



BRECKSVILLE

UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

*Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power*

"Lay down your
guns
All you
daughters of
Zion
All you
Abraham's
sons."

-U2, "Love and
Peace or Else"



"I desired to
gather your
children
together as a
hen gathers
her brood
under her
wings"

Second Sunday in Lent, March 13th, 2022 • 10:00 AM

Pastor

• Rev. John King

**Director of
Music**

• David Debick

**Financial
Secretary**

• Joy Garapic

**Office
Manager**

• Anne Melfo

Ministers – All of Our Members

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,*

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!



- *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.*

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:30am - 12:30pm

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoffice23@gmail.com – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

Please submit your announcements by noon on Wednesday – Thank You!

Second Sunday in Lent - March 13th, 2022

Meditation Music

"Religion is at its best when it makes us ask hard questions of our selves. Religion is at its worst when it deludes us into thinking we have all the answers for everyone else."

-- Archibald MacLeish

Gathering in God's Presence

(Please Stand as you are able.)

Prelude

O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns

Evans

Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar Ensemble; Erin Tomlinson, flute

*"Show us your Spirit, brooding o'er each city,
as you once wept above Jerusalem,
Seeking to gather all in love and pity,
and healing those who touch your garment's hem."*

Bradford Gray Webster, 1954; alt.

Bearing the Light of Peace / Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Prayer:**

One: God desires to gather us as a mother hen gathers her chicks

Many: God gathers us together

One: God's wings spread out before us

Many: God's presence, and protection are all around us

One: To nurture is her nature

Many: To mother is her gift

One: Sheltering over us

Many: God is our fortress

One: Deep in her underwing

Many: God is our strength

One: Because of us, she is wounded

Many: By Jesus' wounds we are saved

One: Until all fear is gone

Many: Until the work is finished

One: In the Eternal One, we find our justice

Many: In God, we find our peace

1. We yearn, O Christ, for wholeness and for your healing touch;
too long have we felt helpless; our burdens seemed too much.
Forgetting all pretenses we make our pleadings heard,
in hope and expectation await your gracious Word.
2. We long to have companions who travel by our side,
strong friends to call and answer with whom we are allied;
As we lift up each other when struggles lay us low,
community develops; our faith and caring grow.
3. We need your living presence, O Christ of Galilee,
a presence that revives us and sets our spirits free.
No longer are we fearful, your love pervades each place.
Empower us with courage to claim your healing grace.

(Music: Hans Leo Hassler, 1601; harm. J. S. Bach, 1719; words: Dosia Carlson, 1986; rev. 1993)

***Prayer of Confession: [Unison]**

**O Wounded Healer, Mighty and Merciful,
Nothing we say can undo the damage we have done.**

As you wept over Jerusalem, we now weep over our world. You see what we have done with the gifts you have freely given us. You sought to gather us, but we were not willing. Your prophets spoke of peace and justice, but we did not have ears to hear. Now their blood is on our hands. We have stoned those you have sent.

Now, in our desperation, we pray. Our lives are in chaos, but we long for your joy. Beyond our rationalized violence, we yearn for a peace that lasts.

Forgive us, God of mercy and grace. Come again to us, we pray.

Then we will surely say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

***Assurance of Pardon: (Pastor John)**

Hear and receive the good news.
Our God has been faithful through generations.
Our God makes all things new.
Our God makes gardens spring and wounds heal.
In God's love, we are made whole.
In God's mercy, we are forgiven. Amen

Prayer of Invocation: [Unison]

God of Love, Blessed Creator, you surround us with beauty,
You open your arms in the protection of a loving embrace.
We take refuge in your divine love. As the hen gathers her brood, you gather us
together and show us the power of self-sacrificing love. May we extend that same
love to all who seek refuge. Amen

Gathered Here (sung 2 times)

#742

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Gathered Here'. The first staff contains the first two lines of the melody, with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The second staff contains the next two lines, with a '3' above the first measure and a '4' above the second measure. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.

