

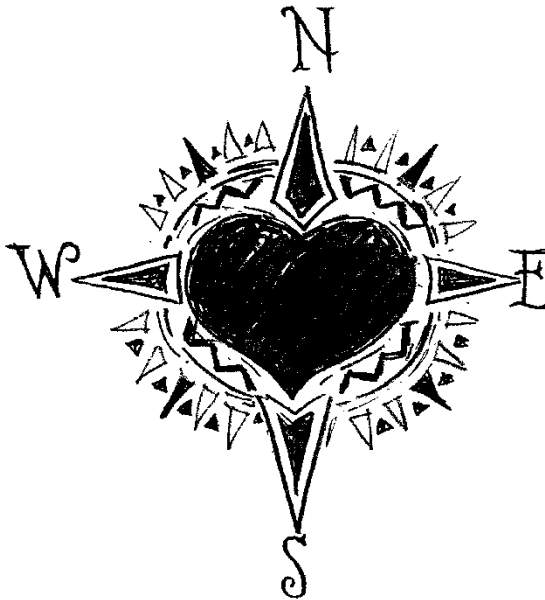
BRECKSVILLE

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*

Compassionate
Holy One,
through your
love you have
called us to be
your children.
Help us
remember this
love when we
feel mistreated,
dejected, or
rejected. Help
us practice this
love when
others look to
us for comfort,
care and
assurance. And
may your love
touch us now,
and guide us
always. Amen



"May Divine Love Guide and Direct Us In All That We Do"

Sunday August 30, 2015 • 10:00 AM

Fourteenth 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

August 30, 2015 – Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, may our prayers become actions, as we seek ways to freely and fully demonstrate the Love of Christ. And may we learn to share that love not just among our own families and friends, but also among our adversaries and among “the least of these” to whom Christ calls us to serve. Amen.

Gathering in God’s Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

By Gracious Powers

Hobbs

"By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,
and confidently waiting, come what may,
We know that God is with us night and morning,
and never fails to greet us each new day."
Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Life of Christ

Call to Worship

Leader: Divine Spirit of Life and Love,

People: You are as near to us as our breath.

L: Touch our eyes,

P: That we may see you in one another.

L: Open our ears,

P: That we may hear your voice in the cries of the oppressed.

L: Enter our hearts,

P: That we may be filled with your compassion toward all people.

L: Come, Holy Spirit of Life and Wholeness,

All: Be with us now; show us the way to new life; and give us the courage to be your faithful people!

* Hymn of Praise

Creator God, Creating Still

#278

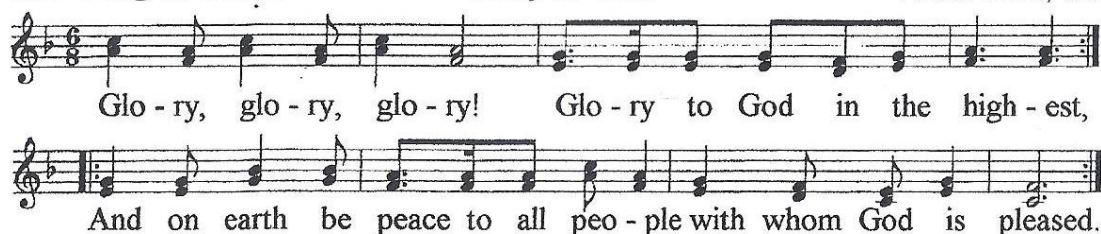
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Our Loving Creator, we thank you that you reveal your compassion and grace throughout human history and through the lives of humankind. 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 completely present with and for one another - today and in all our days to come. May we freely extend to others the forgiveness, kindness and care that we ourselves receive from you every day. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Jeremiah 7:1-11

Pew Bible, page 707

The New Testament

Mark 7:1-15; 21

Pew Bible, page 42

The Continuing Testament from *Lip Service - But Where Is the Heart?*

by Dirk Lange [edited]

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Miracle of the Moment
[Ian Stewart, soloist]

Chapman

Sermon

Have You Seen My Tiger?

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#23

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

Sarabande

Rameau

***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]**

We thank you, Gracious Holy One, for the opportunity to share in your creative and healing work within this world. Because you have blessed us with so much, we have much to give. May these offerings express our gratitude, and our desire to fully be your faithful and loving people. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Now Is the Time Approaching

#609

***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

Fugue in D

Handel

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Midge Cassidy, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, 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, August 16, 2015 – Adults: 83 Kids: 12 Total: 92

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Bettina Ortiz in Loving Memory of Timothy David Ortiz (9/26).

THE LOOSE OFFERING from last Sunday's Outdoor Worship Service with Richfield UCC [plus a couple extra contributions] came to \$300 for **C.U.E.** These monies help support of our Midwest area UCC seminaries - **C**hicago, **U**nited, and **E**den - which provide theological education and pastoral training to future leaders of our churches. Our thanks to all who gave!

OUR CHURCH PICNIC IS TODAY at Fields Memorial Park in Broadview Heights at 2 pm. There will be food, games, and even a pie baking contest!

