



# 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*

"Psychology finds that people who take a grateful attitude toward life, counting their blessings rather than inventorying their complaints, tend to be healthier, happier, and more successful than others. Again it appears to be the sense of gratitude that causes the happiness and health, rather than the other way around."

-Gregg Easterbrook,  
*The Progress Paradox*

*"He threw  
himself  
at Jesus' feet  
and  
thanked  
him"*

*— Luke 17:16*



**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:buccoffice23@gmail.com) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)***

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

# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Prelude/Gathering Music** *I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say* Bernadette Farrell,  
*I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to the house of God."* 1993  
(Based on Ps 122:1)

## Welcome & Announcements

### Quiet Meditation as Peace Candle is Brought Forward

"The kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21)

## **Gathering in God's Presence**

*(Please Stand as you are able.)*

### \* Call to Worship:

Leader: We gather to hear a word of encouragement, from Jesus to the people;

**People: Live a life that is full and abundant. Live in peace and compassion.**

Leader: We pray for our different communities.

**People: We strive to keep God foremost in our lives.**

Leader: We gather in prayer today with hope in our hearts,

**People: For something happens here that reminds us that we can live as God desires.**

Leader: God has made a promise of faithfulness to us,

**People: and we can trust God's promise.**

### \* Hymn of Praise:

***Come, O Thankful People, Come***

#422

1. Come, O thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in, as the winter storms begin;  
God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

2. All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,  
all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,  
All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,  
all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'erflowing stores,

3. These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;  
and for these our songs we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.  
Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;  
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

(Music: George J. Elvey, 1858; words: St. 1: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.; St. 2: Anna L. A. Barbauld. 1772, alt.;  
St. 3: composite of Alford and Barbauld, alt.)

\* Invocation: [UNISON]

We stand in awe of you, Most Gracious God. You love your people no matter the circumstance. You want us to live meaningful lives with you at the center. So, we say to you, Loving God - Come! Send you Holy Spirit to dwell with us in our worship. Open our hearts to receive and our minds to be challenged by the teachings of Jesus the Christ. This we pray. Amen.

\* Pastoral Assurance & Passing of the Peace

(Rev. John)

\* Song of Praise:

*Glory to God*

Pablo Sosa, 1988

*Glory, glory, glory – Glory to God in the highest! (2X's)*

*And on earth be peace to all people, For God loves us all! (2X's)*

***God Is Still Speaking***

(See back of bulletin for complete readings)

**First Reading 2 Timothy 1:1-14 (Inclusive Bible Translation)**

**Gospel Reading Luke 17:11-19 (NRSV)**

**Continuing Testament By Gregg Easterbrook**



***Time with Young Worshippers***



**Anthem**

***Come, ye disconsolate***

Webbe, setting Parker

1. *Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish,  
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.  
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;  
Earth has no sorrow that Heav'n cannot heal.*
2. *Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,  
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure.  
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,  
"Earth has no sorrow that Heav'n cannot cure."*
3. *Here see the Bread of life; see waters flowing  
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above.  
Come to the feast of love, come ever knowing  
Earth has no sorrow but Heav'n can remove.  
Words: Thomas Moore (1779-1852)*

**Sermon:**

***Transformative Gratitude***

Rev. John King

**Hymn of Reflection:**

***God Reigns o'er All the Earth***

#21

1. God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and valleys low,  
the farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beauty show.  
God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spreading plains,  
in rainbow hues-- reds, yellow, blues-- of streams and country lanes.

2. God reigns o'er human life! Through youth and aging years,  
in death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.  
God reigns o'er human life! Our inspiration still.  
Through all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reigning will.

3. God reigns o'er time and space! In history's bygone days.  
Christ's faithful folk in reverence spoke to bring God earnest praise.  
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er galaxy and sun,  
through timeless years the cosmos hears the heavenly music run.

4. God reigns! Emmanuel! God with us every day,  
in all our past and to the last, our comfort and our stay.  
God reigns! Emmanuel! Let praise to Christ be sung!

God's presence here makes all things dear. Let joyful bells be rung!

(Music: Traditional English melody, adapt. F. L. Sheppard, 1915; words: Jane Parker Huber, 1981)

## ***The Church at Prayer***

Allison Colbert, Dorie Gabor, Phyllis Hassler, Lenore Harris, Jeanne Cowden, Bill Toneff, Rose Kaval, Suzanne Patrick, David Pastor, Tina Ortiz, Terry Heiman, Dassy Matsuoka, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Ann Klonowski, Sheila Day, Betty Kaul, Jan Wardlaw, Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, Jon Thompson, Kathleen Stewart & Joe Blasko (her father), "Edna House", 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: [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.

## ***Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings***

**Call to Offering:** (Rev. John)

**\* 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: [UNISON]**

**Accept these gifts as evidence of our desire to participate with you in the care of your beloved. These gifts symbolize our thanksgiving for all that you provide. Through these gifts we praise you, O God. Amen.**

## ***Going with God's Love***

**\*Hymn of Departure**                      ***Now Thank We All Our God***                      #419

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,  
Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given,  
To Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

(Music: Johann Crüger, 1647; words: Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl: Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.)



## Carrying the Light of Christ into the World – Acolyte

### \* Circle of Community

As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (3 times) Hallelujah, Hallelujah**. After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith.

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 (Rev. John)

Postlude:

*The Ends of All the Earth*

W. H. Doane (1832-1915)

Be *Strong* and *Courageous*

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,

For the *Lord* your *God*

Will be with you wherever you go.

~ Joshua 1:9

## **Announcements**

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are dedicated by Diane Gressley, "In memory of Evan & Emma Gressley."

