

# 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*

Creative Holy One, You call us to remember our humanity because in knowing ourselves, we know you more fully. May we be reminded that we are just one part your creation, and that you call us to live responsibly. In the beauty around and within us may we embrace your ways and remember our kinship with all creation. Amen.



***“Jesus Said To Him “Be Opened!”  
Mark 7:34***

**Sunday September 13, 2015 • 10:00 AM**

**Sixteenth 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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

# September 13, 2015 – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## **Meditation Music**

Gracious Holy One, may we seek opportunities to better inform ourselves of our world and of our place in it, and our responsibility to it. Help us to remain open to your wisdom and knowledge, which surrounds and enlightens us each day. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

A Festival March

Hiles

**Bearing the Light of Peace**

**Bearing the Life of Christ**

## **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: People of the Eternal One, look around and see the faces of those we know and love;

**People: Neighbors and friends, sisters and brothers - a community of kindred hearts.**

L: People of the Infinite One, look around and see the faces of those we hardly know;

**P: Strangers and sojourners, forgotten friends, the ones who need an outstretched hand**

L: People of the Transcendent One, look around and see all the images of the Holy gathered here.

**P: In you, in me, in each of us, the Divine Spirit shines forth for all to see.**

L: People of the Ever-Living One, let us worship together;

**All: Let us sing praises to God!**

## **\* Hymn of Praise**

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

#73

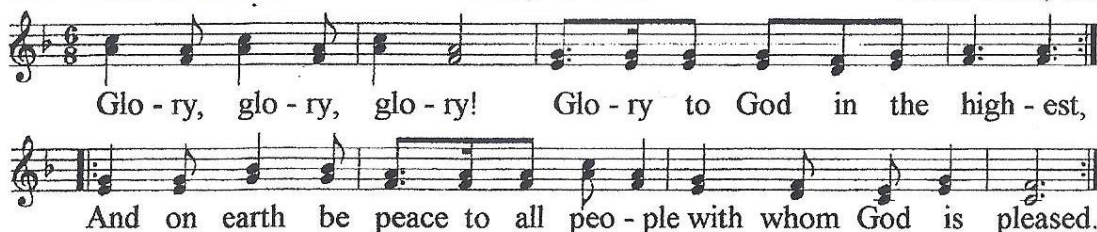
## **\* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Creative Holy One, we come into your presence with thanks for all that fills our lives with joy: the love of family and friends, the comfort of our homes, the challenge of work, and the delight of leisure. We thank you for this Church home and all your good gifts we experience here. Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to your blessings, that we may live lives that are truly thankful, generousness, and joyful! Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Isaiah 35:1-10

Pew Bible, page 663

**The New Testament**

Mark 7:31-37

Pew Bible, page 42

**The Continuing Testament** - from *Open Your Ears before You Speak* by Peter Woods

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Celebrate the Lord

Butler

**Sermon**

*Here's How I Heard It....*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

#42

***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**

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

16<sup>th</sup> cent. Bohemian

“Gather in your scattered flock;  
give us water from the rock.

Bless the unity we share  
in our shepherd’s loving care.

Have mercy, Lord.”

Christian David; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958

#### **\*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]**

**Holy Source of all good gifts, receive and bless these gifts that we bring, and bless us as we offer ourselves to be partners in your redeeming and healing work in this world. Give to us all your Spirit of kindness and generosity, openness and love; we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Teacher, Redeemer, and Friend. Amen.**

## ***Going with God’s Love***

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

Forward through the Ages

#377

#### **\*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

O God, We Praise You

Ravenscroft

## 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, September 6, 2015 – Adults: 76 Kids: 10 Total: 86

## 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 refreshments and conversation.

**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 in Memory and Honor of Jon Thompson's Family, Ralph Willadeen, Ralph Kim, and friends Michael, Mickey, and Robert, who are gone but never, ever forgotten.

