



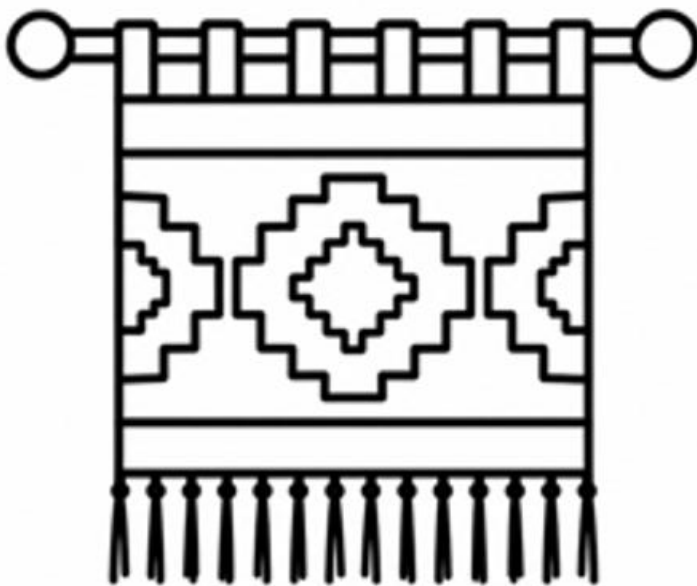
Brecksville

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 August 9, 2026

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

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoffice23@gmail.com – 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!

Strawberry Shortcake Social- Sunday August 16th following worship! Bring your appetite.

Worship in the Park- On August 30, our worship in the park will include a Blessing of Friendships. We invite you to begin thinking about the friendships that have carried you, surprised you, steadied you, or helped you become more fully yourself. Some of those friends may be present with us. Some may be far away. Some may be remembered with gratitude. Together, we will give thanks for the holy gift of companionship. Join us at 10am at the Sagamore Hills park Rose Mary Snell Pavilion (11551 Valley View Rd. Sagamore Hills), bring a friend, a dish to share (with copies of the recipe and why this one is meaningful to you) and remember don't go to church! There's a playground for little worshippers, we hope to see you at this beloved and annual BUCC tradition!

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 early evening! More details are coming soon, but 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! Stay tuned for more details... if you dare!

Called to Care Volunteers Needed-Called to Care helps make sure people in the congregation are remembered and supported through cards, phone calls, visits, and prayer. Volunteers are needed to help extend this care. Whether you can send an occasional card, make a friendly call, offer a visit, or hold someone in prayer, there is a place for you. Please contact the church office or Evie Novak to become part of the Called to Care team.

Moral Monday- At noon, on Monday August 10th meet at Public Square in front of Old Stone Church, and create a funeral procession to advocate for justice, not only in speech, but in practice. We will walk in prayerful solidarity with those in distress to the federal building at E. 9th and Lakeside.

Attendance last Sunday, August 2, 2026 – Adults: 32; Kids: 3; Online: 8; Total: 43
Additional Views: 3

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

Mon. Aug 10	noon – Moral Monday Procession (Public Square CLE)
Tue. Aug 11	6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
Wed. Aug 12	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
	7:00 pm – Council

Volunteers:	<u>August 9, 2026</u>	<u>August 16, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Late Usher:	Betsey Wilson	Jill Zedan
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	Jeff Thompson
Reader:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Flowers:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Counters:	Janet Renovetz	Janet Renovetz
	Sue Stenzel	Sue Stenzel
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Snack:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Set up:	Carol Miller	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Clean Up:	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	Sue Stenzel

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Saving Christ, steady me when fear rises and the waters are rough.

Prelude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. Faye López

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Bringing of the Light *I know that God loves me*

I know that God loves me. I know that God loves me.

**Proudly placed on this earth so that others might see
just how much my God loves me. (3x)**

**Proudly placed on this earth so that others might
see just how much my God loves me.**

***Call to Prayer** (inspired by Psalm 105)

One: O give thanks to the Holy One; call on God's name

Many: Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

One: Sing of the Holy One's abiding love, grace, compassion, and justice

Many: Rejoice in the God's redemptive power

One: Seek the Holy One's presence, strength, and wisdom

Many: Remember God's wondrous works. Praise the Holy One!

***Gathering Song** *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

***Prayer of Openness [Unison]**

Loving and Wonderful God, you make a home for us. You provide us shelter and sanctuary. You embrace us and uphold us. You come to us and go before us. We come to you now. We search for your presence in this world, in this community, and in this gathering. Let us connect with you and be reminded of the path of full and flourishing life you offer. Let us connect with one another and be reminded that your kingdom comes in us and through us for your glory. 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** O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
 when I call, answer me.

 O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.
 Come and listen to me. (3x)

Continuing Testament: Tapestry

From Generations to Shared Life

A tapestry is made from threads that differ in color, texture, length, and strength. Seen separately, each thread has beauty of its own. Woven together, the threads become something none could become alone.

Congregational life is also woven across difference. Children, youth, younger adults, middle-aged adults, and elders do not simply occupy the same

building. Each generation carries memories, questions, gifts, and ways of seeing that the others need.

Tapestry names the hope that life across generations will become more than occasional contact. It points toward relationships in which stories are exchanged, wisdom travels in more than one direction, and people of every age help shape the shared life of the congregation.

The beauty is not found by making every thread alike. It appears when each is given a real place in the whole.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Music offering

In Christ Alone Olivia Tassone

Sermon

By Rev. Jeff Jackson

Hymn of Reflection

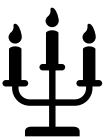
Dear God, Embracing Humankind vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

#502

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, "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

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

#172

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music

*Offering Response

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



*Prayer of Dedication: [Unison]

Giver of perfect gifts, refine these offerings and our hearts so that they may bear fruit. Bless each of us with the joy of gift giving and help us to know the good that our generosity lends to the world in your Holy and Precious Name. 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 offering response, featuring two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E on the first staff; and A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A on the second staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

*Benediction

Postlude

Let All Things Now Living

Let me take the next faithful step toward courage, justice, and peace.

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.