**SELF-CARE SESSIONS** with Carol VanDuyne (long time member of BUCC) are happening **every Wednesday in October**. The sessions include meditation, mindfulness, gentle movement, and breath work. Join Carol **in the Parlor from 11am to noon** - the sessions are free and open to all. Please plan to wear a mask to keep everyone protected.

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA 2022** – Your voices are needed! Rehearsals for this year's cantata are on **Thursday evenings, from 7- 8 pm**. Please join us even if you've never done it before - it's a lot of fun, and a great way to prepare for the holidays! The cantata will be presented at a regular Sunday service in mid-December, and high school students are welcome to participate.

**FREE CONCERT** – On **Sunday, Oct. 23rd**, at **4:00 PM**, BUCC will host a free concert featuring the Cleveland Wind Trio, from the Cleveland Institute of Music. The ensemble will perform works by Mozart, Schubert, and Juon. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow.

**ADVENT BOOK** – We are moving up the BUCC Advent Book submission date this year to **OCTOBER 31**. See one of the ushers for the clipboard with the list of scriptures/dates. Meanwhile, please be on the alert for examples of God's wonder, and jot down your thoughts. Then submit your reflections/devotion to **Anne** at **buccoffice23@gmail.com**, as soon as the moment strikes - we look forward to reading your contribution!

**BILL TONEFF VISITS** – Our wonderful Bill Toneff, who is 103+ years old, would love to see his friends from BUCC from time to time. We are trying to work out a visitation schedule for Saturdays and Sundays. Please contact **Sherrill Witt** at **216-244-6916** or **sherrill@lollytrolley.com** for further information and scheduling.

**SNOW HERDING** – It's that time of year again when the Facilities Ministry is looking for 'snow herders' to attack the winter snows. Please sign up for a specific Sunday using the Breeze management system, beginning with the first Sunday after Thanksgiving. Thank you for volunteering.

## Readings

### First Reading

#### 2 Timothy 1:1-14 (Inclusive Bible Translation)

From Paul, by the will of God an apostle of Christ Jesus, sent to proclaim the promise of life in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear child: May grace, mercy and peace from God the Creator and from Christ Jesus our Savior be with you.

I thank God, the God of my ancestors—whom I worship with a clear conscience—whenever I remember you in my prayers, as indeed I do constantly, night and day. When I recall your tears, I long to see you again, which would fill me with joy. I'm reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois, then in your mother Eunice, and now, I'm certain, in you as well.

That's why I want to remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God didn't give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, of self-discipline. So don't be ashamed to give your testimony about Christ, and don't be ashamed of me, Christ's prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the Gospel by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done, but because of God's own purpose and grace.

This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. And it was for this Gospel that I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That's why I'm suffering as I am.

Yet I'm not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and I'm convinced that Jesus Christ is able to guard what has been entrusted to me until that final Day. Take what you have heard me say as a model of sound teaching, in faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the rich deposit of faith with the help of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us.

### Gospel Reading

#### Luke 17:11-19 (NRSV)

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, people with leprosy approached Jesus. Keeping their distance, they called out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.

Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

*(Readings continued next page)*

## Readings

### **Continuing Testament - *The Progress Paradox: How Life Gets Better While People Feel Worse*, by Gregg Easterbrook**

Today, many Americans and Europeans speak of previous generations as having lived in superior circumstances, then grit their teeth when the topic turns to the present day. The Fallacy of the Golden Age holds that good times could only have happened in the past. Yet if the Western world has known a Golden Age, it is right here, right now.

If most things are getting better for most people, why don't Americans behave as though they believe this? Why do so many walk around scowling, rather than smiling at their good fortune in being born into the present generation? Indeed, at their very good fortune. In his extraordinary book *Mapping Human History*, the science writer Steve Olson estimates that 80 billion "modern" humans—from the first beings recognizable as our forebears to the advent of *Homo sapiens*, our official name—have walked the earth down through the millennia. Supposing this number is correct, the men and women at middle-class standards or above in the United States and the European Union now live better than 99.4 percent of the human beings who have ever existed.

Average Americans and Europeans not only live better than more than 99 percent of the human beings who have ever existed, they live better than most of the royalty of history, if only owing to antibiotics. As Robert Frank, a professor of economics at Cornell University, has noted, gas station minimarts now sell cabernets and chardonnays "far superior in quality to the wines once drunk by the kings of France." Today supermarkets offer at low cost dozens of items almost everyone who has ever lived considered unattainable delicacies and died without tasting. But we don't seem particularly pleased about our lot. In fact, 66 percent of Americans told pollsters they believed "the lot of the average person is getting worse."

# Special Thanks:

## October 9, 2022

**Head Usher:** Diane Gressley  
**Ushers:** Dave Bernard  
Sue Stenzel  
**Lay Reader:** Jill Zedan  
**Greeter:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Nursery:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
Janet Renovetz  
**Acolyte:** Arthur Cook  
**Peace Candle:** Dorothy Cook  
**A/V Team:** Fred Pedersen  
**Flowers:** Sue Stenzel  
**Snack:** Diane Gressley  
**Set Up/Serve:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Clean Up:** *Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*

## October 16, 2022

**Head Usher:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Ushers:** Evelyn Seager  
*Volunteer Needed*  
**Lay Reader:** Diane Gressley  
**Greeter:** Dave Bernard &  
Sue Stenzel  
**Nursery:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Counters:** Marge Culver  
Janet Renovetz  
**Acolyte:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Peace Candle:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**A/V Team:** Jim Duffy  
**Flowers:** Carole Snider  
**Snack:** Jon Thompson  
**Set Up/Serve:** *Volunteer Needed*  
**Clean Up:** *Volunteer Needed*  
*Volunteer Needed*

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