



Brecksville

United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

*"Jesus returns every time we
forgive ourselves and others,
love unconditionally,
extend mercy,
offer compassion,
act with loving-kindness,
feed the hungry,
protect the oppressed,
care for the sick,
visit the prisoner,
speak truth to power,
make peace,
seek reconciliation,
and pursue
restorative justice."*

– Roger Wolsey



Sunday April 12, 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!

Missions Café- Mark your calendars and bring your enthusiasm for our third Missions Café session... your input is invaluable!

Session 3: Choose one:

Sunday, April 12th after church

Wrap-Up session: Choose one:

Sunday, June 7th after church;

Wednesday, June 10th, 1 pm

Wednesday, June 10th, 6 pm

LAST-MINUTE MART at BUCC -Join us on Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM in Pilgrim Hall for our LAST-MINUTE MART—just in time for Mother's Day! 🌸

Shop a wonderful selection of local vendors, artists, crafters, and bakers while supporting a great cause. All vendor table fees will benefit BUCC!

We're also looking for volunteers to help greet guests, direct vendors, and assist at the BUCC Trinket Table. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Heidi Spangler for more information.

Come shop, support, and celebrate our community—we hope to see you there!

Bread Tag Collection- BUCC is glad to announce that we are now collecting plastic bread tags for recycling in partnership with SCARCE. Funds used by recycling our tags will provide wheelchairs for children in need! This win-win story has many steps. It takes about 260,000 tags to fund a wheelchair. So have fun and get your friends, family and neighborhood involved in this easy way to make a difference. Look for the BREAD TAG COLLECTION container in our church entry way and drop yours in. No plastic bags please.

For more information about SCARCE, an award-winning environmental education nonprofit dedicated to creating sustainable communities, and the Bread Tag Project, talk to Peg Duffy and go to the website at:

<https://www.scarce.org/bread-tag-recycling-provides-wheelchair>

Community Meal- On Sunday April 19 we will provide a Community Meal at The Wholeness Project in Cleveland. The Social Justice Ministry is preparing the menu and looking for several people to help serve the meal. The Wholeness Project is located at The Bridge Avenue School at 3389 Fulton Rd Cleveland. Please look for sign up information and/or let Diane Gressley know if you would like to assist with making food or serving. Diane can be reached at digressley@gmail.com

Attendance last Sunday, April 5, 2026 – Adults: 90; Kids: 21; Online: 27; Total: 138
 Additional Views: 23

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

Today	Missions Café 3
Tue. Apr 14	2:00 pm – Spiritual Life 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
Wed. Apr 15	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation 6:00 pm – Braver Angels
Thu. Apr 16	10:30 am – Called to Care 7:00 pm – Choir Practice
Fri. Apr 17	6:30 pm – Brecksville Squares

Volunteers:

	<u>April 12, 2026</u>	<u>April 19, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	Joe Wilson	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Sherrill Witt	Volunteers Needed
Reader:	Volunteers Needed	Diane Gressley
Flowers:	Easter Flowers	Volunteers Needed
Counters:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
	Jan Renovetz	Volunteers Needed
A/V:	Betsey Wilson	Fred Pedersen
Snack:	Sherrill Witt	Sue Stenzel
Set up:	Sherrill Witt	Sue Stenzel
Clean Up:	Sherrill Witt	Sue Stenzel
Communion Bread:	N/A	Gayle Colbert

Second Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ, where faith has worn thin in me, breathe again your living hope.

Prelude When I Survey the Wondrous Cross arr. Cindy Berry

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 16)

One: Let us say to the Holy One: You are our God; every good is held
in you.

Many: **Holy One, you are our God; every good is held in you!**

One: The Holy One is our chosen portion and our cup; God holds our
lot.

Many: **Holy One, you are our God; every good is held in you!**

One: The Holy One is our refuge and our hope, and gives us a good
heritage.

Many: **Holy One, you are our God; every good is held in you!**

***Hymn of Praise** Jesus Christ is Risen Today vs. 1, 5

#240

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us together and the one who sends us out in the world. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully. Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honor you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community. Speak to our spirits and receive our worship. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

First Reading: Ross Gay — “Sorrow Is Not My Name”

A perfect blend of joy, resistance, defiant tenderness, and grounded humanity.

No matter the pull toward brink. No
matter the florid, deep sleep awaits.
There is a time for everything. Look,
just this morning a vulture
nodded his red, grizzled head at me,
and I looked at him, admiring
the sickle of his beak.
Then the wind kicked up, and,
after arranging that good suit of feathers
he up and took off.
Just like that. And to boot,
there are, on this planet alone, something like two
million naturally occurring sweet things,
some with names so generous as to kick
the steel from my knees: agave, persimmon,
stick ball, the purple okra I bought for two bucks
at the market. Think of that. The long night,
the skeleton in the mirror, the man behind me
on the bus taking notes, yeah, yeah.
But look; my niece is running through a field
calling my name. My neighbor sings like an angel
and at the end of my block is a basketball court.
I remember. My color's green. I'm spring.
—for Walter Aikens

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he
has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus
Christ from the dead
and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in
heaven for you,

who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials,

so that the genuineness of your faith--being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire--may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,

for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Time with young worshipers

Anthem

Keep Marching Shaina Taub

Sermon

“When Resurrection Comes to Tired Faith” By Rev. Jeff Jackson

Hymn of Reflection

Joys Are Flowing Like a River vs. 1, 3-5

#284

Prayers of the Church

In our Prayers

Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Tony Cuningham, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy, Gabe Tassone, Carolyn Chandler, Allison Colbert, Gayle Colbert, Thea Cunningham, Tony Cunningham, “Edna House”



(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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Music I Stand Amazed in the Presence arr. Cindy Berry



***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]**

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

Renaming Liturgy

Unison Prayer

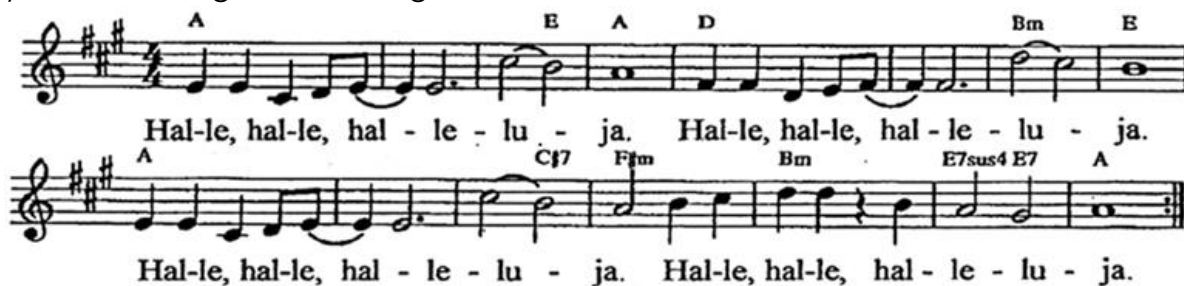
Gracious God, look with love upon Olivia. Thank you for the gift of her life, for the truth carried in this name, and for the grace that continues to unfold within her. Bless Olivia with courage when the road is hard, with peace during change, and with joy in the life that is truly her own. Strengthen her in love, sustain her in hope, and surround her with a community that reflects your welcome. And shape all of us more deeply into the kind of church where people are received with dignity, called by truth, and embraced with compassion. We pray these things in the spirit of Christ. Amen.

***Hymn of Departure**

Jesus Shall Reign vs. 1, 4, 5

#300

***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.

***Benediction**

Postlude Christ the Lord is Risen Today arr. Marilyn Ham

Go into the world awake to the new life God is raising in you and around you.

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!