

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*

Divine
Creator, you
desire that we
all have a
wholesome
relationship
with you, and
with one
another. May
our attention
move upward
- to notice you
and your
handiwork in
the sky, the
stars, and the
warmth of the
sun. And may
our attention
also be drawn
earthward -
that we may
learn to live in
harmony with
all of
Life which
surrounds us.
Amen.



***"Whoever Welcomes One Such Child In My Name,
Welcomes Me..."
Mark 9:37***

**Sunday September 20, 2015 • 10:00 AM
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<i>Ministers</i>
• Rev David Shackle	• David Debick	• Joy Garapic	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

September 20, 2015 – Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Holy Source of all, you have created a world intended for harmony and balance. Keep us mindful of the consequences of our actions, large and small, as a human race. Help us imagine the generations that come after us and the legacy we will leave them. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

We Are Called (Come! Live in the Light!)

Haas

“We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.”
David Haas, 1988

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship** - from *Isaiah 25*

Leader: O Holy One, you are our God.

People: We will exalt you, we will praise your name.

L: For you have done wonderful things;

P: All your works are faithful and sure.

L: You have been a stronghold for the poor;

P: A sure support to the needy in their distress.

L: You subdue the chaos of violence and hatred,

P: As the shade of a cloud subdues the heat of day.

L: O Holy One, you are our God.

All: We gladly exalt you and praise your name!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

#55

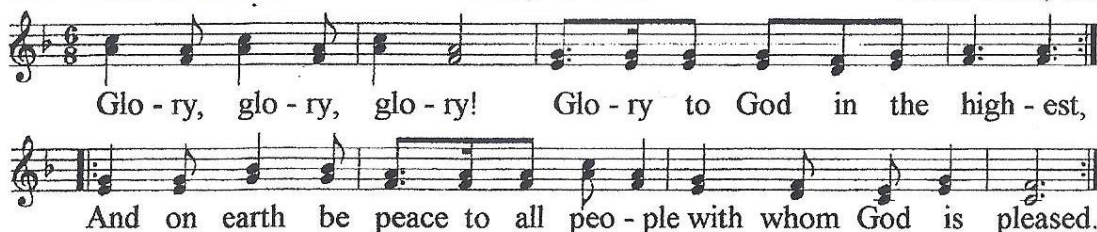
*** Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Our Divine Source of Wisdom and Love, we come before you as your children, eager to learn of your gracious and giving works and ways. Help us to be open and flexible, that we might creatively meet the needs and challenges ahead of us. Fill us with the Spirit of your Compassionate Goodness, so that we may faithfully serve you by serving one another. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1-7

Pew Bible, page 670

The New Testament

Mark 9:33-37

Pew Bible, page 45

The Continuing Testament from *The Great Subversion*

by Andrew Prior

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

I Have Touched the Face of God

Goemanne

Sermon

A Kinder Humankind

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

#583

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

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord
“We yield ourselves to thee: time talents, all;
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.”
William H. Foulkes, c. 1920

Laufer

***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 bring you our offerings, Gracious Holy One, in thanksgiving for what you have first given us: Ourselves, our time, and our possessions - signs of your goodness and love. Bless our gifts and bless our giving, we ask in the name of the One who freely gave himself for us all, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

The Blessing

Communion Music

Adagio from Sonata No. 21

Haydn

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ #347

*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 Echo Fantasia No. 2 Sweelinck

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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, September 13, 2015 – Adults: 86 Kids: 8 Total: 94

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 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 by Bob & Caroline Chandler in Thankfulness of 56 years of Wedded Bliss.

FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICE, grape juice is used instead of wine for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who may be in recovery from addiction.

OUR PARKING AREA will be sealed on Saturday, September 26. If it is necessary to enter the church, you may do so through the east door. Public parking can be found in back of the bank.

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.

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.

FALL POTLUCK is next Sunday Sept. 27 immediately following Worship Service - Please bring your favorite dish to enjoy with everyone as we welcome the Fall Season.

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.

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.

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, and Marge Culver are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have!

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 42:1-7

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says the Holy One, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Holy One, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

The New Testament - Mark 9:33-37

Jesus and his disciples then came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The Continuing Testament - from *The Great Subversion* - by Andrew Prior [edited]

The reason issues such as money, poverty, wealth, and economic justice are so central to Scripture is that they are the key places of our down-falling. They are the primary locus of our inhumanity. They are means by which we so often prevent others from having their joy made full. And the reason for this endemic injustice is basically that we want to be the greatest! We want to be significant. We want - in the end - to preserve ourselves. We want *our* joy to be made full. And everything the world teaches us suggests that we need to get ahead, to do well, and to climb the ladder. We learn this from our earliest school days, and before.

If we do this, we learn, we will be safe. We can even perhaps persuade ourselves for a little while that we will not die; or at least, distract ourselves from the thought. Jesus says that this is all wrong. To be the greatest you must be the servant of all. You must be the one who is least concerned with getting ahead. The one who wants others to have *their* joy made full. And into this conversation about greatness, Jesus injects a child. The child is the symbol of those who are not great.

What Jesus is telling us is the Great Subversive Truth. To welcome a child, is to look upon the face of the Divine. Greatness, salvation and joy come from the Divine. The Divine is not found through worldly power, or by being first. To look upon the Divine, go last; look after the children.

Yet Jesus' teaching is not about children, as such, but about those who are least. Just like the great parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25, we meet God, and serve God, when we look after the least. Being the greatest in a worldly sense leaves us no time to look after the least. We are too busy looking after ourselves. Living for others, as servant, keeps us looking on the face of the Divine.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 20	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour *Hunger Meal PRUMC*
Tuesday, Sept. 22	11:00 am	Cookbook Committee Parlor
Wed, Sept 23	6:00 am	Early Birds
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
	7:00 pm	Bicentennial Ministry
Thurs, Sept 24	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday, Sept 27	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Pot Luck

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS 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 Candle:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	Max Roha
Comms Grtr:	Dot Bailey
Narthex Grtr:	Lenore Harris
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
Counters:	Jan Renovetz, Stu Bailey
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up:	Chad & Bridgett Sproul
Snacks:	Gina Cook, Anne Melfo

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

Lay Reader:	Bridget Sproul
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Linda Kriynovich, Jim Duffy David & Kathy Pastor
Acolyte:	Ben Davis
Peace Candle:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	Max Roha
Comms 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