

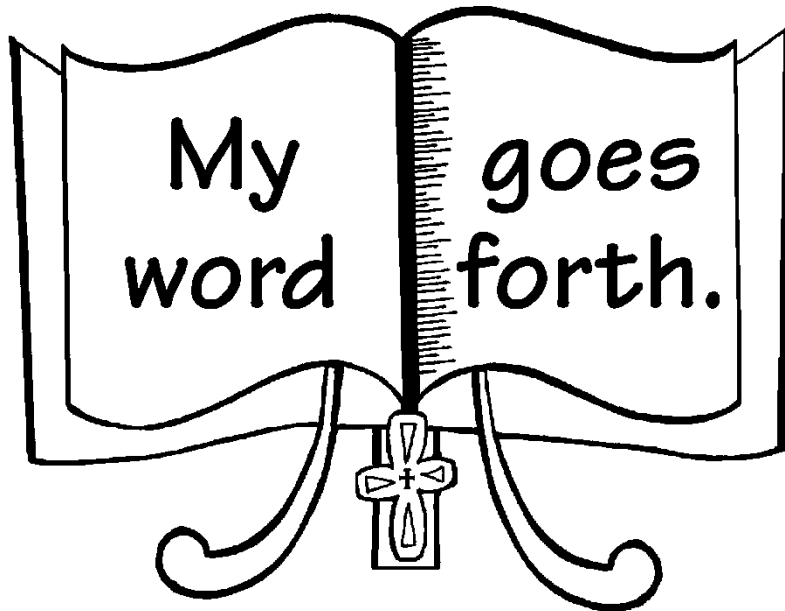
BRECKSVILLE

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*

Gracious Holy One, you call us to be people of compassion, and instruments of positive change within this world. Inspire and empower us, so that we might be willing to take the risks necessary to carry-forward the message of your amazing love and grace wherever we go! Amen!



Sunday October 25, 2015 • 10:00 AM

Twenty Second 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

October 25, 2015 – Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Divine Source of us all, help us all to be open to your marvelous message of compassion and grace. May we gladly hear it and share it, so that we may we One Community that faithfully serves You, by serving one another. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Take Us As We Are, O God

Fedak

“Take us as we are, O God, and claim us as your own.
As once you chose to tell your love in human flesh and bone,
so let our lives be used to make your saving purpose known.”
Carl P. Daw Jr., 1995

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship** - from *Psalms* 30

Leader: Sing praises to the Holy One, all you faithful people!

People: Give thanks to our Creator, who has blessed us with life!!

L: To you, O Holy One, I cry out and make my supplication,

P: Hear me, O Gracious One, and grant me your favor.

L: For you have turned my mourning into dancing,

P: You have removed my garments of sorrow and clothed me with your joy!

L: Therefore my soul will praise you and will not be silent,

All: I will give thanks to you, O Compassionate One, now and forevermore!

***Hymn of Praise**

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

#21

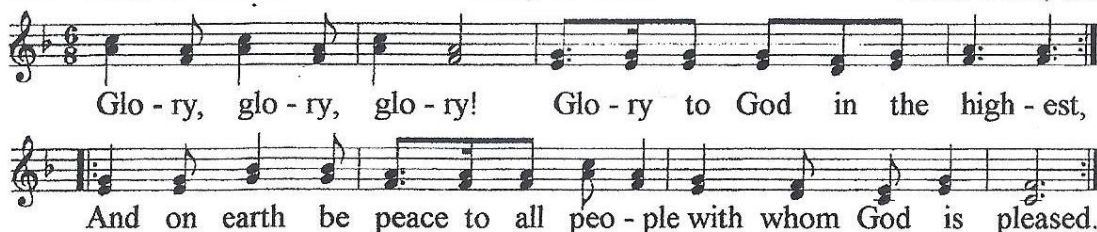
*** Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, Renewer of Life, we praise you that you have not abandoned us to the forces of darkness and doubt, death, and despair. We thank you that in Christ, you raise us up to forgiveness, hope and new life. Help us to walk in your ways, by extending to others the gracious welcome and life-changing Good News that we have received. Help us to be strong in faith, gentle in compassion, and loving in all our words and deeds. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 55:8-13

Pew Bible, page 686

The New Testament

Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Pew Bible, page 71

The Continuing Testament

by Elisabeth Johnson

in *WorkingPreacher*

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Go Light Your World

Rice

Sermon

That's One Powerful Projectile!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

#318

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

Voluntary in C major

Russell

***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]**

Gracious Holy One, may the light of your love shine in and through us today. Bless these gifts, that they might be used to further Your work in this community and in our world. Bless and guide us as we seek to give of ourselves in serving You, by serving others. This we ask in the name of the One who gave himself for us all, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Going with God's Love

***Hymn of Departure**

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

#306

***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*

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

***Benediction**

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Ann Toneff, Jill Black, 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, October 18, 2015 – Adults: 94 Kids: 15 Total: 109

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 Cliff & Sue Stenzel in Celebration of CJ & Liz Stenzel's recent Wedding.

AUTHOR JAN LINN TO SPEAK AT BUCC - Author Jan Linn will be the keynote speaker for the WRA/EOA Fall Meeting on Saturday, Oct. 31st. BUCC will host a lecture/discussion with Linn on Thursday, Oct. 29th, from 2:00 -3:30 pm. The topic will be Linn's latest book, *A Different Jesus*. This book is a fairly easy-read, though it covers a deeply important topic: An understanding of Christianity that is big enough to embrace today's multi-cultural, interfaith world. Rev. Linn is co-pastor of Spirit of Joy Christian Church [Disciples of Christ] in Apple Valley, Minnesota.

