

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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

FEBRUARY 9, 2014 – FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Meditation Music

Jesus came to bring good news to the poor, asking his followers to provide energy and resources for that important task. May we be informed, and inspired to change our world, by starting right where we are. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Set My Soul Afire
[Assisted by Percussion Group]

Bartlett

“Set my soul afire, Lord, set my soul afire,
Make my life a witness of thy saving pow’r.
Millions grope in darkness, waiting for thy Word,
Set my soul afire, Lord, set my soul afire.”
Gene Bartlett, 1965

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

L: Blessed be the name of the Holy One, from this time forth and for evermore!

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of God is to be praised.

L: It is good to give thanks to God, to sing praises to the Most High.

P: To declare God's steadfast love in the morning and God's faithfulness by night.

L: People of God, let us praise God together:

All: Glory be to God on high!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Living God

#8

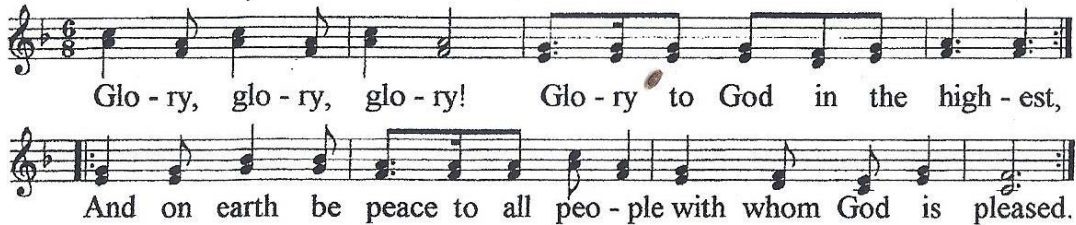
*** Prayer of Invocation [unison]**

Eternal Source of Life and Light, we seek your presence here today. Fill us with a sense of your Being; move us with the power of your Spirit; touch us with faith, hope and love. Come to us and be with us, that we may worship you in this place, and then be prepared to serve you in the world. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 58:2-10

Pew Bible, page 688

The New Testament

Matthew 5:13-20

Pew Bible, page 4

The Continuing Testament by David Ewart in *Holy Textures*

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

You Are the Seed

Gabaráin, arr. Debeck

Sermon

A Sprinkle of Light, Salt

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

#539

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

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

Pastorale

C.P.E. Bach

***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]**

Eternal Light and Abundant Love, the opportunity to share with others is a blessing for which we are truly thankful. May your generous provisions for our lives, prompt us to be generous in return. We pray that you would accomplish your loving purposes through these gifts and through our lives. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, who graciously gave himself for us all. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

#18

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

Almighty God, your word is cast

Johnson

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Doug Lightbody, Bill & Ann Toneff, Kathleen Stewart, Tina Ortiz, Frank Ditzig, Mary D'Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, Cindy Burton, 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, February 2, 2014 –Adults: 89 Kids: 24 Total: 113

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

NEXT SUNDAY OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held immediately after worship. Please plan to attend, as we will finalize our 2014 budget and our list of Church Council and Ministry Team members.

FREE CONCERT NEXT SUNDAY On Sunday February 16 at 4:00 p.m., BUCC will host the **Third Rail Wind Trio** from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. The ensemble will perform works by Mozart, Simon and Villa-Lobos. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the program. We hope you can join us on Feb. 16 to enjoy this highly-recommended student ensemble.

PILLAR DEADLINE – the **March** Pillar deadline is this coming Saturday Feb. 15. Please submit your articles **via email** to Jeannette at buccoh@sbcglobal.net Thank you!

AFTER WORSHIP LUNCH BUNCH - All are welcome to join this spirited group of BUCC worshippers after coffee hour for brunch and some great conversation. We meet at a restaurant most Sundays around Noon. If you are single, widowed, a couple, or a family – anyone that just doesn't want to cook or dine alone, please join us. You'll be glad you did! We usually call in reservations around 11:30, to give the restaurant fair warning. Jon Thompson, Susan Snyder, Dave Debick, Bridget & Chad Sproul, Kathy Smith, Pastor Dave, and I are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have! - Marge Culver

BOWLING PARTY Join us at Northwood Lanes on Sunday, February 23 at 1:00 PM for our Annual Bowling Party. This has always been a fun activity for all ages. Two games and shoes will be \$6. Pizza and Pop will be provided. Bumper lanes available for our youth. Sign up today with someone from Membership. See you there.

UPCAM BOARD NEEDS YOU! UPCAM is the United Protestant Campus Ministry serving Case Western University, Cleveland State University and Tri-C. As a board member you will help provide guidance and leadership to the Executive Director and serve on a committee or project. If you are interested in applying for a board position, contact board member Edward Lusk. To learn more visit www.upcam.org.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

OUR COMPLETE WORSHIP SERVICE, including anthems, hymns, etc., is fed by our sound system to our new audio-CD recorder (CDs are available in the church office for borrowing) and to the narthex speakers (for the benefit of anyone who must leave the sanctuary because of a restless child or for any other reason). If you should use one of the portable microphones during the service, please do not turn it off but return it to its location so that its continuing feed is not eliminated from the system.

