



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

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,
Whatever your race, ethnicity, or
age,

Whatever your gender identity or
sexual orientation,

Whatever your religious
background, creed, or spirituality,
Whatever your social or economic
circumstances,

Whatever your health conditions,
impairments, or mobility needs,
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!



Sunday September 13, 2026
Rally Day

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: office@brecksvilleucc.org – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Pastor

• Jeff Jackson

Financial Secretary

• Wes Novak

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

Music Director

• Olivia Tassone

****LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****

- Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave - if you are interested in learning more about our church, please feel free to speak to our pastor.
- Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use.

Announcements:

Please submit the announcements you would like to have printed in the bulletin by noon on Tuesday – Thank You!

Attention BUCC "Artists!" - Our spring Paint & Sip art event was such a hit that we're bringing it back this fall... with a spooky twist!

Save the Date- October 2nd 6PM! There's one thing you'll need to do now: start looking for a landscape or painting of a house (thrift stores and attics are a great place to look!) At the event, you'll transform your picture by adding a spooky guest and festive fall décor, creating a one-of-a-kind Halloween masterpiece you'll be proud to hang in your home! Truly, no two will be alike!

For those ladies who do Sunday Flowers here at BUCC- Kennicott Wholesalers is planning a special fall event / talk/ demonstration in October. Just follow them on Facebook & Instagram to be alerted to details when its announced. Or, email Tia Began saying that you'd like to be contacted. Our church has a non-tax# on file with them. Their programs are inspiring. Located near Granger Rd. and Transportation Blvd. brecksvillet@aol.com.

The Colony Cupboard is back for fall 2026! We will coordinate our next donation in early September. Items in need for back to school include:

Notecards, Laundry Soap, Lotion, Chapstick, Athletic Socks (boys and girls) Undershirts (boys and girls), Tissues

Brecksville UCC Exploring Greater Cleveland Congregations Membership

Brecksville UCC is exploring the idea of joining Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC). To learn more about the organization, please visit their website: <https://greaterclevelandcongregations.org/>.

GCC is hosting a Judge Candidate Action event focusing on pre-trial justice on September 17th at 7:00 PM. The event will take place at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Shaker Heights.

If you would like to attend, you can register here:

Note: Since we are not yet listed as a member organization, please select "Other/NA" from the dropdown list and type

"Brecksville United Church of Christ" on the next line. We can

meet in the BUCC parking lot ahead of time for those who want to carpool.

Please contact Heidi Spangler if you have any questions.



Community Meal- On Sunday September 20 at 4 pm, we will hold a community meal at The Wholeness Project 3389 Fulton Rd, Cleveland. We will serve Bar-B- Que and potato salad, chips and fruit and cookies. Please look for the sign up sheet online and/or let Diane know if you can attend to serve.

Banner Making Gathering- Come join us for our first Banner Making Gathering on Wednesday September 23rd at 6:00pm, as we work together to create beautiful banners for our sanctuary! No experience is necessary—everyone is welcome! Bring your creative ideas and a willingness to help. Our main focus will be creating holiday-themed banners, but we'd love to hear any other ideas you may have. All supplies will be provided! Come create, connect, and help add a special touch to our worship space. We hope to see you there!

Braver Angels- On Sept. 16, the Braver Angels group will be holding their monthly meeting in our Fellowship Hall. The activity begins at 7 pm but they ask that you arrive around 6:45 pm so you can grab a snack and water and familiarize yourself with the topic. This month the topic will be Why am I Red or Blue? Doors open around 6:15pm. To register for this free event, please ask Kathy Pastor or Miranda to send you the link.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

- Tue. Sep 15 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
 7:30 pm – Communication and Outreach
- Wed. Sep 16 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
 6:00 pm –Braver Angels
- Thur. Sep 17 10:30 am – Called to Care
 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Volunteers:		<u>September 13, 2026</u>	<u>September 20, 2026</u>
Early Usher:		Robbie Tomlinson	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:		Davey Tomlinson	Volunteers Needed
		Lianna Wallis	
Greeter:		Jeff Tompson	Lori Molesky
Reader:		Sean Tomlinson	Volunteers Needed
Flowers:		Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
		Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
Counters:		Sue Stenzel	Sue Stenzel
		Aidan Cunningham	Volunteers Needed
A/V:			Volunteers Needed
Snack:		Jenn Elting	Volunteers Needed
Set up:		Jenn Elting	Volunteers Needed

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

God of surprising grace, awaken in me a hope that is larger than memory and more generous than expectation.

Prelude *Friend of God with What a Friend We Have In Jesus* arr. Alex-Zsolt

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Bringing of the Light *Sanctuary*

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true;

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.

***Call to Prayer (inspired by Psalm 103)**

One: Bless the Holy One! Bless God's holy name!

Many: Bless God our Healer, Redeemer, and Friend.

One: Bless the Holy One! Remember the works of God.

Many: Bless the God who saves us, loves us, and forgives us.

