



# Brecksville

## United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141

### 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 27, 2026**

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

*Church Phone: 440-526-4364*

*e-mail: [office@brecksvilleucc.org](mailto:office@brecksvilleucc.org) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://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 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

**Thank You Pastor Jeff-** With heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation, we thank Pastor Jeff Jackson for his faithful, dedicated service to Brecksville United Church of Christ as our Interim Pastor over this past year. His compassionate leadership, wise guidance, and inspiring ministry have been a true blessing to our congregation, helping us navigate an important season of transition and prepare for the next chapter in the life of our church. We wish Pastor Jeff every blessing, peace, and renewal as he begins his well-deserved sabbatical and continues on his journey of ministry and service. Please join us for Coffee Hour after his last worship service today, as we gather to thank Jeff personally, celebrate the wonderful time we have shared, and bid him a warm, affectionate, and fond farewell.

**A BUCC Advent Tradition Is Growing-** For years, BUCC's Advent devotional has brought together the faith and stories of our community. Rooted in that beloved tradition, this year's devotional grows into a journey through Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, with each devotion shaped within one of our seven Future Focus word categories. Writers will receive a Scripture reading, Reflection Question, and Continuing Testament prompt, offering several ways to bring their own faith and story to the journey. Sign-ups are coming soon, and all submissions are due October 31. Watch for your opportunity to add your voice as a treasured BUCC practice continues to grow.

**Neighbors in Need-** On Sunday October 4, we will collect a special offering: Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. Thank you for your support and generosity!

**Attendance last Sunday**, Sept. 20, 2026 – Adults: 47; Kids: 7; Online: 12; Total: 64  
Additional Views: 14

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following**

Tue. Sep 29                    6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)  
Wed. Sep 30                   11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation  
Thur. Oct 1                    7:00 pm – Choir Practice  
Fri. Oct 2                      6:00 pm – Spooky Paint and Sip

| <b>Volunteers:</b> | <b><u>September 27, 2026</u></b> | <b><u>October 4, 2026</u></b> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Early Usher:       | Evie Novak                       | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Late Usher:        | Betsey Wilson                    | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Greeter:           | Lori Molesky                     | Jeff Thompson                 |
| Reader:            | Diane Gressley                   | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Flowers:           | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>         | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Counters:          | Jan Renovetz                     | Jan Renovetz                  |
| A/V:               | Sue Stenzel                      | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Snack:             | Aidan Cunningham                 | David Pastor                  |
|                    | Armand Eusanio                   | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
|                    | Betsey Wilson                    |                               |
| Set up:            | Carol Miller                     | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Clean up:          | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>         | <b>Volunteers Needed</b>      |
| Communion Bread:   | <b>N/A</b>                       | Gayle Colbert                 |

## **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Faithful God, give me eyes to recognize the holy opportunities already placed before me today.*

### **Prelude**

*On Eagle's Wings*

*arr. Marilyn Ham*

### **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 25)**

One: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We trust you!

**Many: Make your ways known to us. Teach us your truths.**

One: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We follow you!

**Many: Lead us in your ways. Your path liberates and saves.**

One: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We worship you!

**Many: Guide us in humility and goodness. Praise the Holy One!**

#### **\*Gathering Song**

*God Is Here! As We Your People Meet vs. 1-3*

**#70**

#### **\*Prayer of Openness [Unison]**

**Living Water, we delight in your presence. You sustain us in dry moments and seasons. Quench our thirst for word and revelation. Let your Spirit flow among us. Send a river of anointing, power, and encouragement in this assembly. We come to worship you and declare that you are with us...and we are with you. 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: Jan Richardson From Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons**

With every step you take, this blessing rises up to meet you.

It has been waiting long ages for you.

Look close and you can see the layers of it, how it has been fashioned by those who walked this road before you, how it has been created of nothing but their determination and their dreaming, how it has taken its form from an ancient hope that drew them forward and made a way for them when no way could be seen.

Look closer and you will see this blessing is not finished, that you are part of the path it is preparing, that you are how this blessing means to be a voice within the wilderness and a welcome for the way.

### **Second Reading: Luke 16:19–31**

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

### **Time with Young Worshipers**

#### **Anthem**

Pachelbel's Canon of Peace

arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

## Sermon

By Rev. Jeff Jackson

## Hymn of Reflection

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

### **Chorus**

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul; Worship God's holy name; Sing like never before O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name

### **Verse 1**

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning; It's time to sing Your song again; Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me; Let me be singing when the evening comes **(chorus)**

### **Verse 2**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger; Your name is great and Your heart is kind; For all Your goodness I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find **(chorus 2x)**

### **Verse 3**

And on that day when my strength is failing; The end draws near and my time has come; Still my soul will sing Your praise unending; Ten thousand years and then forevermore **(chorus 2x, tag)**

### **Tag**

Worship Your holy name; Lord I'll worship Your holy name **(ending)**

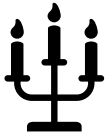
### **Ending**

Sing like never before O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name; Worship Your holy name; Worship Your holy name

## 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

Be Now My Vision vs. 1, 2, 4

#451

## 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]

**God who Provides, as we present our offerings before you, sanctify them for your glory and magnify them for your people. Amen.**

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

Musical notation for the Hallelujah chorus. It consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (half), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (half), F#3 (quarter), E3 (half). Chords are indicated above the notes: A (above G4), E (above A4), A (above B4), D (above C5), Bm (above B4-A4), E (above G4). The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.  
Musical notation for the Hallelujah chorus. It consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (half), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (half), F#3 (quarter), E3 (half). Chords are indicated above the notes: A (above G4), C#7 (above A4), F#m (above B4), Bm (above C5), E7sus4 E7 (above B4-A4), A (above G4). The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

### \*Benediction

## Postlude

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*Go in peace. Walk humbly, love generously, and trust that the God who has been faithful yesterday is already waiting in tomorrow.*

## *Peace Covenant*

We, Members of Brecksville United Church of Christ Realize

- that insecurities within us and others create hostility between and among people, families, communities, nations and the world
- that differences of languages, religion, race, and economic status causes misunderstanding, fear and anger, which lead to discrimination and violence.
- that injustices wound and fester and result in violence or in defeat of the helpless.
- that wars and conflicts, large and small, erupt continually from the other side of the world to our own backyards.
- that wars have not been effective means of achieving peace and justice, and have become so destructive that they threaten life on the planet Earth.

We Confess

- that our personal lifestyles and decisions affect others, the environment, the economy, and the world emotional climate.
- that we need God to save us from our sinful, power-seeking ways.

We Affirm

- that each person everywhere is a child of God.
- that peacemaking is central to our Christian faith.
- that peacemaking begins with us as individuals.
- that hostility can be reduced within us to forgive others.
- that peace can be promoted by working toward political, economic and social justice.
- that we are called to preserve the environment so all people may have clean air, clean water, and decent space.
- that non-violent conflict is inevitable and can be valuable- a statement of diversity that is essential to healthy relationships among people and nations.

We Commit Ourselves

- to value all persons as children of God.
- to re-examine our lifestyle, to ponder its effect on others, and to be willing to change.
- to consider peace and justice implications in all our church's programs.
- to promote and support offerings, funding justice and peace ministries.
- to be an inclusive church, building bridges to and among people.

With God As Our Helper, We Seek To Be Instruments Of Peace And Justice

Therefore, having prayerfully considered our biblical and theological heritage, we, the members of Brecksville United Church of Christ, do solemnly covenant with God and one another to be, and to act as, a just peace church.