

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

APRIL 27, 2014 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Meditation Music

The peace of Christ, like the love of God, moves in mysterious ways. Often not our ways. May we be open to the realm of possibilities that Christ's peace may infuse into our community and our world. Amen

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Christ lag in Todesbanden

J. S. Bach

“Christ lay in death's bonds
handed over for our sins,
he is risen again
and has brought us life.
For this we should be joyful,
praise God and be thankful to our Lord,
and sing alleluia,
Alleluia!”
Martin Luther (1524)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Sing a new song!

People: A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth

Sing praise to our Still-Laughing Easter God

Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday

Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth

We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat

For God has taken ordinary things

And made them extraordinary

All: Sing a New Song!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

#230

*** Prayer of Invocation** [unison]

Holy God,
as you have taken what we call an absurdity
and turned it into possibility.....
as you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias
where once there was a gray dawn,
as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit
into an undreamed of tomorrow,
we praise you for this day!
Come, Risen Christ,
in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. **Amen.**

***Song of Praise**

Gloria
[sung twice]



The Old Testament

Psalm 16

The New Testament

John 20: 19:-31

The Continuing Testament

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

How Often We, like Thomas, Need Proof

Scottish melody,
Lyrics E. S. Downing

Sermon

"Pass it On"

Rev. Patricia Jefferies

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise

R. R. Terry

***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]**

**Loving God, can a laughing prayer be lifted up to you this Eastertide?
Can these gifts, given with love, be further transformed like echoes of grace,
Delighting all who receive their blessings? May it be so, through the giddy
Power of your Holy Spirit, and may our lives speak of a Still Laughing God,
Full of Easter surprises. Amen.**

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

"Peace I Leave with You my Friends"

#249

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 **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (3 times) Hallelujah, Hallelujah.** 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

Spread the News that our World is Redeemed Traditional Persian melody
[Assisted by Percussion Group]

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Jill Black (Jim Duffy's Aunt), 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, April 20, 2014 – Adults: 155 Kids: 24 Total: 179

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.

FREE CONCERT Next Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 p.m., Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring virtuoso **violinist Jinjoo Cho**. Ms. Cho, a recent performance graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music, has won numerous international violin competitions, and has performed with The Cleveland Orchestra, several Canadian symphony orchestras, Seoul Philharmonic, Kalamazoo Symphony, Louisville Orchestra and CityMusic Cleveland. **Pianist Hyunsoo Kim** will accompany Ms. Cho. He recently completed his Artist Diploma at CIM, and has performed with the University of Delaware Symphony Orchestra, the Newark Symphony Orchestra and numerous community orchestras in the Delaware region. Repertoire on the May 4 program will include works by Mozart, Paganini, Prokofiev and Waxman. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the concert. Mark your calendars and plan on joining us May 4 to hear these outstanding young musicians.

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF BASEBALL AND FAMILY FUN. We have reserved 35 seats at the Akron Rubber Ducks (Double A affiliate of the Cleveland Indians) game on June 1st at 2:00 P.M. Tickets are \$6.00 per person, and seats are in the stands between home plate and 1st base. We will have our group recognized on the scoreboard; we will get a group photo, and get discounts in the gift shop. Hot dogs will only be \$2.00 and kids will get an opportunity to run the bases. A sign-up sheet will be available at coffee hour. Tickets must be paid for by May 4, so we can confirm our seats.

SPRING YARD CLEANUP is scheduled for Saturdays April 26 and May 3, from 8:30 - 11 or so) am. The church property is again in need of our TLC. On April 26 we will be cleaning up the winter debris and preparing the planting area opposite the south entry for replanting. (See Kathy Pastor's plan elsewhere in this Pillar.) On May 3 we will do the new planting and mulch all beds. Please consider joining our faithful workers for a morning of fellowship, exercise and refreshments. Work starts at 8:30, but you are welcome to start when you wish and work as long as you like. Bring gloves and your favorite tools. A sign-up sheet will be available after worship downstairs at Happy Hour.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS: Summer and vacation time is coming. If you know that you will be out of town in the coming months please let me know either at my phone 440-526-9714 or by e-mail (chandler9143@roadrunner.com). Thank You, Caroline Chandler.

