

## **Affirmation of Welcome**

**We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all of God's children.**

If you are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are male, female, or transgender,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you've never been in a church, if you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic,  
Or a life-long member of the UCC,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, or bisexual,

**You Are Welcome Here!**

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person with differing abilities,

**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!**

### **WELCOME TO VISITING PARENTS**

We offer several child care options and fun activities for kids during worship hour:

- ✧ Infants and toddlers will be cared for in the nursery.
- ✧ Kindergarten through seventh grade will go to class after the Word to Young Worshipers.
- ✧ Crayons and paper for children are also available from ushers.

Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave, and join us for refreshments in Pilgrim Hall downstairs following the service. If you are interested in learning more about our church, or becoming a member, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for one. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Williams Sound Personal PA receiver available for your use in the sanctuary. Pillows for your back support are also available.

### **Office Hours:**

**Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 9:00 - 12:00**

**Church Phone: 440-526-4364**

**e-mail: [buccoh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

## NOVEMBER 24, 2013 – TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **Meditation Music**

Gracious Holy One, we pray that you would renew and restore your entire creation. Bring together all the peoples of the world, now divided by our selfishness, and unite us under Christ's selfless and compassionate Reign. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Praise the Lord, the Mighty King of Honor

Walther

#### **Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ**

#### **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: Draw near to us now, O Holy One,

**People: As we seek to draw near to you.**

L: Be with us in our compassion for those in need,

**P: In our care for those who are vulnerable.**

L: Walk with us as we walk with your children who are lonely and hurting,

**P: Guide our steps as we seek to help and encourage those who are lost and confused.**

L: Inspire us here with your gracious love,

**ALL: That is might flow from our lives into the lives of others!**

#### **\* Hymn of Praise**

Crown with Your Richest Crowns

#301

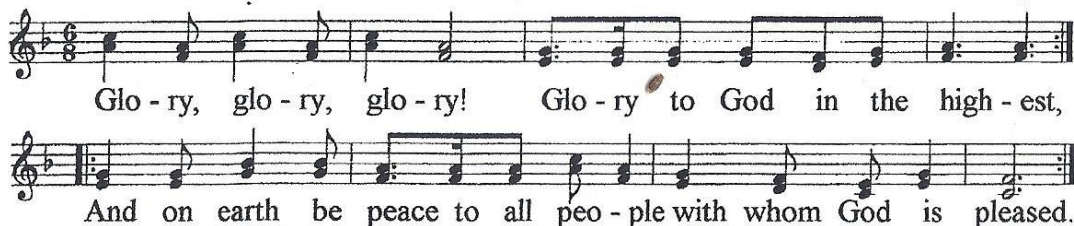
#### **\*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Divine Creator of our world and ourselves, we thank you that you reveal yourself in the events of human history. We thank you that you have shown yourself fully in the person of Jesus Christ, who fully shared his life with others. Help us to follow Christ's example and be fully present with and for one another today and in all our days to come. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**Silent Meditation**

**Prayers of the Church**

**The Old Testament**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Pew Bible, page 725

**The New Testament**

Luke 23:33-43

Pew Bible, page 89

**The Continuing Testament**

from *Christ the King*

by J. Barry Vaughn

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

He Is King of Kings

African-American spiritual

**Sermon**

*A Lesson in Leadership*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

We Love your Realm, O God

#312

***The Church at Prayer***

**Our Lord's Prayer** [the additional use of "Mother" is optional, according to One's theological understanding]

**...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.**

**Organ Response**

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

## **The Invitation**

### **Offertory**

Before the Throne of God Above

Cook

“Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong, a perfect plea,  
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,  
who ever lives and pleads for me.”

Charitie L. De Chenez (1841-1923)

### **\*The 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]**

**Gracious God, accept these offerings that we present to you, and grant that the causes to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance and bring glory to your name. Help us also to give ourselves fully and freely to the work of your Present and Coming Realm, that the love of Christ might shine through us and throughout the world! Amen.**

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

### **\* Hymn of Departure**

Jesus Shall Reign

#300

**Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

Acolyte

## **Circle of Fellowship**

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 through once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith.



### \*Commission and Benediction

**Postlude**

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

Owen

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS

AThe Forbes Family, Doug Lightbody, The Family of Nancy Foose, Bill & Ann Toneff, Kathleen Stewart, Tina Ortiz, Frank Ditzig, Mary D'Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, Cindy Burton, Effie Pappas, Betty Batsch, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

Attendance Sunday, November 17, 2013 –Adults: 120 Kids: 15 Total: 135

### **BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAYS FLOWERS** are given by Jane & Cliff Cribbs in Memory of Earl O. Brooke, and George Sartis.

**WE WELCOME** all our guests who are worshiping with us today. Please sign our guest book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for Coffee Hour.

**OUR COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE** will be held tonight at 7:00 at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, 8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville. This event is open to all, and sponsored by the Brecksville-Broadview Heights-Independence Interfaith Leaders group.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!** Please join us directly after worship on Sunday, December 8 for our congregational meeting, in which we will present the proposed budget and review the slate of ministry members for 2014. This should take 15 minutes and your attendance is appreciated. If you have any additional items to discuss, please contact

Pastor Dave or Diane Gressley.

