

BRECKSVILLE

UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

*Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power*

Bread of Life,
you come to
us amid our
hungers, our
longings, our
hopes, and our
fears. Infuse
us with your
compassionate
strength, so
that we may be
filled with your
goodness and
share your
blessings with
all people, now
and forever.
Amen.



*Whoever
comes to me
will never
be hungry.*

Jn 6:35

Sunday July 26, 2015 • 10:00 AM

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor

• Rev David Shackle

Director of Music

• David Debick

Financial Secretary

• Joy Garapic

Ministers

All of our Members

Office Manager – Jeannette Kroeger

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

July 26, 2015 –Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that your love conquers fear and your abundance overcomes scarcity. Help us to imagine new possibilities and to put-forth renewed efforts to help bring your healing grace to our troubled and fearful world. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Setting by J. S. Bach

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Blessed be the name of our Creator - from this time forth and for evermore!

People: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of Holy One is to be praised!

L: It is good to give thanks to the Holy One,

P: It is right to raise our praises to the heavens!

L: Let us declare our Maker's marvelous love in the morning,

P: Let us reflect on our Creator's faithfulness throughout the night!

L: Let all people praise the Holy One together!

All: Glory be to the One whose love sustains us all!

*** Hymn of Praise**

O My Soul, Bless Your Creator

#13

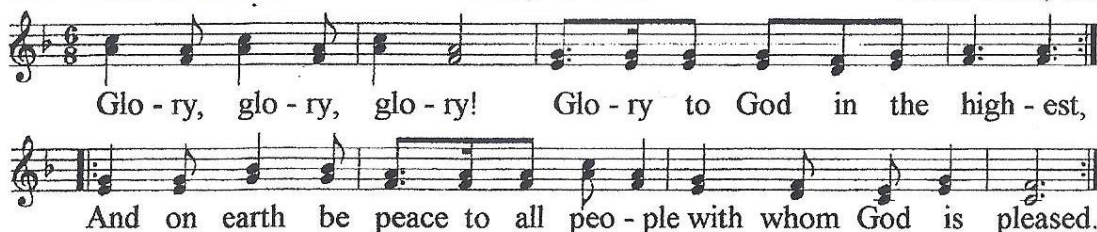
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Holy Source of All, your love and grace is for all people and all creation. Help us to share your Divine Compassion throughout our troubled and hurting world. Touch our lives with your wisdom and power, so that we may help bring healing and wholeness to those in need. Fill us with your Spirit, that your Reign of Justice and Peace might be known among us all. This we pray in the Name and Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Exodus 16:2-8; 13-15

Pew Bible, page 62

The New Testament

John 6:30-35; 49-55

Pew Bible, page 98

The Continuing Testament

Visible Words

by David Lose

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

The Heart of God

McAfee

In Loving Memory of Lenore Harris' mother,
Anne Jerabek, b. July 25, 1904.
Lenore Harris, soprano

Sermon

Whetting Our Appetites [or not]

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#347

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

Minuet
Heidi Spangler, piano

Bach

*Offertory Hymn

We bring our gifts because we care,
They are a part of what we share.
Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts.
With hearts of love we share our gifts. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

Eternal and Abundant Holy One, the opportunity to share with others is a blessing for which we are truly thankful. Your generous provisions for our lives, allow and prompt us to be generous in return. We pray that you would accomplish your loving purposes through these gifts and through us. These things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, who freely gave himself for us all. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*Hymn of Departure

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
[verse 1]

#77

*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

Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah!

Mason

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Tina Ortiz, Kathy Pastor and family, George Sarandou and family, Dassie Matsuoka, Dan Renovetz, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, 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, July 19, 2015 – Adults: 70 Kids: 9 Total: 79

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.

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by The Corrado Family in Honor of all of our Summer Birthdays, including that of our newest addition!

SCHEDULING If you know that you are going to be unavailable prior to the time the schedules are made out please let Caroline Chandler know at home (440-526-9714) or by e-mail (chandler9143@roadrunner.com). If you find that you cannot serve after the schedule is published try to exchange serving dates with another person and then let the office know who will be filling in for you.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING! We will be partnering again this year with the Independence Presbyterian Church to create an amazing and fun experience for our pre-school (3-5 years) and school-aged (K-5th grade) kids this summer. Save the date for the week of August 3rd - August 7th for "Camp Discovery" at the Independence Presbyterian Church. Details are being planned, but there's sure to be "s'more" fun to be had this summer at Vacation Bible School! Feel free to contact Kate Klonowski if you are interested in volunteering: keightykay@gmail.com or 216-534-3498.

USED PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES We collect used printer cartridges and Recycle them to turn in to Office Max for credit toward our office supplies. Please put your empty cartridge in the Office in a basket marked "**Max**" We appreciate your help!

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***.

MONTHLY CALENDAR ONLINE the Church Calendar is also printed on our website: www.brecksvilleucc.org. It is filled with up to date events, and times, even last minute changes. Please check it out.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Exodus 16:2-8; 13-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Holy One in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Holy One said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Holy One who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of Holy One, against whom you have been complaining, when the Holy One gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning."