THE BLESSINGS JAR is for your use to drop in a note and/or money in response to a special blessing you have received during the week. We would like to recognize your blessing in the Pillar if you wish.

FEBRUARY FOOD PANTRY/CRAFT CUPBOARD items are school supplies.

FOOD PANTRY items of need ***are always:*** canned fruit and vegetables, juice, cereal (hot or cold), Peanut Butter, Jam/Jelly, Toilet Paper, Soap, Toothpaste/Brushes, all Toiletry products. Please, leave your donations in the basket outside of the office door. Monetary contributions are always welcome. Please mark your envelope “Food Pantry.”

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.

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

THE READINGS

The Old Testament - Isaiah 58:2-10

Day after day My people seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Holy One? Is not *this* the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own family?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Holy One shall follow you. Then you shall call, and the Holy One will answer; you shall cry for help, and God will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday!

The New Testament - Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus says “You are the salt of the earth; but if that salt has lost its flavor, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on a lamp-stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Heavenly Parent.

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the Realm of Heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the Realm of Heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Divine Realm!

The Continuing Testament - by David Ewart - in *Holy Textures* [edited]

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount ends with a teaching about the difference between those who are wise and those who are foolish:

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a man who built his house on rock....”

The crucial difference between the one who is wise and the one who is foolish has nothing to do with what we usually associate with wisdom: knowledge, many years of experience, perspective, intelligence, or insight. Nor does it have to do with hearing what Jesus has said. The difference between being either wise or foolish is in *Acting*, or *Not Acting*. Jesus is essentially telling his followers, “Look, here's what's at stake, and what's required of you: You are blessed, now go and be a blessing! Don't think that my teachings replace or reduce the Law and the Prophets. And don't think you can skip the details. Details count. But something more than the details is also needed. You must align your whole self with what God desires - that's what those in the Heavenly Realm are like!”

It is not enough for us to hear these words of Jesus; to study them; to be inspired by them; to have hopes or aspirations or dreams based on them. We must *act* on them, *practice* them and *live* them in our everyday lives.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 2/9/2014

10 am	Worship Service
11am	Coffee Hour
5:30pm	Youth Percussion
6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

Monday 2/10/2014

7 pm	Spiritual Life
------	----------------

Tuesday 2/11/2014

10-11:30am	CWRU Parlor
7 pm	Membership

Wednesday 2/12/2014

6 am	Early Birds
7 pm	Council

Thursday 2/13/2014

1pm	Bible Study
5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
7:30 pm	Choir

Friday 2/14/2014

♥ Happy Valentine's Day! ♥

Sunday 2/16/2014

10 am	Worship
11 am	Congregational Meeting
11:15 am	Coffee Hour
4 pm	FREE CONCERT – Third Rail Wind Trio

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE
FEBRUARY 9, 2014

Lay Reader: Kate Klonowski
Head Usher: Max Roha
Ushers: Sue Stenzel, Val Duffy,
Beth Rehling, Fred Pesek
Acolyte: Lindsey Maier
Peace Cndl: Ryan Stewart
Sound: Mike Westerberg
Commons: Betty Gifford
Narthex: David Pastor
Flowers: Lenore Harris
Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Anna Mary
Fisher
Servers: Carole & George Snider
Clean Up: Jill Zedan, Pat Bailey
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Betsey
Wilson
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
FEBRUARY 16, 2014

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Spencer Whyte, Drew
Wilson, Kathy Pastor,
Betsey Wilson
Acolyte: Ben Rehling
Peace Cndl: Carli Began
Sound: David Bernard
Commons: Carole Snider
Narthex: Sue Stenzel
Flowers: Ruth Thorpe
Nursery: Val Duffy
Counters: Bruce McCain, Carole Snider
Servers: Joanne Cook, Sue Stenzel
Clean Up: David & Kathy Pastor
Snacks: Jane Cribbs & Anne Melfo
Snow Herder: Jim Demko

Divine Interaction

Ron Buford

"And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses who were talking with Jesus." - Mark 9:2-8

When reading this passage, do you wonder what Jesus, Elijah, and Moses said to each other?

The symbolism of Moses, the lawgiver and symbol of the law, and Elijah, the prophet and symbol of the ancient prophets, in dialog with Jesus says something important for us today. It reminds us that the law is not irrelevant, and neither are the writings of the prophets. Both are best understood in communication with each other and with God's exciting new revelation for the world.

It also reminds me of Pete Kaprowski, from Pilgrim UCC in Cleveland, Ohio. When a new, young pastor came to the church and introduced all sorts of new ideas, Pete struggled with and against many of them--especially Open and Affirming (ONA), which affirmed the full inclusion of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered persons in the life of the church. When I interviewed Pete near the end of his life, he said he was grateful that his church had not left him behind in his old thinking, no matter how difficult it had been for him to see the world and hear God's call differently. Pete became an ardent supporter of the things he had once struggled against.

The last time I saw Pete, much older then, he had been brought to church that Sunday by two gay men in the congregation who were among the many caring people at Pilgrim UCC who helped look after him.

Prayer

Gracious God, I want to be like Pete, not left behind, stuck in old thinking, limited spirituality, outmoded ideas, and anger that prevent me from fully engaging the life and work you have for me. I want a bright life of perpetual transformation. With your divine power, please inform and transform me. Amen.