



## **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)**

## JULY 20, 2014 – SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **Meditation Music**

Gracious Holy One, who searches for us, who wants to know us and be known to us: help us recognize your Presence in this present moment. In the midst of the ordinary, in the midst of the burdens we carry, bless us with your vision of wholeness and peace, and heal our divisions. Remind us that your Grace can truly transform our world; and move us from fear, to love. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

Parry

“There is water in the river  
bringing life to tree and plant.  
Let creation praise its giver:  
there is water in the font.”  
Fred Kaan, 1965

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

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

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

L: Spirit of Mercy, Peace and Strength,

**P: We bring ourselves to you this day.**

L: We bring all that we value;

**P: We bring all that we love.**

L: We bring our hopes and our fears;

**P: We bring our faith and our prayers.**

L: Gather us together in your grace,

**All: And guide us in your loving ways!**

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

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

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

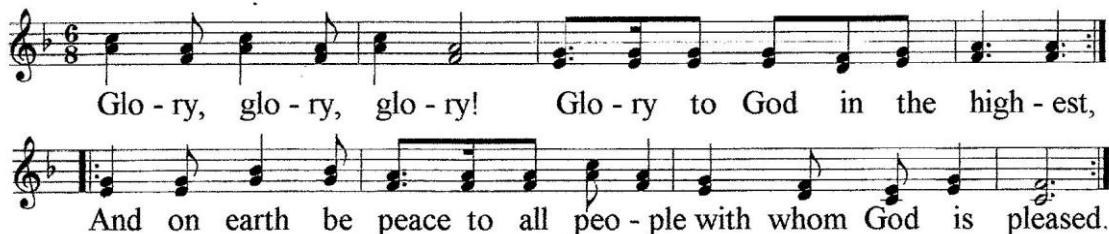
**Welcoming Holy One, you open your arms to everyone, and your loving embrace reaches out to the whole creation. As we come together today, teach us to welcome others as joyfully as you have welcomed us. Open our eyes to see those**

who are waiting for an invitation, and open our hearts to be the welcoming people you call us to be. Enlighten us with your Spirit and guide us by your Grace. Amen.

**\*Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**Time with Young Worshipers**

***Sacrament of Holy Baptism***

L: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism bears witness to the Divine Love and Grace that is extended to each of us at every stage of our lives.

**P: Today we celebrate God's love for this child, and offer ourselves as instruments of that love in her life.**

L: When parents brought their children to Jesus so that he might touch them, his disciples rebuked them; but when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them,

**P: "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the Realm of God.**

L: Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Realm of God like a little child, shall not enter it."

**P: Then Jesus took the children into his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.**

L: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is an outward and visible sign of Divine Grace. Because the promise of the Gospel is not only to us, but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's Church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith.

**P: Out of the Water of Holy Baptism, we rise with new life, forgiveness and grace as members of the One Body of Christ.**

**Promises of the Parents**

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

**Parents: We do.**

Pastor: Will you encourage her to resist the power of evil, and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

**Parents: We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Will you teach and encourage her that she may be inspired to know and follow Jesus Christ?

**Parents: We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise to grow with her in the Christian faith, to help her be a faithful member of the Church - by celebrating Christ’s presence here, by furthering Christ’s mission in the world, and by offering her the on-going nurture of the Church?

**Parents: We do, with the help of God.**

**The Congregational Promise**

Pastor: Members and friends of Brecksville United Church of Christ: Are you prepared to welcome, encourage and pray for Claire as she grows in faith among us?