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, *Man-na?* ["What is it?"] For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "This is the bread that the Holy One has given you to eat."

The New Testament - John 6:30-35; 49-55

They said to Jesus, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Heavenly Parent who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the Divine Bread is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty....

Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink."

The Continuing Testament - *Visible Words* - by David Lose [edited]

Do we really comprehend the theological and existential significance of pouring water over a child's head or gathering around the Table of the Lord? And if we don't understand these things, is it really any wonder? I mean, debate about the meaning of the Sacraments rages within the Church, both between different traditions and within them. So the Sacraments hold this unusual place in the Church, in that they are both central to our life of faith and yet also can be very confusing. In an attempt to clarify the connect between the Sacraments and our daily lives, I start with a phrase from St. Augustine: "visible words."

This phrase helps me appreciate Baptism and Communion as the visible, physical counterpoint to the preaching and teaching of the Church. That is, the Sacraments are the embodiment of the proclaimed Gospel in physical form, the Gospel given shape in water, bread, and wine. They serve us as *physical* reminders of what we have heard, because we are physical creatures and remembering can be so hard. And so we have the Gospel *preached* to us so that we may hear it, and we have that same Gospel *given* to us so that we may taste and touch and feel it....

...Of all the truths the Gospel [and the Sacraments] tell us about ourselves, the first is that we are not in control. You don't need to be told this; any illness, or job loss, or tragedy reminds us just how precarious Life is. And yet it is so tempting to believe otherwise, to delude ourselves into believing that we really can be masters of our own destiny....And so what is difficult about Communion and Baptism, in the end, is very simple: we have nothing to do with it, not really. It is God's action of mercy and grace alone; and so we can neither take credit for it nor control it. But this is also what is so crucial about our Sacraments: because they are God's work and not our own, we can trust them! For when all else fails - our relationships, our sources of security, our health, even Life itself - God's promise stands firm. God's word to us in Baptism and Communion remains faithful, calling us back to who we really are in God's eyes: God's washed and fed and beloved children!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday, July 26 | 10:00 am Worship Service |
| | 11:00 am Coffee Hour |
| Wednesday, July 29 | 6:00 am Early Birds |
| Thursday, July 30 | 1:00 pm Bible Study |
| Sunday, August 2 | 10:00 am Worship Service |
| | 11:00 am Coffee Hour |

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JULY 26, 2015

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|---------------|--|
| Lay Reader: | Sue Stenzel |
| Head Usher: | Jan Renovetz |
| Ushers: | Ed Lusk, Dorie Gabor Heidi Spangler, Sam Koch |
| Acolyte: | Ben Davis |
| Peace Candle: | Garrett Demko |
| Sound: | Doug Fawcett |
| Comns Grtr: | Jim & Betty Kaul |
| Narthex Grtr: | Dot Bailey |
| Flowers: | Jane Renovetz |
| Nursery: | Kathy Pastor |
| Counters: | Donn Whyte, Stu Bailey |
| Servers: | Caroline Chandler |
| Clean-Up: | Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey |

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

AUGUST 2, 2015

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|---------------|--|
| Lay Reader: | Kathy Smith |
| Head Usher: | Matt Wolbert |
| Ushers: | Julie & Dave Bernard Evie & Wes Novak |
| Acolyte: | Grace Hunt |
| Peace Candel: | Lily Hunt |
| Sound: | Kevin Smith |
| Comns Grtr: | Ann Kelley |
| Narthex Grtr: | Dot Bailey |
| Flowers: | Dorie Gabor |
| Nursery: | Shauna Bigelow |
| Counters: | Donn Whyte, Jim Duffy |
| Servers: | Marge Culver |
| Clean Up: | Jill Zedan |

United Church of Christ Beliefs and Practices

The United Church of Christ borrows from Scripture and Tradition to express its core beliefs. UCC stresses unity within the church and a unifying spirit to heal divisions. It seeks unity in essentials but allows for diversity in nonessentials, with a charitable attitude toward disagreement. The unity of the church is a gift from God, UCC teaches, yet diversity is to be accepted with love. To permit variety in expressing faith, the United Church of Christ urges testimonies of faith instead of tests of faith.

New light and understanding are constantly being revealed through interpretation of the Bible, says the United Church of Christ. All members of the UCC are equals as the priesthood of believers, and though ordained ministers have special training, they are considered servants. Individuals are free to live and believe based on their interpretation of God's will for their lives, but individuals and churches are called to enter into loving, covenantal relationship with Associations, Conferences, and the General Synod.

The United Church of Christ practices two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion. A progressive mix of Christian history and evolving theology, the UCC distinguishes itself from other denominations in its belief that God is "still speaking."

As a result of their acceptance of diversity and evolving theology, the United Church of Christ has become one of the most progressive and controversial faith movements.