

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

JANUARY 25, 2015 – THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Meditation Music

Our Heavenly Parent, we remember that Jesus talked much about bringing Abundant Life to all. May we, individually and collectively, work to bring that call to fruition: to challenge the lofty and powerful, and champion the lowly and vulnerable. And may we do it with a humble awareness of our own imperfections and weaknesses. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

If We Only Have Love

Brel

“If we only have love, foes will turn into friends,
And we'll drink from the Grail to be born once again.”
Jacques Brel (1929-1978)

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

L: Through the misty shadow of our lives, the Spirit of the Holy One shines forth!

P: We are here to seek light among the darkness, fulfillment out of our brokenness.

L: The Holy One calls us from separation and apathy, to love and faith.

P: We have come to find healing and peace, to experience forgiveness and acceptance.

L: In the midst of the ordinary, the Sacred One comes; in our day-to-day living, the Divine Spirit inspires us.

P: The Holy One is our shelter, our strength, and our guide!

L: Let us hope and trust in the abundance of Divine grace,

All: For the Holy One is with us, now and forevermore!

*** Hymn of Praise**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#25

*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

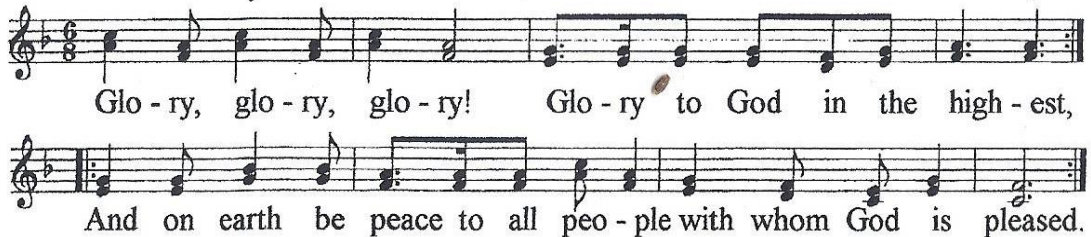
Creative Source of All, in our time of worship, and throughout the hours of our days, remain at the center of our thoughts and actions. Hold us together as individuals and as a community of faith. In all of our seeking and doing, help us

to focus our hopes on you. Be our passion, our balance, our source of loving support, through Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

from *The Book of Jonah*

Pew Bible, page 859

The New Testament

Mark 1:14-20

Pew Bible, page 35

The Continuing Testament

by Scott Hoezee

in *Excellence in Preaching*

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

My Savior, Your Son

Mahler

Sermon

But They Are Really Rotten!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Your Ways Are Not Our Own

#170

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

'Tis Winter Now; the Fallen Snow

Trad. English melody

“And though abroad the sharp winds blow,
and skies are chill, and frosts are keen,
Home closer draws its circle now,
and warmer glows the light within.”
Samuel Longfellow, 1864, alt.

***Offertory Hymn**

Winter has come, its taken hold.

The days are short, the nights are cold.

The poor need food and light and heat.

We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

We thank you, Gracious Holy One, for the opportunity to share in your creative and healing work in this world. Because you have blessed us in so many ways, we have much to give to others. May these offerings express our gratitude to you, and our desire to reach out to all your people, wherever they may be found. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

O God of Love, O God of Peace

#571

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 giocosa

Martin

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Nancy Allenson, Cheryl Speith, Rudy Lorenzo, Dan Renovetz, Addy Baldwin, G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, Don & Eleanor Kusa, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, 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, January 18, 2015 – Adults: 78 Kids: 11 Total: 89

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshipping with us today. Please sign our Guest Book and join us downstairs in Pilgrim Hall for our Coffee Hour.

WE WELCOME 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 are also available from ushers for children.

OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held Sunday February 1, after Worship. Please plan to join us.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUCC on Sunday February 8th at our morning worship service. If you are interested in learning more about membership at BUCC, please talk with Pastor Dave.

WITH SADNESS WE ANNOUNCE that Nancy Allenson died this past Monday from complications of a stroke she had suffered a few weeks ago. Yesterday, the family held a private service in her memory. On Sunday February 22nd, at 11:45, our BUCC Family will take some time to remember and celebrate Nancy's life among us. Members of her beloved BUCC Choir will sing, we will have a few brief readings, and people will have the opportunity to share some of their memories and stories of Nancy. Please continue to keep Nancy's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

MORE NEW OFFERTORY WORDS! Our Spiritual Life Ministry Team realized that the words we had been singing as we present our offerings, said little about our giving. Max Roha, who came up with the idea, gave us our first set of words. Bill Toneff then rose to the challenge and penned the words we used in Advent through Christmas. Today, we're introducing another one that Max wrote for the Winter months. Now we would like your contributions for additional options! You don't need to be a trained musician nor an accomplished poet. Just put your feelings into wording that reflects your own expressions of our Sunday morning offering. They could be suitable for any time of year, or they might be seasonal [Christmas, Easter, Spring, Fall, etc.] Please submit your ideas [or questions] to Pastor Dave or Dave Debick, who will share them with our Spiritual Life Ministry members. And, voila, you will have found new words of praise that will add depth to our BUCC worship experience!