COME AND HELP!! The annual fall clean-up of the church grounds will be held on Saturday, November 14. Come as early as 8:30 or whenever you can to help clean up the leaves and tidy whatever else needs attention. We have some tools, but it's best if you bring your favorites. Gas driven leaf blowers are very useful. As usual, plenty of exercise, fresh air, fellowship and refreshments will be available. The Facilities Ministry will have a sign-up sheet at the next few coffee hours.

HUNGER MEAL Next Sunday, November First, we will be serving a hunger meal at Bethany UCC. We expect to serve about 60 meals. A few people are needed from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM to set up and prepare the meal, and a few people are needed from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM to serve and clean up. The sign – up board is in the narthex for folks to indicate their preference of time. Questions? 440-526-9714

ON SUNDAY, NOV. 29 AT 4:00 P.M., BUCC will host the **Autana Trio**, which features violinist Ruben Rengel, cellist Anna Hurt, and pianist Yuri Noh. The award-winning ensemble, which formed during the musicians' studies at Cleveland Institute of Music, will perform works by Bach and Mendelssohn. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the program. We hope you'll join us on Nov. 29 to experience this outstanding chamber music ensemble.

MITTEN TREE: It may be a bit early but Old Man Winter isn't far away. Inner city children will need mittens, hats, scarves, and socks. We have a tree sitting in the Narthex of BUCC that needs some decorations. Also is you some yarn suitable for mittens consider knitting mittens or contribute the yarn.

URGENT NEED If anyone has a spare computer they'd be willing to donate for use in the music office, please contact Dave Debick or Jim Duffy.

ADVENT BOOK There are still several passages available for the Advent Book. See Jon Thompson for more details. There is a much earlier deadline this year – all Advent Book items should be emailed to Jeannette at buccoh@sbcglobal.net - no later than November 8.

CALLING FOR ALL RECIPES!! Please get your recipes in as soon as you can so that they can be typed. Also, it would be wonderful if you could include personal information about the recipe. For example, "this was my grandmother's favorite recipe for chocolate cake and she passed it on to me!" If it is more convenient you can email your recipe to me at: culinarybee@gmail.com. Thank you for your help in making this the best cookbook ever!

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

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY is looking for you...catch us at Coffee Hour.

On 10/25...Members of the Christian Education, Stewardship, Membership, Communications and Outreach Ministries will be available during Coffee Hour with an opportunity for you to learn about their ministry.

On 11/1.....Spiritual Life, Facilities, Parish-Staff Relations/Personnel - (see above)

On 11/8OCWM, Leadership Development and Finance - (see above)

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.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Isaiah 55:8-13

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways," says the Holy One. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish what I intend, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Holy One a memorial, an everlasting sign that shall not be severed.”

The New Testament - Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let everyone who has ears, listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the Divine Realm and does not grasp it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but persists only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and grasps it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The Continuing Testament - by Elisabeth Johnson - in *Working Preacher* [edited]

As those entrusted with Jesus’ mission today, we might consider the implications of the Parable of the Sower for how we engage in mission. Too often we play it safe, sowing the Word only where we are confident it will be well received, or only where those who receive it are likely to become contributing members of our congregations. In the name of stewardship, we hold tightly to our resources, wanting to make sure that nothing is wasted. We stifle creativity and energy for mission, resisting new ideas for fear they might not work - as though mistakes or failure were to be avoided at all costs.

Jesus’ approach to mission is quite at odds with our play-it-safe instincts. He gives us freedom to take risks for the sake of the Gospel. He endorses extravagant generosity in sowing the Word, even in perilous places. Though we may wonder about the wisdom or efficiency of his methods, Jesus promises that the end result will be a bumper crop!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Oct. 25	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Tuesday, Oct. 27	10:30 am	CWRU Parlor
	11 am	Cookbook - Library
Wed, Oct. 28	6:00 am	Early Birds
	11:30 am	Women United
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
Thurs, Oct 29	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	2:00 – 3:30 pm	Jan Linn, Author
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Sunday, Nov. 1	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
		Hunger Meal – Bethany

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE
OCTOBER 25, 2015

Lay Reader:	Dot Bailey
Head Usher:	Evie Novak
Ushers:	Joe & Betsey Wilson Bob Chandler, Jane Cribbs
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound:	Mike Westerberg
Comns Grtr:	George Snider
Narthex Grtr:	Joanne Cook
Flowers:	Julie Bernard
Nursery:	Shauna Bigelow
Counters:	Donn Whyte, Jim Duffy
Servers:	Robin Coyer-Westerberg Caroline Chandler
Clean Up:	Bridget & Chad Sproul
Snacks:	Gina Cook, Marilyn Wrights

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
NOVEMBER 1, 2015

Lay Reader:	Matt Wolbert
Head Usher:	Bridget Sproul
Ushers:	Dot & Stu Bailey Linda Kriynovich, Jim Duffy
Acolyte:	Carli Began
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Max Roha, Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Ann Kelley
Narthex Grtr:	Kathy Smith
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Shauna Bigelow
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Marge Culver
Servers:	Joanne Cook, Dorie Gabor
Clean Up:	Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey
Snacks:	Kate Klonowski, Beth Rehling