**DURING COFFEE HOUR TODAY** talk with any member of the Spiritual Life Ministry or with Max Roha about borrowing next Sunday one of our new Williams personal sound receivers. Learn what it might offer you whether or not you have any serious limitations with your hearing abilities.

**WOMEN UNITED** Our next Meeting is on September 16th at 11:30 AM in the Parlor. Bring lunch and a friend. Dorie Gabor will present a few of the basics of floral arranging. Coffee and tea are provided.

**BICENTENNIAL MINISTRY** The next meeting of the Bicentennial Ministry will take place on Wednesday, September 23 at 7 pm. Summer's easing into fall and it's time to start fleshing out all of the great ideas we've come up with. Be sure to join us in the Parlor with your sleeves rolled up.

**SERVER CORRECTION** Sunday September 27, the Servers are Robin Coyer-Westerberg, and Joanne Cook.

**DIRECTORY UPDATES** Please let us know if you moved, changed phone numbers, or email address. We will be printing out an updated Directory in the near future. Please call the Office at 440-526-4364, or email Jeannette [buccoh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net).

**FLOWER DEDICATIONS** If you have signed up for an upcoming Flower Dedication, please fill out the form right by the main chart, and return with payment to Joy Garapic.

**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.

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

## ***Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Isaiah 35:3-10**

Encourage those who are burdened with care, and strengthen the feeble. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not be afraid! Behold the Holy One, who comes with saving power and unstoppable determination to rescue you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way.... And the redeemed of the Holy One shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



## **The New Testament - Mark 7:31-37**

Then Jesus returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a man who was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, Jesus sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**The Continuing Testament** - from *Open Your Ears before You Speak* - by Peter Woods  
[edited]

To the modern ear, the linkage of the man’s deafness and a speech impediment is redundant. We all know that if you cannot hear properly, or at all, there is no way you could learn to pronounce and sound words correctly. In Jesus day the causal link was not that clear. I am however, thankful for the redundancy for it gave me pause to consider the link between having one’s ears opened, one’s tongue released, and then being able to speak plainly. I am also intrigued by the sequencing of the healed response. We are specifically told that his ears were opened, his tongue released, and then he spoke....

Could it be that this miracle sequence is a parable that shows that Jesus would have us first listen before we open our mouths to speak? My late Grandfather used to say, “A still tongue makes a wise heart.” My Grandmother would chime-in:

“The wise old owl sat on the oak,  
the more he listened the less he spoke,  
the less he spoke the more he heard,  
why can’t we be like that wise old bird?”

Could it also be true that this miracle show that plain speaking can only come as the product and fruit of listening. I would like to believe that is true.

Open up with all your being,

Listen deeply,

Speak plainly.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Sept. 13</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service - <b>RALLY DAY!</b>
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
<b>Monday, Sept. 14</b>	7:00 pm	Facilities
<b>Wed, Sept 16</b>	6:00 am	Early Birds
	11:30 am	Women United
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
	7:00 pm	Council
<b>Thurs, Sept 17</b>	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
<b>Sunday, Sept 20</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour <b>*Hunger Meal PRUMC*</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**

Lay Reader:	Tia Began
Head Usher:	Kathy Smith
Ushers:	Jim Duffy, Sam Koch Sue Maier, Lindsey Maier
Acolyte:	Ryan Stewart
Peace Cndl:	Carli Began
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Ann Kelley
Narthex Grtr:	Jill Zedan
Flowers:	Marla Corrado
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
Counters:	Donn Whyte, David Pastor
Servers:	Sue Stenzel, Caroline Chandler
Clean-Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks:	Kate Klonowski, Sue Maier

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2015**

Lay Reader:	Bridget Sproul
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Linda Kriynovich, Fred Pesek David & Kathy Pastor
Acolyte:	Ben Davis
Peace Cndl:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Dot Bailey
Narthex Grtr:	Lenore Harris
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Indira Bigelow
Counters:	Jan Renovetz, Stu Bailey
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up:	Chad & Bridgett Sproul
Snacks:	Gina Cook, Anne Melfo