One: Bless the Holy One! Bless the God of life and justice!

Many: Bless the One whose loves and mercy endures but whose anger does not. Bless God, O our souls!

***Gathering Song**

Little Children, Welcome

#323

***Prayer of Openness [Unison]**

God of Heaven and Earth, we bask in your presence. We thank you for being our Companion and Counselor. Receive our praise, thanksgiving, worship, and petitions. You are the object and center of our worship so we fix our attention on you. We remember your awesome acts. We worship you for who you are. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Passing of the Peace**

One: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you!

Many : And also with you!

***Centering Song**

Glory to the Creator

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

Continuing Testament: Porchlight

From Neighborliness to Visible Presence

A porchlight does not pull anyone through the door. It simply makes a place easier to see. It signals that someone is present, that the path can be found, and that arrival is possible.

Neighborliness often begins in ordinary acts of attention: noticing a need, offering help, listening, showing up, or making safety and welcome visible. Those acts matter within a congregation, but they are also meant to travel beyond it.

Porchlight names the hope that care will become more visible in the wider community. It points toward a congregation known not only for what happens inside its walls, but for the relationships, courage, service, and public witness through which love becomes recognizable.

The light does not have to be enormous to guide someone. It must simply be tended, visible, and turned outward.

Continuing Testament: Parker Palmer, Let Your Life Speak (paraphrased selection on vocation and community)

In the spiritual journey, getting lost is not an accidental detour; it is an integral part of the path. When we wander into treacherous terrain or lose our way, the experience strips our ego of the illusion that we are in control. It is precisely in that state of lostness, when we are stripped of pretenses and defenses, that a space is cleared for our true self to emerge. We must endure the shaking of our ego to discover our deep identity—the valuable seed within us that was there all along.

Third Reading: Luke 15:1–10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays

it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Bible Presentation

Anthem

The Gifts You've Given to My Life

Greg Gilpin

Rally Day Message

By Gulsom Ghaleb

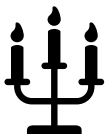
Hymn of Reflection

Jesus Loves Me

#327

Prayers of the Church In our Prayers

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Chad Sproul, Dot Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Gabe Tassone, Carolyn Chandler, Allison Colbert, Gayle Colbert, Tony Cunningham, Pat Rehm, David Pastor, "Edna House", Search Committee
(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)



Pastoral Prayer

The Savior's Prayer: [Unison]

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.

Hymn of Intention

Build Your Kingdom Here

Verse 1

Come set Your rule and reign in our hearts again
Increase in us we pray, unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope, like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now; We are Your church, we need Your pow'r in us

Verse 2

We seek Your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released; the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause;
We are Your church, we pray revive this earth

Chorus

Build Your kingdom here, let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand, heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire, win this nation back
Change the atmosphere, build Your kingdom here we pray

Verse 3

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r, reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this, awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ;
We are Your church, we are the hope on earth **(Chorus 2X)**

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

***Offering Response**

Be Still and Know

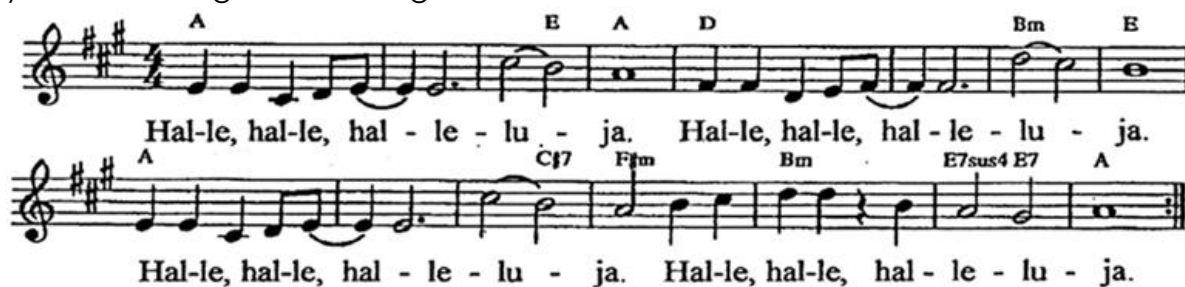
Be still and know that I am God. (3X)



***Prayer of Dedication: [Unison]**

Generous God, magnify the offerings we bring and may they be fruitful for the nurture and care of creation, the faithfulness of your church, and the needs of the communities and world we inhabit. Be glorified through our generosity. Amen.

***Circle of Community** Please join us in a circle around the sanctuary and lift your voices together and again after the benediction.



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 musical score consists of two staves in the key of D major (two sharps). The first staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. Above the staff, the chords A, E, A, D, Bm, and E are indicated. The second staff also has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the second line of the hymn. Above the staff, the chords A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, and A are indicated. The lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' are written below each staff.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Benediction Medley

arr. Mark Hayes

Go with joy. Welcome freely, seek faithfully, and trust that God's delight is found wherever life is restored.