RUTH THORPE'S NEW ADDRESS is 9633 Valley View Rd. #1608 Macedonia Ohio 44056 [Summit Point] She would be happy to receive a visit or note from any of our BUCC Family. Her phone number is [330-468-3969]

APRIL FOOD PANTRY Items are Rice & Tuna.

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 – Psalm 16

Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.

O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee;

But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.

Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.

The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore

The New Testament – John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Continuing Testament

"We are now in the season called Eastertide. Perhaps it is a fitting time to consider that our resurrection faith has tidal qualities.

It breaks upon us as waters upon the shore, molding and shaping. Sometimes it smooth's out our rough and jagged edges and at other times it pulls at us to expose new sharpness. It uncovers what has previously been hidden.

Faith brings surprises, laying them before us as though they were dropped by an outgoing tide. Its offerings connect us with people in far-off places; its gifts include living things such as hope and charity.

Faith tells us of God's power and grace, both ever in motion as the seas, both ever present whether we are at high or low points in our lives.

Faith constantly beckons. It seems to stretch toward us as the waters of a new-broken wave reach out to the walker on the shore.

In gathering together during his season, we open ourselves to a God who changes us, surprises us, informs us, draws us. May our worship be Eastertidal, our community filled with Spirit.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 4/27/2014

10 am	Worship
11 am	Coffee Hour
5:30 pm	Youth Percussion

Tuesday 4/29/2014

10-11:30 am	CWRU – Parlor
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Wednesday 4/30/201

6 am	Early Birds
5 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer

Thursday 5/1/2014

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

Saturday 5/3/2014

8:30-11am	Yard Planting/Mulching
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Sunday 5/4/2014

10 am	Worship Service
11 am	Coffee Hour
4 pm	*Free Concert* Jinjoo Cho, Violin, Hyun Soo Kim, Piano

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 27, 2014

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Diane Gressley
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Beth Rehling, Dorie Gabor
Acolyte: Ian Stewart
Peace Cndl: Ryan Stewart
Sound: Kevin Smith
Commons: George Snider
Narthex: Ann Kelly
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Shauna Bigelow
Counters: Mac Hoppel, Dassie Matsuoka
Servers: Robin Coyer-Westerberg &
Joanne Cook
Clean Up: Jan Renovetz, Kathy Pastor
Snacks: Marge Culver & Bridget Sproul

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MAY 4, 2014

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz & Anne Melfo
Ushers: Jan & Cliff Cribbs,
Dottie & Jim Farwell
Acolyte: Courtni Began
Peace Cndl: Garrett Demko
Sound: Val Duffy
Commons: Betty Gifford
Narthex: Marge Culver
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Nancy Stella, Mac Hoppel
Servers: Dorie Gabor, Joy Garapic
Clean Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Marge Culver, Lenore Harris

AUTHOR: LILLIAN DANIEL

"Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it." -
Proverbs 13:11

A chocolate left on a turned-down bed signifies a lovely hotel. It's such a treat.

But at a recent meeting, the hotel receptionist offered us a choice of chocolate when we checked in. "Do you prefer milk chocolate or dark?" she asked, "With or without almonds?"

After guests answered, they were presented with an entire chocolate bar to take up to their room! But perhaps such extravagance can be explained by the context. We were in Hershey, Pennsylvania, after all.

Still, that gesture reflects a change in our culture over the last decades. If you order a regular soda, you get something massive. If you order a small, you get what used to be large. The fast food drive through is not the only place where things get supersized. It seems to happen everywhere.

It used to be a small chocolate left on a bed was a surprise, a moment of grace. But at that hotel, we got to choose our flavor and then got the whole chocolate bar. What effect does that have on us? I'm not sure it makes us "sweeter."

I wonder if, when I next stay at a hotel that leaves a chocolate on the bed, if I will be disappointed. Will I start grousing: "What? Just a little piece of candy? Not the whole bar? And what if I wanted another flavor?"

Sometimes being given too much spoils us for smaller things. With so many choices and such large portions, are we losing the ability to taste and appreciate the smaller gifts, like a tiny piece of chocolate left on a bed?

PRAYER

Dear God, adjust my eyesight to see the small, tiny, precious gifts of grace in my supersized world.