



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!*



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

• Joy Garapic

Office Manager

• Miranda Lacefield

****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 Wednesday – Thank You!

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK! It is fall and that means it's Stewardship season! Sunday, November 16th is the day we bring in our pledge cards and celebrate by feasting at our Thanksgiving meal. We invite everyone to join in the fellowship hall! Please sign up at church or call in to let us know how many will be coming and what side dish or dessert you will bring to share. This is one of our most favorite Sundays of the year! Please come and bring your family or friends!

BUCC Food Drive - November 16- Most of us have heard by now that the government shutdown has frozen the funds that support the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) — the government program that helps families put food on the table. Last week, Deacon Nick Bates, JD (ELCA) of the Hunger Network in Ohio wrote, "More than one million Ohioans are at risk of losing food assistance in November." You may have received a BUCC email recently highlighting an article written by Rev. Michael Anthony Howard in the Living Water Association newsletter, Streams of Connection, titled The Politics of Empty Pantries. As we prepare to sit down together on November 16 to share our Thanksgiving meal, let us give thanks by filling the food drive box outside the church office.

Confirmation classes- Christian education is coordinating confirmation classes with Reverend Jackson. Classes would be one time a month and would include approximately eight classes total. Classes will most likely start in January. Please contact Danyel Esser (330-221-1599) if you are interested in having your child participate in Confirmation classes. Once we know who is interested we will reach out to schedule a time and day for classes.

Attendance last Sunday, November 2nd, 2025 – Adults: 63; Kids: 12; Online: 4; Additional Views: 22; Total: 101



To Donate Electronically – If you would like to make a donation to Brecksville United Church of Christ with your phone, please scan this QR code. If you need assistance, ask an usher - or a grandchild. Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following

- Tue. Nov 11 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
 6:30 pm – Social Justice Meeting
- Wed. Nov 12 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
 7:00 pm – Council
- Thu. Nov 13 10:30 am – Called to Care
 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Volunteers:

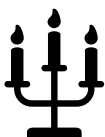
	<u>November 9th, 2025</u>	<u>November 16th, 2025</u>
Early Usher:	Peg Duffy	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Jim Duffy	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	Lori Molesky
Reader:	Jill Zedan	Diane Gressley
Flowers:	Carole Snider	Dave Bernard
Counters:	<i>Kathy Pastor</i>	<i>Kathy Pastor</i>
	Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
A/V:	David Pastor	Volunteers Needed
	Fred Pedersen	
Snack:	Choir	THANKSGIVING POTLUCK
Set up:	Choir	Sue Stenzel
Clean Up:	Choir	Sue Stenzel
Communion Bread:		Gayle Colbert

In our Prayers:

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Frances Posey, Mac Hoppel, Bee Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Elizabeth Gadus, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Jonathan Langham, Tony Cuninghame, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Joanne Cook, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy, Kate Benedict, “Edna House”, people who are unemployed and under employed.

(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)

Special Thank You to this week’s guest musician Eric Brubaker!



**Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday November 9th, 2025**

Prelude

The Gift

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Meditation

Christ, break open my heart; let grace grow.

***Call to Prayer** (Inspired by Psalm 17)

One: Guard me as the apple of your eye, O God.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast peace

One: Hide me in the shadow of your wings, Divine Spirit.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast strength.

One: I behold your face in righteousness, Christ of Hope.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast love.

***Hymn of Praise**

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

#42

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

God of Love, Divine Traveler,

We see only a fraction of your presence, God. We know you only in part, as we experience this world with our senses, our experiences, and what is tangibly in front of us. May we grasp the beauty of this world, even on the gloomy days. May we cherish our relationships here on earth even when times are challenging. May we know that God is forever present with us and will care for us as we arrive at our eternal home on the other side of Heaven. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa 1988



Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est, And on earth be



peace to all peo - ple, for God loves us all.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 17: 1-9

Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.

If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress.

As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.

I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words.

Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.

Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, from the wicked who despoil me, my deadly enemies who surround me.

Continuing Testament Reading: "The Hill We Climb" - Amanda Gorman

When day comes we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this neverending shade? The loss we carry, a sea we must wade. We've braved the belly of the beast, we've learned that quiet isn't always peace and the norms and notions of what just is, isn't always justice. And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it, somehow we do it, somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken but simply unfinished.