**DOUG LIGHTBODY** is now receiving rehabilitation services through Mentis Ohio, located in Stow. The address is Mentis Ohio, 3625 Marsh Road, Stow, OH. 44224. Doug would gladly welcome your cards and words of encouragement, as well as a short visit in the evening or on weekends. Directions to Mentis Rehab are available in the Church Office.

**NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUCC** on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> at our morning worship service. If you are interested in joining, learning more about membership - or about our congregation or denomination - please talk with Pastor Dave

**PLEASE BE SURE** to enter your meeting and event schedule in the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the weekly bulletin and in the monthly Pillar.

**SHARE IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT OF GIVING!** Our annual Christmas Adopt-a-Family project will have a new name this year: Adopt-an-Individual. We hope the whole congregation will reach out generously as they always have. Some of the items that would be appreciated are: queen-sized sheet sets (flannel or regular), blanket or two, Bedspread (non-bulky, velour-like) bath towel sets, kitchen towels, potholder (no Mitts), and dishcloths, gift cards for stores such as T J Maxx, Kohl's, Target, Dots, etc, and of course the always welcome checks to BUCC [noted "Adopt-an-Individual], or cash with the same notation on the envelope. More info and suggestions will follow in the December Pillar.

## ***THE READINGS***

### **The Old Testament - Jeremiah 23:1-6**

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Holy One. Therefore thus says the Holy One, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Holy One. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing. The days are surely coming, declares the Holy One, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

### **The New Testament - Luke 23:33-43**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "God, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God's chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who was hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

## **The Continuing Testament - from *Christ the King* - by J. Barry Vaughn [edited]**

This world's kingdoms are about power and prestige; Jesus is about service and humility. The rulers of this world are about coercion and violence; Jesus' life is characterized by peace and reconciliation. The irony of the crucifixion is that Jesus is sentenced to die for claiming to be a king. However, even while being nailed to the cross, Jesus demonstrates that it's his executioners who are in need of a royal pardon, and that he has the power to grant it. In pardoning those who execute him, Jesus shows us the power of forgiveness. In forgiving others, we too can exercise a majestic, Christ-like power and grace....

Kings and rulers are usually surrounded by throngs of flatterers. In contrast, Jesus surrounds himself with the poor and marginalized. He crosses social and religious boundaries by accepting women as disciples. His critics charge that he eats and drinks with sinners and prostitutes. And even on the cross, Jesus continues his habit of associating with society's despised and disreputable. "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom," prayed the penitent thief; and it is our prayer as well. We make our prayer to Christ the King, whose arms are *always* outstretched in love.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 11/24/2013</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	7 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service St. Joseph Byzantine
<b>Wednesday 11/27/2013</b>	6 am	Early Birds
<b>Thursday 11/28/2013</b>		<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b> <b>*Office Closed*</b>
<b>Friday 11/29/2013</b>		<b>*Office Closed*</b>
<b>Sunday 12/1/2013</b>	10 am	Worship
	11 am	Coffee Hour



**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**NOVEMBER 24, 2013**

<b>LAY READER:</b>	<b>Evie Novak</b>
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	<b>Bob Chandler</b>
<b>USHERS:</b>	<b>Dan Stewart, Sam Koch, Bridget &amp; Chad Sproul</b>
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	<b>Jillian Davis</b>
<b>PEACE CANDLE:</b>	<b>Olivia Klonowski</b>
<b>SOUND:</b>	<b>David Pastor</b>
<b>COMMONS GRTR:</b>	<b>Lee Sanderson</b>
<b>NARTHEX GRTR:</b>	<b>Pat Bailey</b>
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	<b>Lenore Harris</b>
<b>NURSERY:</b>	<b>Shauna Bigelow</b>
<b>COUNTERS:</b>	<b>Mac Hoppel, Carole Snider</b>
<b>SERVERS:</b>	<b>Caroline Chandler &amp; Dorie Gabor</b>
<b>CLEAN-UP:</b>	<b>Bob Chandler, Jill Zedan</b>
<b>SNACKS:</b>	<b>Melissa Lund &amp; Tia Began</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**DECEMBER 1, 2013**

<b>LAY READER:</b>	<b>Evie Novak</b>
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	<b>Beth Oravec</b>
<b>USHERS:</b>	<b>Dorie Gabor, Linda Kriynovich, Fred Pesek, Beth Rehling</b>
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	<b>Ian Stewart</b>
<b>PEACE CANDLE:</b>	<b>Lily Hunt</b>
<b>SOUND:</b>	<b>David Bernard</b>
<b>COMMONS GRTR:</b>	<b>Ruth Morris</b>
<b>NARTHEX GRTR:</b>	<b>Ann Kelly</b>
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	<b>Hanging Greens</b>
<b>NURSERY:</b>	<b>Val Duffy</b>
<b>COUNTERS:</b>	<b>Nancy Stella, Kathy Pastor</b>
<b>SERVERS:</b>	<b>Joy Garapic, Joanne Cook</b>
<b>CLEAN-UP:</b>	<b>Jane &amp; Cliff Cribbs</b>
<b>SNACKS:</b>	<b>Bridget Sproul &amp; Susan Snyder</b>