**People: We promise her our love, our support and our care as she lives and grows among us as a child of God.**

**Baptismal Act and Presentation**

<b>The Old Testament</b>	Psalm 139:1-12	<i>The Voice</i> Translation
<b>The New Testament</b>	Romans 8:13-25	Pew Bible, page 158
<b>The Continuing Testament</b>	from <i>Trinity</i>	by William Loader

<b>Musical Offering</b>	The Potter’s Hand [Jon Thompson, bass]	Zschech
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<b>Sermon</b>	<i>That’s Quite a Grip God’s Got!</i>	Pastor Dave Shackle
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<b>Hymn of Reflection</b>	Surely No One Can Be Safer	#487
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***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**

Gradual

Batiste

**\*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 Holy One, we offer our gifts from the many gifts that have been  
entrusted to us. May they be used to help bring the light of your love to people  
and places where it is needed. Help us to bear witness to your amazing love and  
grace, not only through our generous giving, but also through our dedicated  
living. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Example, Savior and  
Friend. Amen.**

## ***Holy Communion***

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**The Invitation**

## Receiving the Bread and Cup

### Communion Music

Una Espiga (Sheaves of Summer)  
[Assisted by Percussion Group]

Gabaraín

“Sheaves of summer turned golden by the sun,  
grapes in bunches cut down when ripe and red,  
are converted into the bread and wine of God’s love  
in the body and blood of our dear Lord.”

Cesareo Gabaraín, 1973; tr. by George Lockwood

### The Blessing

#### *Going with God’s Love*

### \*Hymn of Depart

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

#82

### 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

Mighty God, to Thy Dear Name

Trad. Norwegian folk song

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

Don & Eleanor Kusa, Lee Sanderson, Jim & Betty Kaul, Ruth Thorpe, 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, July 13, 2014 – Adults: 73 Kids: 7 Total: 80

**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.

**TODAY WE WELCOME *Claire Elizabethy Esser***, daughter of Danyel and Brian Esser, into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. A special welcome also to her Grandparents Eileen Savarda, Eugene Esser, Katherine Procop and other family and friends visiting with us on this special day. We ask God's continuing blessings on Claire and her family, and on our entire BUCC Family of Faith!

**PASTOR DAVE WILL BE ON VACATION** until July 28th. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor John King at 330-475-4206

**THE FAMILY OF DIANE AND JUDD HOSTETLER** will be holding a remembrance for Diane on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00am at the Brecksville Cemetery. Diane passed away this year on February 25<sup>th</sup>. They will also be remembering Diane's brother, Judd, who passed away in 2001, and honoring Merle and Kaye Hostetler, long-time members of the BUCC. A gravestone for Judd will be dedicated at this same time. Friends are invited to attend the remembrance, and a lunch at the Creekside Restaurant at 1:00 pm.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given by Max Roha in Loving Memory of David Jeffries Roha (5/7/1950-7/18/2014), Mary Chapman Roha (8/14/1922-7/21/2001), and Lois Wallin (3/24/1923-7/21/2007).

**FINANCE** quarterly statements are ready to be picked up in the Upper Commons.



**RUTH THORPE** has moved. She is now at Pine Valley 4360 Brecksville Road, Room 106, Richfield, OH 44286. It would truly brighten her day to receive a card or visit from her BUCC Family and Friends.

**HUNGER MEAL** - The next hunger meal will be on Sunday, August 3rd at Bethany UCC. The sign - up board can be found in the narthex. BUCC members and friends are invited to sign up for either the 2:30 to 4:30 shift or the 4:00 to 6:00 shift.

**GARDENIG ANGELS** Keeping up with Mother Nature around our house of worship is no small task! We are still looking for volunteers to help maintain small sections of the church grounds. This Gardening Angels program involves a small amount of time per month done at your convenience. Please contact Kathy Pastor for more information at 440-554-7971. Thank you to those who have helped so far!

**THE PEACE CANDLE** is placed up front every Sunday to remind us of Jesus' teachings on peace and peacemakers. We pray that peace between nations, within our country, community, families, and ourselves will become a priority for all.

**JULY FOOD PANTRY:** Toothpaste, Shampoo, and Toilet Paper.

**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 139:1-12 - *The Voice* Translation

O Eternal One, You have explored my heart and know exactly who I am; You even know the small details like when I take a seat and when I stand up again. Even when I am far away, You know what I'm thinking. You observe my wanderings and my sleeping, my waking and my dreaming, and You know everything I do in more detail than even I know. You know what I'm going to say long before I say it. It is true, Eternal One, that You know everything and everyone. You have surrounded me on every side, behind me and before me, and You have placed Your hand gently on my shoulder. It is the most amazing feeling to know how deeply You know me, inside and out; the realization of it is so great that I cannot comprehend it.

