



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 April 19, 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!

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- Today, we will be hosting the community meal at 3:30 pm at the Wholeness Project. This is located at 3389 Fulton Road in Cleveland. We are planning on serving lasagna, rolls and various fruits and vegetables. We do need cookies. If you would like to carpool to the event, Please let Diane Gressley know so that we can meet at the church.

Attendance last Sunday, April 12, 2026 – Adults: 42; Kids: 5; Online: 10; Total: 57
 Additional Views: 24

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following

Today 3:30 pm -- Community Meal
 Tue. Apr 21 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)
 7:30 pm – Communication & Outreach
 Wed. Apr 22 11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation
 Thu. Apr 23 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Volunteers:

	<u>April 19, 2026</u>	<u>April 26, 2026</u>
Early Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Late Usher:	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
Greeter:	Jeff Thompson	Jeff Thompson
Reader:	Diane Gressley	Volunteers Needed
Flowers:	Armand Eusanio	Volunteers Needed
Counters:	Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
	Volunteers Needed	Volunteers Needed
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	David Pastor
Snack:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Set up:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Clean Up:	Sue Stenzel	Volunteers Needed
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A

Third Sunday of Easter

Stay with me, Christ, until my heart remembers how to burn.

Prelude

Just As I Am, Without One Plea 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 116)

One: We call upon the name of the Holy One who hears our cry and responds to our prayer. What shall we return to the Holy One for all the blessings we receive?

Many: We will call upon the name of the Holy One for as long as we live.

One: The Holy One has been our Companion in suffering and our Comforter in anguish. What shall we return to the Holy One for their presence among us?

Many: We will serve the Holy One and be companions and comforters for God's people.

One: The Holy One has given a new covenant of salvation, redemption, and restoration for the world. What shall we return to the Holy One for the gift of covenantal love?

**Many: We will declare the goodness of God with praise and thanksgiving.
Hallelujah! Bless the name of the Holy One!**

*Hymn of Praise

Jesus, Sovereign, Savior

#255

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Living God, you are the fire that burns within us. You open our hearts to your presence, revealed in word and song, in hospitality and friendship, in sacrament and presence. Open our minds again so that we may recognize you when you meet us in unexpected moments. Let us encounter you in every phase and movement of worship that we might know you and love you more than before we gathered. And, may that love burn brightly like the sun cutting through the gloom of the storm to inspire us to go on with renewed hope and spirit. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

***Gathering Song**

On Eagle's Wings

#775

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."

And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Second Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad.

Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"

He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.

But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.

But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.

They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.

They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Time with young worshipers

Anthem

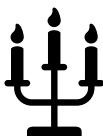
All Good Gifts Natalie Sleeth

Sermon

“On the Way” By Rev. Jeff Jackson

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

Amazing Grace



*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 God, we pray that these gifts will bring glory to your name and bless your creation through good stewardship, Spirit-led discernment, and generous love. Amen.

Communion Invitation

ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.

Communion Hymn

Eat this Bread

#788

During the hymn, please come forward up the center aisle to gather a piece of bread and a cup and return to your seats via the outer aisles. We will partake each together as directed. A gluten-free loaf is being used for communion today.

Invitation to Share the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion [Unison]

Holy One, we thank you for meeting us here. In bread and cup, you have comforted us, renewed us, and opened our hearts to your presence. Stay with us now as we go on our way. Let your love burn within us, and make us ready to live with hope, to serve with joy, and to bless your name in all we do. Amen.

*Hymn of Departure

I Want to Be Ready vs. 1, 5

#616

***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 for the hymn 'I Want to Be Ready'. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff has lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' with chords A, E, A, D, Bm, and E written above the notes. The second staff has the same lyrics and chords A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, and A written below the notes.

*Benediction

Postlude

Blessed Assurance

Go now—what has been revealed in the breaking, carry into the road ahead.