



## **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)**

## SEPTEMBER 28, 2014 – SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **Meditation Music**

God of all Creation, you provide us countless blessings throughout our lives. Help us to gratefully receive these gifts and to be open to the lessons each can teach us as we seek to be transformed by your Spirit. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

All Depends on Our Possessing

Löhner, setting Reger

“All depends on our possessing  
God's free grace and constant blessing,  
though all earthly wealth depart.  
They who trust with faith unshaken  
by their God are not forsaken  
and will keep a dauntless heart.”

Gesang-Buch, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.

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

L: Divine Source of Mercy, Strength, and Peace,

**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**

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

#306

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

**Holy Spirit, come among us today and touch us with the fulness of your grace.**

**Enter our lives, free us from our fears, and guide us by your wisdom. Empower us to be your Church, today and every day. Impart to us the strength and courage**

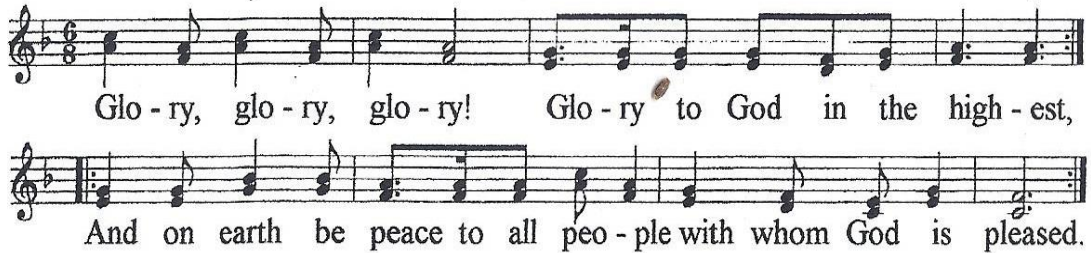
we need to faithfully serve you in this place and in this world. Renew within us all your abiding gifts of faith, hope, and love, so that we might continue to follow in your light and grace. Amen.

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**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The New Testament Letter**  
**The New Testament Gospel**  
**The Continuing Testament**

Philippians 2:3-11  
Matthew 21:23-27  
from *First Thoughts*

Pew Bible, page 197  
Pew Bible, page 23  
by William Loader

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Bless the Lord, O My Soul Ippolitoff-Ivanoff, arr. Lamont

**Sermon**

***“RESPECT MY AUTHORITY!!!”***

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**

You Got a Right

African-American spiritual

"You got a right, I got a right,  
we all got a right to the tree of life.  
The very time I thought I was lost  
the dungeon shook and the chains fell off."  
Traditional

#### **\*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 and giving Holy One, you have blessed us in so many ways. Accept now this offering that we bring. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given. Bless and use these gifts to promote wholeness and peace among all people, and to advance your Divine Realm of compassion and peace. Amen.**

## Going with God's Love

### \* Hymn of Departure

We Love Your Realm, O God

#312

### 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

Toccata quasi Fantasia con Fuga

Bach

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

Vicki Szabo & Family, the Family Ruth Thorpe, Doris Schmid, Don & Eleanor Kusa, Lee Sanderson, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, 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, September 21, 2014 – Adults: 90 Kids: 24 Total: 114

## **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 Coffee Hour.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE GIVEN BY** by Jon Thompson in loving memory of his brother Kim and his mother Willadeen who had September birthdays, and in celebration of 50 years of choral singing.

**OUR ANNUAL CHURCH RETREAT** will be held on Saturday, October 11th at Hinckley Reservation from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm..Our theme is "Believe It or Not: Creating Our Own Creed." This is an excellent time get away in a beautiful setting to relax, refresh and get to know ourselves and one another better. Due to inside space considerations, this year's Retreat will not include activities for young children. [Next year, we will book a venue with more room!] Anyone interested in helping coordinate the food, games, music or other activities for this event - or would like to know more about it - please talk with Pastor Dave.

**ON SUNDAY OCT. 19 AT 4:00 PM,** BUCC will host the **CASE CONCERT CHOIR**, comprised of students from Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Music. Under the direction of Dr. Matthew Garrett, the fifty-member ensemble will present a program titled "A Life in Music" which follows our journey through life from the celebration of birth, through the wonderment of childhood, into the ups and downs of adulthood, to an ultimate declaration of the will to live! The eclectic program includes works by several contemporary composers, as well as two traditional African songs. A free-will offering will be received, and a light meal will be served following the program. We hope you can join us for this unique choral presentation. Bring a friend!

**THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ADULT EDUCATION SERIES** is kicking off again this year with our first workshop on Tuesday, October 7th from 6:30-8:00 PM in the parlor. We will be exploring Shamanism, one of the oldest spiritual traditions practiced by a variety of cultures across the globe, and the practice of Shamanic Journeying. We will be joined by the wonderfully experienced shamanic practitioners Neal Szpatura and Michelle Gilbert. Participation is limited to the first 20 people who sign up, so please see Kate Klonowski at coffee hour or call/text at (216) 534-3498 or email [keightykay@gmail.com](mailto:keightykay@gmail.com) to reserve your space.

**CROP WALK** -- The CROP Walk takes place this afternoon starting at the Brecksville Train Station. Walkers may register between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m. at the Brecksville Train Station, and the walk will begin following the prayer at 1:30 p.m. Walkers should collect money

from sponsors before the walk and bring it along to the walk. Doug and Nancy Allenson, Sam Koch, Briana Brown, Anne & Victor Melfo Heidi Spangler, Pastor Dave Shackle, and Susan Snyder have signed up to walk. Thank you to all walkers and sponsors.

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY** is this Saturday October 4 at 9am. Please meet in the Church Parking Lot. Hope to see you there!

**CLASSIC MOVIES** There is a group of us going to the Valley View Cinemark to see Gone with the Wind this Sunday at 2 pm. Feel free to join us!

**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.

**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.

**AFTER WORSHIP LUNCH BUNCH** - All are welcome to join this spirited group of BUCC worshipers 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

**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.

**SEPTEMBER FOOD PANTRY** Cereal

**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 New Testament Letter - Philippians 2:3-13**

*Saint Paul writes,* Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Have this attitude among yourselves which you find in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped or exploited. Instead, he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, accepting his humanity. And as a mortal being, he humbled himself and was faithful and obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God our Creator.

### **The New Testament Gospel - Matthew 21:23-32**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the Realm of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

**The Continuing Testament** - from *First Thoughts* - by William Loader [edited]

Jesus chose to obey God. That meant his entering into complete solidarity with humankind and becoming one with us all. We might speculate about what he gave up. It was certainly not the consciousness of who he was as a deciding person. He knew what he was doing. His choice was to abandon an option of self-advancement, and to align himself with the Divine Will. It meant a willingness to give his all for the sake of all people. It was a selfless act of love. It was both Jesus' story and also God's story, showing us God's agenda.

The attitude Jesus displays is not about how to get promoted, but about how to follow the Will of God. The act of lowliness was one of those things Jesus had to go through to get to the top. This humble surrendering says a lot about the heart of Jesus, and the heart of God. Jesus is "Lord" now, not just because he willingly gave-up his all, but because God names him as truly representing the authentic way of Divine living.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 9/28/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	1:30 pm	Crop Walk
	2 pm	Gone with the Wind – Valley View
<b>Wed 10/1/2014</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
<b>Thurs 10/2/2014</b>	1pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
<b>Saturday 10/4/2014</b>	9 am	Adopt-A-Highway
<b>Sunday 10/5/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	2 pm	MASH – Valley View
	6 pm	Confirmation Class

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2014**

Lay Reader: Sam Koch  
Head Usher: Anne Melfo  
Ushers: Kathy Smith, David Ritchey  
Beth Rehling, Wes Novak  
Acolyte: Ben Rehling  
Peace Candle: Garrett Demko  
Sound: Doug Fawcett  
Comms Grtr: Marge Culver  
Narthex Grtr: Fred Pesek  
Flowers: Lenore Harris  
Nursery: Marla Corrado  
Counters: Bruce McCain, Mac Hoppel  
Servers: Dottei & Jim Farwell  
Clean-Up: Kathy & David Pastor  
Snacks: Susan Snyder, Marianne Hoppel

## **PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**OCTOBER 5, 2014**

Lay Reader: Stu Bailey  
Head Usher: Caroling Chandler  
Ushers: Diane Gressley, Ed Lusk  
Dan Stewart, Sam Koch  
Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett  
Peace Candel: Indira Bigelow  
Sound: Max Roha  
Comons Grtr: Ann Kelly  
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith  
Flowers: Dorie Gabor  
Nursery: Shauna Bigelow  
Counters: Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul  
Server: Sue Stenzel, Dorie Gabor  
Clean Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul  
Snacks: Gina Cook, Sue Maier