Can I go anywhere apart from Your Spirit? Is there anywhere I can go to escape Your watchful presence? If I go up into heaven, You are there. If I make my bed in the realm of the dead, You are there. If I ride on the wings of morning, if I make my home in the most isolated part of the ocean, even then You will be there to guide me; Your right hand will embrace me, for You are always there. Even if I am afraid and think to myself, “No doubt the darkness will swallow me, the light around me will be turned to night” - You can see in the dark, for it is not dark to Your eyes. For You the night is just as bright as the day. Darkness and light are the same to Your eyes.

### **The New Testament** - Romans 8:13-25

*Saint Paul writes*, All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of bondage to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God. And if we are children, then we are heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ; if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it. The great hope is that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay, and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

### **The Continuing Testament** - from *Trinity* - by William Loader [edited]

The hope which keeps Paul going, is not simply a belief about some far-off future. For Paul, the *Spirit* is an important component of that future hope which has already been given. Elsewhere he speaks of it as a “down-payment” or “advance instalment” - yet it is much less materialistic, and much more personal. Its focus is not on things, but on a personal relationship. So Paul uses family language. The Spirit brings a sense of belonging, which Paul connects to the confidence of knowing that one is a child of God. The love which is at the heart of the Good News invites us to belong. Paul is celebrating that sense of belonging.

Paul describes the change that comes over people when they open themselves to the radical love of which the Gospel speaks. As Christ died and rose, so people will make a similar major shift when they respond to this love. For Paul, the radical message of Jesus is that love offers belonging and forgiveness; and that goodness flows, not because of fear of disobedience, but because love begets love. Love is the fruit of the Spirit, which comes from the newly restored relationship with God. That being said, Paul is not a *status* Christian. He has no time for people smugly claiming they are “saved” because of some past conversion. What matters, is the ongoing relationship, not the moment of first acquaintance [or: the *marriage*, not the wedding!] The true focus is on God the person, not the ‘gift’ of some future heaven. This relationship does include the future, which helps make the suffering of present bearable. But what truly thrills Paul is the sharing of God’s life here, and there, and everywhere!

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 7/20/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
<b>Wed 7/23/2014</b>	6 am	Early Birds
<b>Thursday 7/24/2014</b>	1pm	Bible Study
<b>Sunday 7/27/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**JULY 20, 2014**

**Lay Reader:** Sue Stenzel  
**Head Usher:** Evie Novak  
**Ushers:** Jim Duffy, Wes Novak,  
David & Julie Bernard  
**Acolyte:** Michalina Fawcett  
**Peace Candel:** Indira Bigelow  
**Sound:** Doug Fawcett  
**Comms Grtr:** Dot Bailey  
**Narthex Grtr:** Stu Bailey  
**Flowers:** Jan Renovetz  
**Nursery:** Val Duffy  
**Counters:** Stu Bailey, Betty Kaul  
**Servers:** Joanne Cook  
**Clean-Up:** Jill Zedan

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**JULY 27, 2014**

**Lay Reader:** Kathy Pastor  
**Head Usher:** Diane Gressley  
**Ushers:** Heidi Spangler, Mac Hoppel  
Dot & Stu Bailey  
**Acolyte:** Ryan Stewart  
**Peace Candle:** Evan Merritt  
**Sound:** Max Roha  
**Comms Grtr:** Betty & Jim Kaul  
**Narthex Grtr:**  
**Flowers:** Dot Bailey  
**Nursery:** Marla Corrado  
**Counters:** Carole Snider, Dassie Matsuoka  
**Servers:** Sue Stenzel  
**Clean-Up:** Jan Renovetz

## PHOTOGRAPH & VIDEO RELEASE FORM

I hereby grant BUCC permission to the rights of my image, likeness and sound of my voice as recorded on audio or video without payment or any other consideration. I understand that my image may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed and waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of my image or recording.