FINANCE Please pick up your year-end statements in the Commons to save the cost of mailing.

MARDI GRAS IS COMING! Get ready for a little New Orleans style celebration before we enter the solemn time of Lent. On February 15th, get out your beads, boas, or whatever makes you feel festive as we turn BUCC into the French Quarter. New Orleans jazz will have you tapping your feet as part of this uplifting and positive message service. As they say down on Bourbon Street - Laissez les bons temps rouler!

FACILITIES - YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!!! When the weather is cold, the South Entry (parking lot) door does not close completely by itself. More often than not Jeannette finds this door slightly ajar and therefore unlocked in the morning. This is dangerous for several reasons; the most important being Jeannette's safety. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE DOOR IS TIGHTLY SHUT WHEN LEAVING THE BUILDING. THANK YOU

OUR COMPLETE WORSHIP SERVICE, including anthems, hymns, etc., is fed by our sound system to our 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, Justin Smith and I are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have! - Marge Culver

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.

JANUARY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS Canned Fruit & Vegetables

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

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

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.

The Readings

The Old Testament - from *The Book of Jonah*

Now the word of the Holy One came to Jonah saying, “Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Holy One. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. He paid his fare and went on board, to go away from the presence of the Holy One. But the Holy One hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up....The sailors said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah....Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down?” He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea.” So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased its raging. And the Holy One sent a large fish to swallow-up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then Jonah prayed to the Holy One from the belly of the fish.... and the Holy One spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land. The word of the Holy One came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Holy One. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

And the people of Nineveh believed the Holy One; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.... When the Holy One saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God relented concerning the calamity that would fall upon them, and did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed “Is not this what I said at the beginning? For I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.... And now, O God, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live....”

The New Testament - Mark 1:14-20

Now after John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the Divine Realm has come near; repent, and believe in the good news!” As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his

brother Andrew casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The Continuing Testament - by Scott Hoezee- in *Excellence in Preaching* [edited]

At the heart of *Jonah* is something worth pondering: namely, how sincerely do we Christians today really want to bring all kinds of people into the Church? Yes, we say we want to reach all people, and sometimes we act as though we'd love nothing more than to have all those who oppose the Church come and join us. But what if they really did? What if the young people with the torn jeans and the multiple body piercings did want to join us at the Communion rail? What about all those ethnic groups with habits so very different from the norm of any given congregation? What about those struggling with sexual identity, or those with widely different political views than ours? If we preach repentance to these people, and then one day it actually takes hold and they show up in the sanctuary...well, then what?

Maybe we are not actively awaiting, hoping for, or licking our lips over the potential destruction of certain types of people; but if they did come to us [as they are], would we generate the kind of joy Jesus might show? Would we welcome them with the same open heart with which God has welcomed us?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 1/25/2015	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Stewardship - Parlor
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Percussion
	6-7:30 pm	Youth Ministry
Tuesday 1/27/2015	10-11:30	CWRU
Wed 1/28/2015	6 am	Early Birds
Thurs 1/29/2015	1 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday 2/1/2015	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Annual Meeting - Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JANUARY 25, 2015

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Jim Duffy, Diane Gressley
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Max Roha
Comms Grtr: Fred Pesek
Narthex Grtr: Jill Zedan
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Dassi Matsuoka
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Julie Bernard
Clean-Up: Bridget & Chad Sproul
Snacks: Vicki Szabo, Kathleen Stewart
Snow Herder: Billy Harris

PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 1, 2015

Lay Reader: David Pastor
Head Usher: Jon Thompson
Ushers: Julie & Dave Bernard
Sue Maier, Wes Novak
Acolyte: Ben Davis
Peace Cndl: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: Mike Westerberg
Comms Grtr: George Snider
Narthex Grtr: Sue Stenzel
Flowers: Tina Ortiz
Nursery: Peg Duffy
Counters: Nancy Stella, Anna Mary
Fisher
Server: Joanne Cook, Dottie Farwell
Clean Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks: Susan Snyder, Marianne
Hoppell
Snow Hrdr: Jesse Wade