God Is Still Speaking

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12 17-18 (NRSV)

Second Reading

Luke 13:29-35 (NRSV)

Continuing Testament

From "Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions",
by John Donne



Time with Young Worshippers



Anthem:

Jerusalem

Mickelson

*Jerusalem, how often I've longed for you
Jerusalem, how I long to gather you,
to gather your children together
as a hen gathers chicks under her wings,
to gather your children together,
but you were not willing...*

Jerusalem, how I long to gather you.

Won't you let me gather you?

(Music and words by Judith Mickelson; text based on Mt 23:37)

Hear Our Prayer, O God

#769

Musical score for the hymn "Hear Our Prayer, O God". The score is written for two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is on the top staff, and the bass line is on the bottom staff. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace."

† **Benediction** (Pastor John)

God is our light, our hope, our all in all:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Christ is our home, our life, our joy:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Our worship concludes; our service continues.
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Postlude

Kyrie

Couperin

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

Announcements

LENTEN STUDY – This Tuesday (3/15), will be the second of our six-week Lenten study of the book ***The Heart of Christianity***, by Marcus Borg. To prepare for this meeting, read through chapter 4. We will meet from 6:45 – 8:15pm, and you may attend either in-person or online - to join online, go to the website's calendar click on the meeting listing.

MUSIC – It's not too late to join BUCC's seasonal choir, which is beginning to prepare special music for Holy Week with our regular choir. Practices run weekly through the six weeks of Lent, on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 7:45. Holy Week is scheduled for April 10 (Palm Sunday) through April 17 (Easter). CDs will be provided to help make the learning process easier. High school students are welcome to participate!

FLOWERS - Flowers in the chancel area add a special touch to our Sunday morning worship. BUCC is now using the computer program Breeze to sign up and participate many ways in the Sunday services, flowers being one of them. If you care to provide flowers for the service, please sign in the flower space the week you would like to do it. You will be bringing in an arrangement, cut flowers or a plant, then taking it home or giving to someone you care about.

Dedications are handled another way. There is a calendar on the wall just inside the double doors to the narthex. Please put your name on the calendar for the date you would like, take a form from beneath the calendar and fill it out, and turn in with your payment to Joy Garapic. A member of our flower team will have the flowers up front on the designated Sunday. You may take the flowers with you following the service. See Janet Renovetz if you have questions.

HOLY GROUNDS – I will be at the Brecksville Panera for coffee at 8:15 most Tuesday mornings. Anyone is welcome to stop by. There's no need for an RSVP or agenda, so you never know who might show up. Of course, if you are looking for a more traditional meeting in my office, you can always set that up too. But if you're just looking for casual conversation, stop by at Panera any Tuesday for a visit and some "holy grounds." – Pastor John

Readings

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 (NRSV)

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."

But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess."

But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"

He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Readings

Second Reading

Luke 13:29-35 (NRSV)

Jesus said, "People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way.'

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Continuing Testament

From "Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions", by John Donne, 1624

"No man is an Iland, intire of it selfe; every man is a peece of the Continent, a part of the maine; if a Clod bee washed away by the Sea, Europe is the lesse, as well as if a Promontorie were, as well as if a Mannor of thy friends or of thine owne were; any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankinde; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; It tolls for thee."

Special Thanks:

March 13, 2022

Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Jane Cribbs
Evie Novak
Lay Reader: Sherrill Witt
Greeter: Sue Stenzel
Counters: Marge Culver
Evie Novak
Acolyte: Evelyn Kuzmins
Peace Candle: Peter Kuzmins
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Snack: Katie MacKeigan King
Set Up/Serve: Katie MacKeigan King
Pat Rehm
Clean Up: Dave Bernard
Carol Miller
Snow Herder: Dan Stewart

March 20, 2022

Head Usher: Sue Maier
Ushers: *Volunteer Needed*
Volunteer Needed
Lay Reader: Rose Kaval
Greeter: Jon Thompson
Counters: Marge Culver
Sue Stenzel
Acolyte: *Volunteer Needed*
Peace Candle: *Volunteer Needed*
A/V Team: Jim Duffy
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Snack: Melanie Kuzmins
Sue Maier
Set Up/Serve: Melanie Kuzmins
Volunteer Needed
Clean Up: Dave Bernard
Volunteer Needed
Snow Herder: *Volunteer Needed*