MUSIC MINISTRY - BUCC's music program will be shifting into full gear after Labor Day. Here are the starting dates and times for our various ensembles:

Adult Choir (high school students welcome): Thurs. Sept. 10 from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Joyful Noise Choir (K-5th grade): Thurs. Sept. 10 from 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble (youth-adult): Wed. Sept. 9 from 4:30-5:00 p.m.

Percussion Group (6th grade-high school, adults welcome): Sunday Sept. 13 from 5:30-6:00 p.m. before youth ministry at 6:00.

Seasonal Choir (high school students welcome): Will begin preparing for this year's Christmas cantata on Thurs. Oct. 8 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Beginner lessons available in soprano recorder, lap dulcimer, and G harmonica; schedule will depend on availability of students/teacher. Contact Dave D. if you're interested in learning any of these fun instruments.

Private piano lessons (youth-adult): Lessons begin Wed. & Thurs. Sept. 9 and 10. Contact Dave if you're not already on the schedule.

Instrumentalists are welcome and invited to share their musical gifts with the congregation during Sunday worship. Please contact Dave so he can keep you in mind when scheduling/arranging music.

More details about the music program can be found in September's Pillar.

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.

BICENTENNIAL QUILT SQUARES If you brought your quilt square today; please give it to Annie Demko.

VOLUNTEERS for Vicki Szabo's Cleveland school will meet after Service **today** to receive program information.

PLEASE LOCK DOOR If you are entering and leaving by the side door near the Beauty Salon, please make sure the door closes and locks.

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 - Jeremiah 7:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Holy One: Stand in the gate of the Temple and proclaim there this word, and say, "Hear the word of the Holy One, all you people of Judah, you that enter these gates to worship the Holy One. Thus says the Sovereign of Hosts, the God of Israel: 'Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you in this place. Do not seek protection in this empty phrase: "This is the temple of the Holy One, the temple of the Holy One, the temple of the Holy One." For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.

Here you are, trusting in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods, and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are safe!' only to go on doing all these abominations? Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight? Know this: I am watching!"

The New Testament - Mark 7:1-15; 21

When the Pharisees and scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without ritually washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, And they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked Jesus, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must surely die.' But you say that if anyone tells father or mother, 'Whatever support you might have had from me is *Corban* (that is, "an offering to God") - then you no longer permit doing anything for a father or mother, thus making void the word of God through your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many things like this."

Then he called the crowd and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.... For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come."

The Continuing Testament - from *Lip Service - But Where Is the Heart?* - by Dirk Lange

Many people want religion, rather than God. Or, to put it differently, they too easily equate religion with a particular, culturally determined idea of God. They name their religion "Divine" or "Bible-based". They find mystical origins for their laws, turning those laws into unquestionable truths. However, what really happens is a domestication of God. God is made into what we want God to be - usually just a better, more perfect version of ourselves.

The result? God is honored only with the lips, but far from the heart. God is abandoned and replaced with culturally constructed versions. And human traditions (and culture prejudices) are deified.

Of course, every group needs some structure to regulate its life. This is why we have laws in the first place. But when the structures we create are identified with God, when the traditions that formed a nation are uncritically mythologized and distorted, God becomes engraved in stone and used as a weapon of judgment. American political rhetoric often takes God and turns God into a national religion. God is cited as the source of our rights, yet these rights are often culturally defined - for example, the "right" to carry guns, but not "the right" to provide have health care for the poor.

In the Bible, "orphans and widows" is an all-encompassing term for the poor, the marginalized and the outcast - those who cannot defend or fully care themselves. These are the very people that the prophets of old and Jesus himself say are under the protective care of God. And any law - secular or religious - that doesn't do this, or does the opposite, must be vigorously challenged and immediately changed.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Aug 30	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	2:00 pm	Church Picnic
Wed, Sept 2	6:00 am	Early Birds
	7:00 pm	Women United
Thurs, Sept 3	1:00 pm	Bible Study
Sunday, Sept 6	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

AUGUST 30, 2015

Lay Reader:	Kathy Smith
Head Usher:	Anne Melfo
Ushers:	Joanne Cook, Ed Lusk Beth Rehling, David Ritchey
Acolyte:	Naomi Klonowski
Peace Cndl:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Jane Cribbs
Narthex Grtr:	Lenore Harris
Flowers:	Dot Bailey
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
Counters:	Betty Kaul, Bruce McCain
Servers:	Dorie Gabor
Clean Up:	Bridget & Chad Sproul

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2015

Lay Reader:	David Ritchey
Head Usher:	Jon Thompson
Ushers:	Stu & Dot Bailey Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Cndl:	Drew Demko
Sound:	David Bernard
Comns Grtr:	Sue Stenzel
Narthex Grtr:	Joanne Cook
Flowers:	Betty Gifford
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Betty Kaul, Nancy Stella
Servers:	Joy Garapic, Dorie Gabor
Clean Up:	David & Kathy Pastor
Snacks:	Jill Zedan, Jon Thompson