kate **Klonowski** at **(216) 534-3498** or email [keightykay@gmail.com](mailto:keightykay@gmail.com). All are very welcome!

**YOUR VIDEOS:** The Stewardship committee is looking for anyone who wants to contribute a "Mission Moment Movie Minute" for our virtual church services. A 30-60 second video clip of anything related to mission, stewardship, giving or receiving. Make a quick video of something wonderful that someone has done for you or the community. Have your kids make a mini-movie of themselves helping a neighbor or picking up trash in the neighborhood. Or just tell us why you love the BUCC! Send it in to the church email ([buccoh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net)), and we'll put it in an upcoming virtual service – thanks in advance!

**LENTEN FUNDRAISER** – The CE kids' Lenten project (handpainted/colored key chains) will be available during **THIS** week's "Still Speaking Events" (details in next Annoucement). All donations will go to the Cleveland Foodbank. If you're interested in supporting this effort, but not able to attend a parking lot meeting, call **Anne** at **440-526-4364** to make other arrangements. Our kids have been working on these since February, so please consider supporting their fundraiser - thank you!

## **Announcements** (continued)

**STILL SPEAKING EVENTS\*** - Weather permitting, we will have parking lot meetings at the church again this week – they are scheduled for Tuesday (4/27) at 10am, and Thursday (4/29) at 5pm. This is a chance for members and guests to safely share time together.

**\*NOTE:** All are welcome to join us and follow the guidelines below for a safe but enjoyable event:

- Masks are required for participation.
- Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket for seating.
- You may bring a beverage or snack, but please no sharing with other households.
- Restrooms will not be available and the BUCC building will be closed.
- Please enjoy each other's company but remain 6 feet apart.

**THE PASTOR IS IN** – Pastor Allan is available every Tuesday, between 11am 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>

**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** for more info.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** If you would like to be the Zoom Host or assist in other ways with our virtual services (it's very easy!), 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 your generous donations of time, money,  
and talent that you give to our Church!*

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Meditation:** *"It is an historical fact that you and I have a problem doing the right thing, for others and for ourselves. Yet we deny it fiercely or wallow in shame, neither of which God wants for us."*

-- Randy Loubier, from **Slow Brewing Tea**

**Prelude:**                    ***Walk with Me, Lord***      African American spiritual  
Lynda Randle, vocalist  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7r9w\\_X8HZyA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7r9w_X8HZyA)

### Call to Worship:

- ◆ Leader (Carol): The Psalmist said, "Know that the LORD is God; it is God that made us, and we are God's!"
- ◆ People (Pat): **"We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture."**
- ◆ Leader: The Good News proclaims the Good Shepherd risen from the dead, ready to lead us in all that we will face.
- ◆ People: **The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for us. The Good Shepherd knows each of us, and calls us by name.**
- ◆ Leader: May the Good Shepherd lead us into the worship of 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:

- ◆ People (Pat): **In love you watch over us, O Heavenly Shepherd, and in love you keep our souls safe. Still, as Isaiah said, we all are like sheep who have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way. If there are brambles in life, we find them; if there are places to stumble into sin and be trapped, we stumble. Yet always you are there to lift us out to safety again; always you are there with your rod and your staff to comfort us. Forgive us our wandering, and lead us on in this great adventure which is life, with you as our Shepherd. Amen**

## Words of Assurance:

- ◆ Leader (Carol): As David said, “you will lead us in the paths of righteousness for your name’s sake.” We can trust in you for guidance and forgiveness.
- ◆ People (Pat): **The promise of life with you comes in the Shepherd Psalm: “Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives, and we shall dwell in the house of God forever.” 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

### First Reading:

**Psalm 23**

*God the Shepherd*

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

### Second Reading (read by Pastor Allan):

**John 10: 11-18**

*Jesus The Shepherd*

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.”

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

## Contemporary Reading:

From *The Seven Storey Mountain*, by Thomas Merton

“I was not sure where I was going, and I could not see what I would do when I got [there]. But you saw further and clearer than I, and you opened the seas before my ship, whose track led me across the waters to a place I had never dreamed of, and which you were even then preparing to be my rescue and my shelter and my home.”

## Musical Offering:

***Good Shepherd (Lead On)***

Ruis

Allison Colbert and Dave Debick, vocalists

## Sermon:

***Do I Really Wanna Be A Sheep***

Pastor Allan Lane

## Hymn of Reflection:

***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

Zundel

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,  
Fix in us a humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown;  
Jesus, you are all compassion; pure, unbounded love impart.  
Visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling heart.
  
3. Come, almighty to deliver, let us all your life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore your temples leave.  
You we would be always blessing, love you as your angels love,  
Pray and praise for your unfailing, wounded arms outstretched above.

(Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.)Patrick M. Kirkland (1857-1943); alt.

## The Church at Prayer

David Pastor, Bill Toneff, Lenore Harris, Cindy Burton, Joe & Betsey Wilson and family, Ann Roha, Ann Klonowski, Elizabeth Gadus, Phyllis Hassler, Sheila Day, Joanne K. and Jim C., Max Roha, Betty Kaul, Anna Mary Fisher, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, “Edna House”, Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassy Matsuoaka, Kathleen Stewart & Joe Blasko (her father), 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 (Carol): When Jesus saw the crowds who had come to hear him, he was deeply moved and had great compassion on them. He said they were like sheep without a shepherd. Let us be moved with the same compassion for the people we see around us who need our help. Let us present our offerings to God.

**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 (Pat): We entrust these offerings into your care, O Great Shepherd, as we have entrusted ourselves. Use them, and us, to lead others to the green pastures and the still waters. Amen

### Hymn of Departure:

***God Be with You***

Tomer

1. God be with you till we meet again; By good counsel guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

**REFRAIN: Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

3. God be with you till we meet again; When life's perils thick confound you,  
Put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again. **REFRAIN**

## 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:

#### ***Spring (Pastoral Dance)***

Vivaldi

Performed by Red Priest: Piers Adams (recorder), David Greenberg (violin),  
Angela East (cello), and David Wright (harpsichord)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-Sz3cnPLPM>

### Special Thanks:

#### **April 25, 2021**

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

#### **May 2, 2021**

<b>Lay Reader</b>	Leroy Ford
<b>Responder</b>	Rose Kaval
<b>CE</b>	Mindy Wade
<b>Slide Runner</b>	Kate Klonowski
<b>Zoom Host</b>	David Pastor

## HAVE A BLESSED WEEK

