



## **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)**

## MARCH 30, 2014 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### **Meditation Music**

Gracious Holy One, we know a lot about hindsight and about our unwillingness to perceive what is sometimes quite plain. What we truly need is wisdom about how to look ahead, how to see clearly, and how not to close our eyes to others in need. Open our eyes, and our hearts. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Here, Savior, in this Quiet Place

Cutts

“You never said, ‘You ask too much,’  
to any troubled soul.  
I long to feel your healing touch—  
will you not make me whole?”  
Fred Pratt Green, 1974; alt.

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

#### **\* Call to Worship from Psalm 23**

L: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I want.

**P: God makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters;**

L: God restores my soul.

**P: God leads me in right paths for the sake of God's name.**

L: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;

**P: For You are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**P: You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

L: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**All: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#23

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

**Gracious Holy One, we encounter you in places we might not expect, and in people we would never imagine. Sometimes we see you clearly and sometimes we pass by without seeing you at all. Open our eyes to see you here and now -**

to see you among the people in this congregation and among the strangers we meet outside these doors. And open our mouths to speak and sing and shout the Good News of your ever-present love! Amen.

**\*Song of Praise**

**Gathered Here [sung twice]**

The musical notation is written on two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is as follows:  
Staff 1: Measure 1 (marked '1') starts on G4, goes to A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. Measure 2 (marked '2') starts on D4, goes to E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4.  
Staff 2: Measure 3 (marked '3') starts on G4, goes to A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. Measure 4 (marked '4') starts on D4, goes to E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4.  
The lyrics are: 'Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.'

<b>The Old Testament</b>	Genesis 1:1-5; 31	Pew Bible, page 1
<b>The New Testament</b>	John Chapter 9	Pew Bible, page 102
<b>The Continuing Testament</b>	from <i>Sarah Laughed</i>	by Sarah Dylan Breuer
<b>Youth Anthem</b>	Lay Your Hands [ <i>Joyful Noise Choir</i> ]	Landry
<b>Time with Young Worshipers</b>		
<b>Musical Offering</b>	Blin' Man Stood on the Road an' Cried	African-American spiritual, arr. White
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>It Just Dawned on Me....</i>	Pastor Dave Shackle
<b>Hymn of Reflection</b>	Amazing Grace	#547

***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**

Within our darkest night

Berthier

"Within our darkest night,  
you kindle the fire that never dies away,  
never dies away."  
Taizé Community, 1991

#### **\*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]**

**Divine Source of Life and Light, we are thankful that you have entrusted to us  
the joy and responsibility of sharing with others the vision of New Life which  
Jesus Christ came to reveal. Accept these offerings, that they may be a sign of  
our love for you and for others. Use these gifts and use our lives to advance  
your Realm of Compassion and Peace within our community and throughout  
our world. Amen.**

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

**\* Hymn of Departure**      Arise, Your Light Is Come

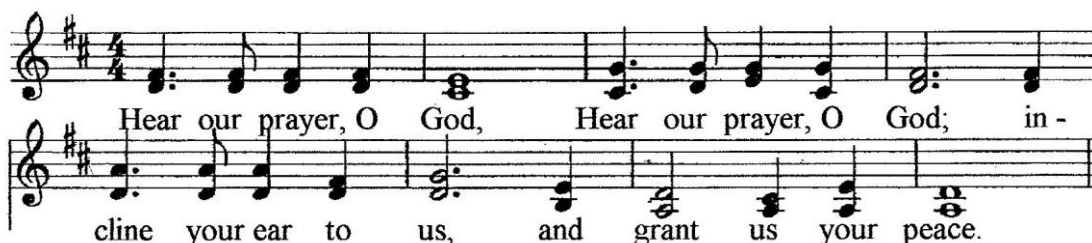
#164

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

Acolyte

**\* Circle of Community**

*As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Hear our Prayer, O God.** After the benediction is pronounced, we will sing it once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith.*



**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Allegretto

Tournemire

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

Jim & Betty Kaul, Ruth Thorpe, David Durkit and the Family of Bob Green, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, Tina Ortiz, Frank Ditzig, Mary D'Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

Attendance Sunday, March 23 2014 – Adults: 84 Kids: 13 Total: 97

## ***BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given by Nathan & Heather Hunt in Honor of Grace and Lily's Grandmother, Nora Scanlan, who is dancing in Heaven!

**A LONG-STANDING LENTEN TRADITION** within the Christian Church is to "put away" hymns or verses that contain "Alleluia" - and to set a more reflective tone with our musical selections. The purpose of doing this is so that on Easter Sunday our "Alleluias" can ring-out with freshness and renewed vigor, as we hail the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different "Song of Praise" and concluding hymn for the benediction today.

**DURING THE LENTEN SEASON** Pastor Dave will be leading a Tuesday Evening Bible Study on the seven "I AM" statements of Jesus from the Gospel of John. These sessions will be held from 7:15- 8:30 pm. in Pilgrim Hall. Each of these statements can be studied on its own, so please feel free to attend any or all of these gatherings. Here's what we will be studying: I AM...

...The Way, The Truth, and The Life / ...The Gate - April 1<sup>st</sup>

...The Resurrection and the Life - April 8<sup>th</sup>

**THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** is TODAY. Please respond generously. There are many uses for this resource - food, clean water, medicines and medical supplies, shelter, education, and other things.