I agree that BUCC may use such images, video, and/or audio of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.

There is no time limit on the validity of this release nor is there any geographic limitation on where these materials may be distributed.

By signing this form I acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the above release and agree to be bound thereby. I hereby release, defend, hold harmless and indemnify BUCC from any and all claims for utilizing this material.

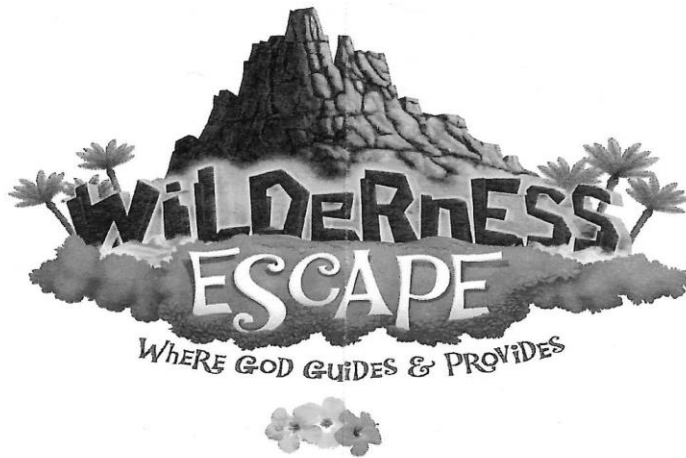
FullName \_\_\_\_\_  
StreetAddress/POBox \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal/ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

If this release is obtained for someone under the age of 18, then the signature of that person's parent or legal guardian is also required.

I verify that I am the parent/guardian of the minor named above and have the legal authority to execute the above release. I have read this release and fully understand its contents. I approve the foregoing and waive any rights in the premises.

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Join the celebration!**

**Vacation Bible School  
August 4-8  
9 a.m. to Noon**

**3-5 year olds and  
Kindergarten through the 5th grade**

**Cost: \$5.00 per family**

**Register by contacting:  
Independence Presbyterian Church  
6624 Public Square  
Independence, OH 44131  
[ipc\\_6624@att.net](mailto:ipc_6624@att.net)  
216 524-6307  
[ipcusa.org](http://ipcusa.org)**

**See you there!!**



# WILDERNESS ESCAPE REGISTRATION FORM

**Vacation Bible School**  
**Independence Presbyterian Church**  
6624 Public Square, Independence, OH 44131  
216 524-6307 \*\*\* ipc\_6624@att.net

**August 4-8 \*\*\* 9 A.M. to Noon**

**\$5.00 Fee Per Family**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**In case of emergency (when the parent/guardian cannot be reached) please contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list any allergies (including food allergies), medical information, other concerns the VBS staff should be aware of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Person responsible for picking up this child at the end of each VBS day:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

## **Obeying the Future**

### **Mary Luti**

*"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving . . ." - Ephesians 4:32*

Preacher Tom Long once observed that the gospel's brand of kindness is different from just being nice to others. It's "an act of civil disobedience."

Like the time he was waiting to catch a flight, sitting at a gate across from a fast food joint. The place was empty except for a disheveled, muttering man slumped unsteadily over a table. Long saw the manager heading his way and assumed he was going to throw the guy out. But the manager was carrying a hot dog and set it down in front of the man. Then he went back for a coffee and set that down too.

It was as if the manager was saying, "In a few minutes I'm probably going to have to be the manager of this restaurant, and you're going to have to be an undesirable disheveled guy, and I'm going to have to ask you to leave. But for a moment, for as long as we can, let's be who we are becoming by grace, let's be who we will be fully and finally in God's future. Here. Welcome to the feast, brother. Welcome to the feast."

Every kindness is a refusal to live by the *status quo*. Every kindness disobeys the orders of the world. Every kindness pulls back the curtain on God's tomorrow.

Let's pull back a lot of curtains today.

### **Prayer**

Make us disobedient to our present and obedient to your future, O God, so that we may truly be kind.