



## **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 23, 2014 – TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**

**Meditation Music**

May the Spirit of Divine Compassion flow through us as we speak-out and stand-up for the poor, the hungry, the sick, and victims of intolerance and injustice. And may we learn to see the face of God in the faces of all our sisters and brothers. Amen

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Jesus is King

“Jesus is King and I will extol Him,  
give Him the glory and honour His name.”  
Wendy Crowther, 1982

**\* Call to Worship**

Leader: Draw near to us now, O Holy One,

**People: As we seek to draw near to you.**

L: Be with us in our compassion for those in need,

**P: In our care for those who are vulnerable.**

L: Walk with us as we walk with your children who are lonely and hurting,

**P: Guide our steps as we seek to help and encourage those who are lost and confused.**

L: Inspire us here with your gracious love,

**ALL: That it might flow from our lives into the lives of others!**

**\* Hymn of Praise**

Now Is the Time Approaching

#609

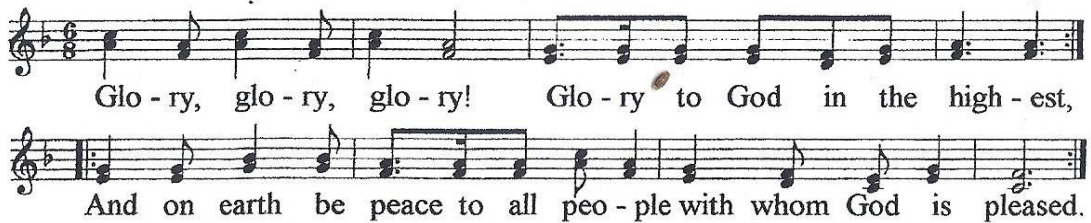
**\* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Divine Creator of our world and ourselves, we thank you that you reveal yourself in the events of human history. We thank you that you have shown yourself fully in the person of Jesus Christ, who fully shared his life with others. Help us to follow Christ's example and be fully present with and for one another today and in all our days to come. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Ezekiel 34:11-16

Pew Bible, page 803

**The New Testament**

Matthew 25:31-45

Pew Bible, page 29

**The Continuing Testament** from *The Unexpected God*

by David Lose

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

At His Name

Raney

**Sermon**

*Could It Be That Simple?*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

#583

***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**

Beautiful Savior

19<sup>th</sup> century Silesian folk tune

“Truly I’d love thee, truly I’d serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.”

*Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677, tr. Joseph Seiss, 1823-1904

### **\* 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** [Unison]

**Compassionate Holy One, accept these offerings that we present to you, and grant that the causes to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance and bring glory to your name. Help us also to give ourselves freely to the work of your Present and Coming Realm, that the love of Christ might shine through us and throughout the world! Amen.**

## ***Going with God’s Love***

### **\* Hymn of Departure**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
[Sung to the Tune of Hyfrydol]

#43

**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

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

Darwall

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

Dan Renovetz, Addy Baldwin, G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, 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 16, 2014 – Adults: 97 Kids: 20 Total: 117

### 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 Coffee Hour.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given by Jane & Cliff Cribbs in Memory of Lester Rubican, William Rakow, Earl Brooke, and George Sartis who served their Country in World War II.

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU** to all our marvelous and hardworking cooks, servers, and cleanup crew who pulled together to pull off yet another outstanding Thanksgiving/Stewardship feast last Sunday. It was truly fantastic!

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA** – This year's Christmas cantata, *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, will be presented on Sunday December 14 at regular morning worship. More information about the cantata can be found in the December Pillar. We hope you can join us for this wonderful BUCC tradition.

**FLOWER MINISTRY** Flowers are placed in the front of the church each Sunday to honor/celebrate your family/friends/events. We need your help in getting this information to our office manager, Jeannette, before she prepares the Bulletin on Thursdays. It's easy as 1-2-3.....

1. Put your name on the chart hanging on the west wall just inside the door to the narthex.
2. Fill out the information form found in the pocket below the chart.
3. Turn this information form in to Joy Garapic.

The flower ministry does not want to miss sharing your joy by not having the correct information.

Our ministry is small in numbers and welcomes new members anytime. You don't have to be a florist, an artist or anyone special to come up with an arrangement or just a vase of colorful flowers. All ideas are worth exploring. If interested, please contact me at coffee hour, calling 330-467-9357 or [jrenovetz@gmail.com](mailto:jrenovetz@gmail.com). Thank you, Jan Renovetz

**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 n the Narthex.

**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** -Ezekiel 34:11-16

For thus says the Holy One: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Holy One. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

### **The New Testament** - Matthew 25:31-45

Jesus says, "When the Anointed One comes in glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the Sovereign will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed, inherit the Realm prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the Sovereign will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,



naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’

**The Continuing Testament** - from *The Unexpected God* - by David Lose [edited]

It’s interestingly that neither group in Jesus’ parable denies their behavior. Rather, they are surprised by their failure to recognize the Anointed One. Or more to the point, they are surprised by where the Anointed One hangs-out. No one expects to see Jesus in the face of the disadvantaged, the poor, or the imprisoned. When we think of God, we typically think in terms of power, might and glory. And indeed, the parable begins by describing the coming of the Anointed One in glory to sit on his throne attended by angels - reinforcing our preconceptions. Yet in this parable, Jesus promises to be always with and for those who are in greatest need. Which means that if we want to experience God’s presence fully, deeply, and truly, we will look for God in the faces of those around us in need.

After all, God didn’t come to reign over humanity at Athens or Rome or any of the other major cities where one would expect God to arrive. God came to identify with us by being born in lowly Bethlehem in the form of a vulnerable baby. And God didn’t come to conquer the world with military or political might, but instead in the scandal, shame, and pain of the Cross. So also, God continues to come where we least expect God to be: in the plight of the homeless, on the side of the poor, in the face of the needy, and in the company of the imprisoned. And that’s not all. We are invited to meet God not in some distant eternal life or other-worldly reality, but here and now. The God Jesus reveals is present in our vulnerable, broken, present-day world. It may not be where we expect God to show up, but it is just where we need God to be!

## **Opportunities For The Week**

<b>Sunday 11/23/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	6 pm	Confirmation
<b>Monday 11/24/2014</b>	1 pm	Book Discussion -Parlor
<b>Wed 11/26/2014</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	*No Recorder/Dulcimer*	
<b>Thurs 11/27/2014</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	
<b>Friday 11/28/2014</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>	
<b>Sunday 11/30/2014</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am	OCWM
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6 pm	Youth Ministry

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS 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**  
**Comms 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**

## **PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**NOVEMBER 30, 2014**

**Lay Redr: Kathy Pastor**  
**Head Usher: Bridget Sproul**  
**Ushers: Dorie Gabor, Jim Duffy**  
**Sam Koch, Wes Novak**  
**Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski**  
**Peace Cndl: Olivia Klonowski**  
**Sound: Dave Bernard**  
**Comms Grtr: Caroline Chander**  
**Narthex Grtr: Sue Stenzel**  
**Flowers: Kathy Pastor**  
**Nursery: Kara Reese**  
**Counters: David Pastor, Carole Snider**  
**Servers: Darlene Kelly, Dorie Gabor**  
**Clean Up: Jan Renovetz, Jon Thompson**  
**Snacks: Susan Snyder, Mary Ann Hoppel**

# **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**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_**