**EASTER FLOWERS DEADLINE CHANGE** Please note that the Deadline to order Easter Flowers has been changed to April 6, 2014 a week earlier than the previous Deadline.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH MINISTRY** is making some final touches (and continual updates) to our website at [www.brecksvilleucc.org](http://www.brecksvilleucc.org) One of the suggestions that we are looking forward to implement is to populate the current pictures (especially on the home page) with pictures/photos from our own church family. In order to do that, we are requesting that you review the social media policy and release form. We want to be sensitive to people's privacy but also celebrate all the wonderful happenings that occur every week at our church. Please complete the social media photo/video release form, copies are in the office. Thanks for your cooperation. If you should have any questions, call Diane Gressley @ 440.417.2675 or [digressley@gmail.com](mailto:digressley@gmail.com)

**THE BUCC LIBRARY** calls your attention to the books for Lent and Easter on the red book cart. Lenten and Easter books for children are included among the children's books on the lowest shelf. The middle shelf contains recently cataloged books for adults. The

top shelf contains Lenten and Easter books for adults, along with new and older issues of Still Speaking, the UCC magazine.

**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.

**MARCH FOOD PANTRY** Items are Spaghetti Sauce and Pasta.

**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 members alike, to help us to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

## ***THE READINGS***

### **The Old Testament - Genesis 1:1 -5; 31**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness, Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day....

God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good!

### **The New Testament - from *John* Chapter 9**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of the One who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.



The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought the man who had formerly been blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. The Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided.... A second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, is that once I was blind, but now I see.... If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out of the synagogue.

When Jesus heard that they had driven him out, he went and found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

**The Continuing Testament** - from *Sarah Laughed* - by Sarah Dylan Breuer [edited]

It's sensible to start with the idea that God is just, compassionate, and in control. But when we look around, we see there's a lot of suffering and heartache in this world. It makes us wonder about why people suffer. There's got to be a reason for all that pain and grief. However, spending too much of our time and energy trying to figure out how God operates in this world, can leave us with little left to actually deal with the reality that's in front of us. I'm as intellectually curious as the next person; but I must avoid the temptation of devoting so much energy *talking* about Jesus compassion, rather than actually *extending* that compassion to others.

In ministering to the man born blind, Jesus answers that very important question of what we should do when we see human suffering. I think Jesus' answer can be summarized as this: "Get back to work!" And maybe the most damning point this raises against Jesus' accusers, is they did not know the blind man who was healed. He sat and begged there

daily, and every day they walked by him, but when the time came, they couldn't be sure of who he was. Or maybe they'd identified him solely by the darkness they thought was inside him - as a social problem indicative of how far society had sunk. For whatever reason, they'd never looked him in the eye or really noticed his face.

As God's people, you and I are called to find some way to look people in the eye before we take their money or as we give ours - to find a face and a name where others see only columns and figures representing social problems or potential profits. Questions about how things got this way and theological reflection have their place, but never at the expense of our call as God's servants and Jesus' followers. We cannot be light to the world until we can see that light in the eyes of beggars in our own town and in our global village - a brother or sister with a face and a name. Jesus shows us the way, and his presence with us gives us courage to live it.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 3/30/2014</b>	10 am	Worship - One Great Hour of Sharing
	11 am	Coffee Hour
<b>Tuesday 4/1/2014</b>	10-11:30 am	CWRU – Parlor
	7 pm	Membership
	7:15-8:30	Adult Bible Study (Pilgrim Hall)
<b>Wednesday 4/2/2014</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	5 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
<b>Thursday 4/3/2014</b>	1pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8 pm	Choir
<b>Saturday 4/5/2014</b>	9 am	Facilities
<b>Sunday 4/6/2014</b>	10 am	Worship
	11am	Coffee Hour
	11am	Leadership Development
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**MARCH 30, 2014**

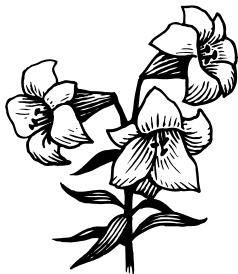
**Lay Reader:** Spencer Whyte  
**Head Usher:** Max Roha  
**Ushers:** Jim Duffy, Linda  
Kriynovich, Dorie Gabor,  
Drew Wilson  
**Acolyte:** Ian Stewart  
**Peace Cndl:** Indira Bigelow  
**Sound:** Val Duffy  
**Commons:** Joanne Cook  
**Narthex:** Chad Sproul  
**Flowers:** Betty Gifford  
**Nursery:** Peg Duffy  
**Counters:** Carole Snider, David Pastor  
**Servers:** Dorie Gabor, Caroline Chandler  
**Clean-Up:** Bob Chandler, Lynne Struck  
**Snacks:** Marilyn Wrights, Lenore Harris  
**Snow Hrdr:** David Pastor

## **PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**APRIL 6, 2014**

**Lay Reader:** Evie Novak  
**Head Usher:** Anne Melfo, Caroline Chandler  
**Ushers:** Kate Klonowski, Matt Wolbert, Carole & George Snider  
**Acolyte:** Carrie Coyer-Westerberg  
**Peace Cndl:** Amy Coyer-Westerberg  
**Sound:** Mike Westerberg  
**Commons:** Kathy Pastor  
**Narthex:** Joanne Cook  
**Flowers:** Lenore Harris  
**Nursery:** Marla Corrado  
**Counters:** Bruce McCain,  
Anna Mary Fisher  
**Servers:** Celia, Emily, Darlene Kelly  
**Clean Up:** Kathy Smith, Jon Thompson  
**Snacks:** Susan Snyder & Sue Maier  
**Snow Herder:** Wes Novak

## **CELEBRATE EASTER WITH FLOWERS IN OUR SANTUARY**



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Easter with those who are ill or shut-in, or have recently lost a loved one. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, and turn it in to the Church Office

**DEADLINE – SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

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**I Enclose \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ or other \_\_\_\_\_ for Easter Plants**

**In Memory \_\_\_\_\_ or Honor \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_**

**Of \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Your Name**

\_\_\_\_\_

**I will help Deliver Plants to shut-ins after Easter \_\_\_\_\_**