



## **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)**

# NOVEMBER 16, 2014 – TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## **Meditation Music**

Gracious and Giving Holy One, you have blessed us in so many different ways, sometimes when we don't even recognize it. Open our eyes and inspire our spirits, that we might be more fully aware of your wonderful blessings and more willing to be a blessing to others. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

### **Prelude**

O Beauty Ever Ancient

Fedak

“O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new,  
divine and Holy Presence, my being sings to you,  
in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!”  
Shirley Erena Murray, 2000

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

L: Gracious Holy One, because you gave us your breath of life,

**P: We give you our thanks with every breath.**

L: Because you bless our lives with love,

**P: We bring you all of our relationships for your blessing.**

L: Because you gifted us with time to be,

**P: We bring our moments and our days as gifts to you.**

L: Because you gave us skills to work and create,

**P: We bring you what our hands have made and what our skills have earned.**

L: Because you freely offer us your amazing grace,

**All: We bring our gifts of grateful praise!**

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

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

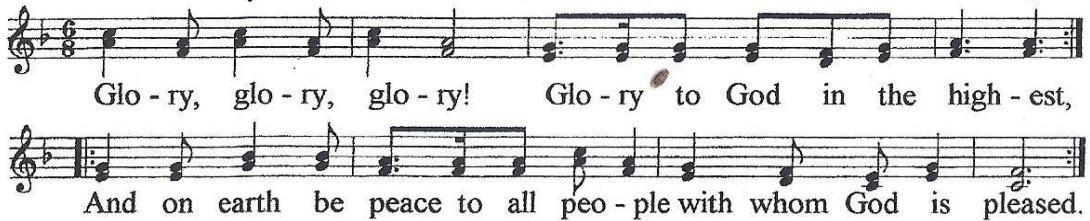
### **\*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Holy Creator, giver of all good things: we praise you for the order and beauty of nature; for the richness and bounty of the earth; for day and night, summer and winter, seed time and harvest. We thank you for all the comforts and joys of life: for our homes, for our friends, and for all the love and kindness we receive each day. May your gracious giving to us inspire our giving to others. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Deuteronomy 8:11-18

Pew Bible, page 165

**The New Testament**

Matthew 25:14-29

Pew Bible, page 28

**The Continuing Testament**

*Blessed to Be a Blessing*

by Anne Robertson

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Thanks Be to God  
[Betsey Wilson, flute]

Trad. Irish melody, arr. Curry

**Sermon**

*Talents Too Good to Waste!*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

For the Fruit of All Creation

#425

***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**

I Will Offer

Redman

“I will offer up my life in spirit and truth  
pouring out the oil of love as my worship to you.”  
Matt Redman (b. 1974)

### **\* Offertory Hymn**

**Our lives are good, not much we lack;  
Some of our gifts we now give back.  
We seek to help, to clothe, to feed,  
To hold the hands of those in need. Amen.**

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious Holy One, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions - signs of your goodness and love. Receive them for the sake of the One who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## ***Holy Communion***

### **Words of Institution**

### **Prayer of Consecration**

### **The Invitation**

### **Receiving the Bread and Cup**

### **The Blessing**

### **Communion Music**

Élévation ou Communion

Saint-Saëns

## ***Presenting Our Pledges for 2015***

[Please come forward and place your pledges in the basket]

### **Hymn of Dedication**

We Praise You, O God

#420

### \*Prayer of Commitment

Pastor: With joy and thanksgiving, let us dedicate our pledges of commitment and support for the work of Christ's Church in this place and in our world.

**All: Gracious Holy One, the treasure we hold in our hearts, is the gift of the Good News of your love for us all. The treasure we offer before this Communion Table, is the gift of our lives, dedicated to sharing that Good News with others. May these pledges serve as a sign of our gratitude for all your Life-giving gifts to us, and as a symbol of our renewed commitment to serving you in this place and throughout our world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shows us how to freely and generously live, love, and give. Amen.**

## *Going with God's Love*

### \*Hymn of Departure

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name  
[verse 1]

#80

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

Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator

Trad. Batak melody

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

Dan Renovetz, Addy Baldwin, G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Vicki Szabo & Family, the Family of Ruth Thorp, Doris Schmid, Don & Eleanor Kusa, Kirk & 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, November 9, 2014 – Adults: 89 Kids: 14 Total: 103

## **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 our Thanksgiving Feast.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given Lovingly by Nancy Stella & Family in Memory of Frank S. Stella who accomplished much in a short time

**FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICE**, grape juice is used instead of wine for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who may be in recovery from addiction.

**ADVENT BOOK DEADLINE** is **TODAY**, November 16. Please submit your Scripture reading via email to Jeannette at [buccoh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) Thank You!

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT** Advent begins Sunday, Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. That means the Advent tree needs to be put up and decorated Sunday, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>. Enthusiastic help is needed after church on Sunday Nov.23<sup>rd</sup>. Please let Caroline Chandler know if you can join the fun.