We, the successors of a country and a time where a skinny black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother can dream of becoming president only to find herself reciting for one. And, yes, we are far from polished, far from pristine, but that doesn't mean we are striving to form

a union that is perfect, we are striving to forge a union with purpose, to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man.

So we lift our gazes not to what stands between us, but what stands before us. We close the divide because we know to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside. We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another, we seek harm to none and harmony for all.

Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true: that even as we grieved, we grew, even as we hurt, we hoped, that even as we tired, we tried, that we'll forever be tied together victorious, not because we will never again know defeat but because we will never again sow division.

Scripture tells us to envision that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree and no one should make them afraid. If we're to live up to our own time, then victory won't lie in the blade, but in in all of the bridges we've made. That is the promise to glade, the hill we climb if only we dare it because being American is more than a pride we inherit, it's the past we step into and how we repair it. We've seen a force that would shatter our nation rather than share it. That would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy, and this effort very nearly succeeded. But while democracy can periodically be delayed, but it can never be permanently defeated.

In this truth, in this faith, we trust, for while we have our eyes on the future, history has its eyes on us, this is the era of just redemption we feared in its inception we did not feel prepared to be the heirs of such a terrifying hour but within it we found the power to author a new chapter, to offer hope and laughter to ourselves, so while once we asked how can we possibly prevail over catastrophe, now we assert how could catastrophe possibly prevail over us.

We will not march back to what was but move to what shall be, a country that is bruised but whole, benevolent but bold, fierce and free, we will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation because we know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next generation, our blunders become their burden. But one thing is certain: if we merge mercy with might and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change our children's birthright.

So let us leave behind a country better than the one we were left, with every breath from my bronze, pounded chest, we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one, we will rise from the golden hills of the West, we will rise from

the windswept Northeast where our forefathers first realized revolution, we will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the Midwestern states, we will rise from the sunbaked South, we will rebuild, reconcile, and recover in every known nook of our nation in every corner called our country our people diverse and beautiful will emerge battered and beautiful, when the day comes we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid, the new dawn blooms as we free it, for there is always light if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it.

Time with young worshipers

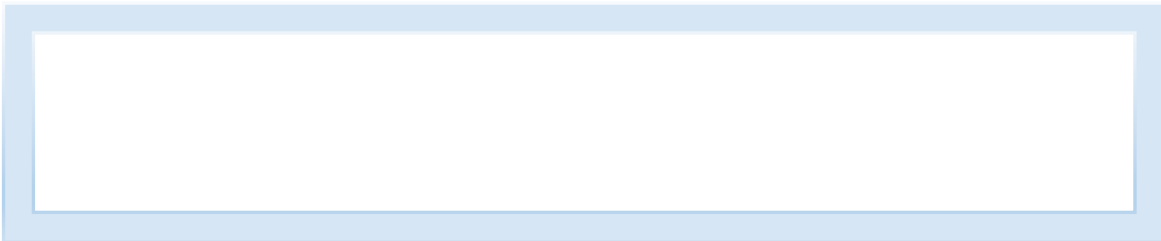
Sermon

"History Looks At Us" - Rev. Jeff Jackson

Anthem

I'm Pressing on the Upward Way

Prayers of the Church



Pastoral Prayer

Silent Meditation

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music



***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

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

God of Infinite Love,
Through our gifts, we create glimmers here on this side of Heaven. Through our treasures, time, and talents, we nurture your Realm. We provide for our neighbors who lack basic necessities and who look for inclusion of their souls. May Heaven be a place that we can experience throughout our lives as we breathe the invigorating air of your Spirit. With gratitude, we celebrate our gifts from you and dedicate our gifts to bring peace to this earth. Amen.

***Hymn of Departure**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

#77

***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 image shows two staves of musical notation 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 written in a simple, hymn-like style. Chords are indicated above the staff: A, E, A, D, Bm, E. The second staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. Chords are indicated below the staff: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A. The lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja' are written below the notes.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Lord, Make Me More Holy

Go—shine where grace can take root.