**WOMEN UNITED** - Our next meeting is 11/19 at 11:30 am. Bring a Bag Lunch – Coffee & Tea Provided. We are pleased to have Genny Costanzo as our guest speaker. Genny is the Senior Development Officer of Hospice of the Western Reserve, as well as a Member of BUCC. She will give us the information we all need to know as well as answer our questions regarding Hospice Care. See you then! All are Welcome!

**COPY MACHINE** We will soon be getting a new Copy Machine for the Office. The machine we are replacing still works, but it has a very high volume of copies on it. If anyone knows of any Group or Organization that could use a copy machine, we would like to donate it to them. Please let the Office know.

**THE MITTEN TREE** needs Mittens, hats, scarves, socks to decorate in the Narthex.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF A WHEELCHAIR.** If you have one to donate please see Bob Chandler.

**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.

**PLEASE BE SURE** to enter your meeting and event schedule in the office calendar. This is used to list your dates and times in both the ***Weekly Bulletin*** and in the monthly ***Pillar***.

**BUCC ONLINE CALENDAR** Please be sure to check day to day meeting schedules, events, and doings at BUCC at [www.BrecksvilleUcc.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUcc.org). Updates are made frequently.

**NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS** Small Canned Hams, Canned Sweet & White Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Pie Crust Mix, Canned Pumpkin, Etc.

## ***The Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Deuteronomy 8:11-18**

*Moses said to the people of Israel, "Take care that you do not forget the Holy One, by failing to keep God's commandments, ordinances, and statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Holy One who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions.*

*God made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' But remember the Holy One, for it is God who gives you power to get wealth, so that God may confirm the covenant sworn to your ancestors, as God is doing today.."*



## **The New Testament** - Matthew 25:14-29

Jesus said “For the Realm of God is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master came and settled accounts with them.

The one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless servant, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

## **The Continuing Testament** - *Blessed to Be a Blessing* - by Anne Robertson [edited]

It’s the basic lesson we learned in kindergarten. Share! One toy lovingly and willingly shared, creates community. One toy hoarded, creates tears and temper tantrums. Wealth and resources that are lovingly and willingly shared, creates a grateful and peaceful world. Wealth and resources that are stockpiled and hoarded, leads to poverty and war. For those who do not profess faith, there is no rule. But for those who look to Abraham and Sarah, or Ruth

and Naomi, or Jesus and the Bible for guidance, it couldn't be more clear. Enjoy God's blessings, count them one by one. But don't stop there! Pass them on wherever they are needed, that through God's people all the nations of the earth will be blessed.

### **Opportunities For The Week**

<b>Sunday 11/16/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Stewardship Thanksgiving
		Banquet
	6 pm	Confirmation
<b>Wed 11/19/2014</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	11:30 am	Women United
	2 pm	Bicentennial Quilt Meeting
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
<b>Thurs 11/20/2014</b>	1pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8 pm	Choir
<b>Sat 11/22/2014</b>	10 am	Confirmation - Parlor
<b>Sunday 11/23/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**NOVEMBER 16, 2014**

**Lay Reader:** Betsey Wilson  
**Head Usher:** Caroline Chandler  
**Ushers:** Spencer Whyte, Donn Whyte  
Dorie Gabor, Kathy Smith  
**Acolyte:** Grace Hunt  
**Peace Cndl:** Lily Hunt  
**Sound:** Val Duffy  
**Comns Grtr:** Linda Kriynovich  
**Nartex Grtr:** Dot Bailey  
**Flowers:** Tina Ortiz  
**Nursery:** Marla Corrado  
**Counters:** Stu Bailey, Jim Duffy  
**Servers:** Dottie & Jim Farwell  
**Clean-Up:** Kathy & David Pastor  
**Snacks:** Thanksgiving Dinner – Cliff  
& Sue Stenzel

## **PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**NOVEMBER 23, 2014**

**Lay Reader:** David Pastor  
**Head Usher:** Jon Thompson  
**Ushers:** Kathy Pastor, David Ritchey  
Bob & Caroline Chandler  
**Acolyte:** Jillian Davis  
**Peace Cdle:** Garrett Demko  
**Sound:** Kevin Smith  
**Comns Grtr:** Fred Pesek  
**Narex Grtr:** Linda Kriynovich  
**Nursery:** Shauna Bigelow  
**Counters:** Donn Whyte, Mac Hoppel  
**Servers:** Sue Stenzel, Carole Snider  
**Clean-Up:** Marge Culver, Pat Bailey  
**Snacks:** Gina Cook & Marilyn Wrights

# **CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POINSETTIAS IN OUR SANCTUARY**



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Christmas 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, DECEMBER 7**

-----  
**I Enclose \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ or other \_\_\_\_\_ for Poinsettias**

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

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

**Your Name**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*\*PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOUR  
POINSETTIA OR LEAVE IT HERE FOR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS\*\***

**WILL KEEP \_\_\_\_\_**

**WILL NOT KEEP \_\_\_\_\_**