



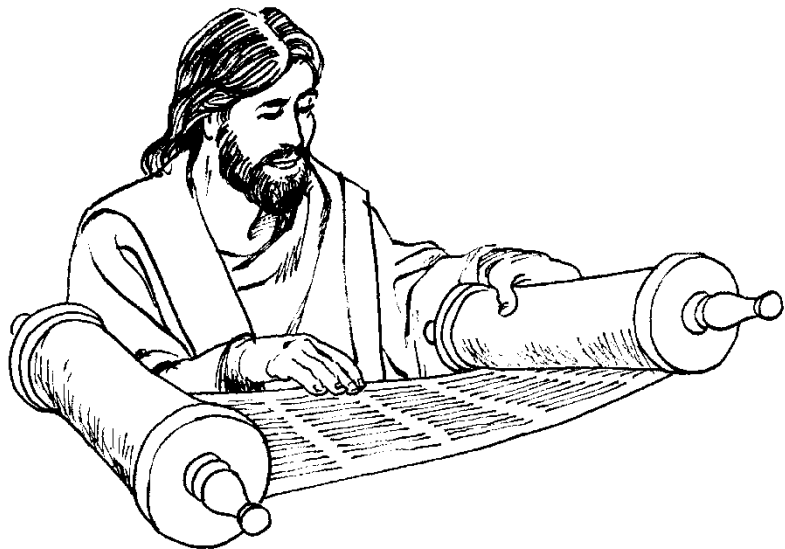
BRECKSVILLE

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*

Holy One, we long for news that is good - good for the Earth, good for our hearts, good for our communities. May we listen to the Good News that you have set before us in the example and person of Jesus Christ, and may we respond to that News with the lives of Courage, Faith and Love. Amen.



***“The Holy One...Has Anointed Me To Bring Good
News To The Poor....”
(Luke 4:18)***

Sunday January 24, 2016 • 10:00 AM

Third Sunday After Epiphany

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

JANUARY 24, 2016 – THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, fill us with the Power and Spirit of your Love and Grace. May we be the bearers of that Love and Grace to others, so that together we may live the promise of abundant life. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

You Shall Prophesy, All My People
[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

Macías

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Life of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: We gather today to praise the Holy One who has done great things for us.

People: Glory be to God, whose blessings never cease!

L: We have come to honor Jesus, who embodies for us the fullness of Divine Grace.

P: May the Light of Christ's Love continue to lead us and guide us!

L: We have come to celebrate the Spirit's presence among us and within us.

P: Let us rejoice and give thanks!

L: For all that we have and for all that we are,

All: We raise our hearts and voices in praise!

* Hymn of Praise

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

#55

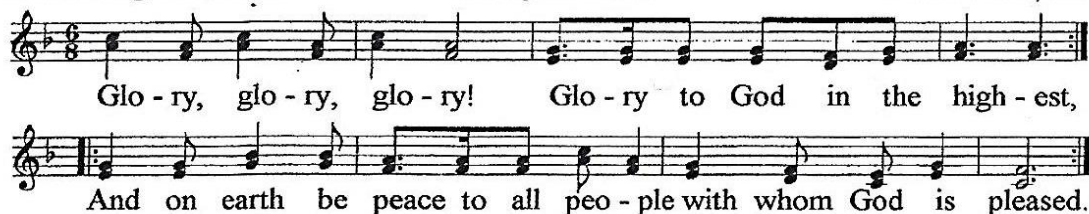
* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, Source of love and wholeness, you call all of your children to live together as One Caring and Compassionate Family. Gather up the prayers of each of our hearts into a unified harmony of worship and service, that we might truly be One Body in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

* The Song of Praise

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament	Psalm 19:1-4; 7-11	Pew Bible, page 498
The New Testament	Luke 4:14-30	Pew Bible, page 61
The Continuing Testament	from <i>Jesus' Agenda</i>	by Nancy Rockwell

Youth Anthem	As Long As We Follow	African melody
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Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering	Lord, Help the Poor and the Needy	Trad. Spiritual, arr. Parker
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Sermon	<i>Cliff Notes</i>	Pastor Dave Shackle
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Hymn of Reflection	The Church of Christ, in Every Age	#306
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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	Seraphic Hymn	Howard
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*** Offertory Hymn**

Winter has come, it's taken hold.
The days are short, the nights are cold.
The poor need food and help and heat.
We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, we thank you, for the opportunity to share in your creative and healing work. Because you have blessed us with so much, we have much to give. May these offerings express our gratitude, and our desire to be your faithful and loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, in whose Spirit and steps we follow. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

O for a World

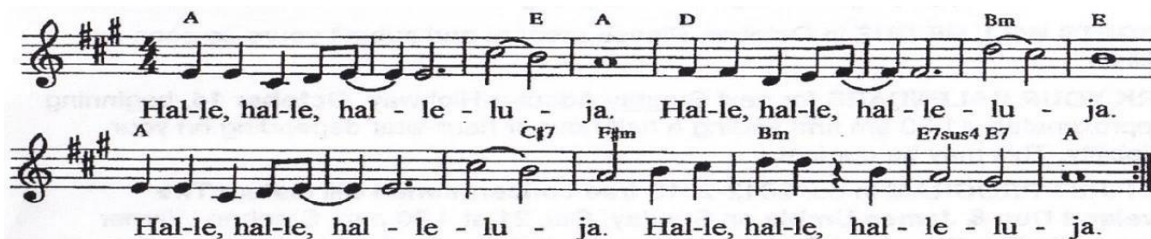
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*** Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

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

Canticle to the Lamb

Adams

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, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, 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, January 17, 2016, – 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 WE USE DIFFERENT OFFERTORY WORDS - These were written by Max Roha, to remind us of the importance of helping those for whom the Winter months are particularly difficult. We thank all of you for your financial gifts that enhance our outreach to people in need!

OUR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to approve our finalized 1216 Budget and Slate of Officers will be held next Sunday, January 31st, immediately following worship. Please plan to attend this important event!

HAVE YOU VISITED THE BUCC LIBRARY LATELY? IF NOT, COME SEE ALL THE NEW BOOKS!

Over the course of the last few months, we have been blessed to receive a number of donated books for our library - so many in fact, that we can't keep up with cataloging them all! To ensure that they are made available to folks as soon as possible, we have started putting bright orange 'New' stickers on the books and putting them on the shelves. You can borrow these books whenever you like on the honor system - no need to sign them out. Once they are cataloged, we will add them to the sign out lists.

Our library has more than just biblical and religious Christian texts -- there's now a whole shelf with quotes and illustrative stories for public speakers.

There are also a number of books on other religions and spirituality. If you are a Sunday School teacher, there's an entire section of reference materials for you.

So thank you to all the folks who continue to help our library grow by donating books, and come take a look - you may find an interesting read!

BRECKSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 200 YEARS OF SERVING This is the title of our fundraiser cookbook, and we **NEED** more recipes. We have enough recipes under the category “**DESSERTS**”, and “**COOKIERAMA**”.

We need recipes in the following categories: “**APPETIZERS**”, **VEGETABLES**” “**BREADS & ROLLS**”, “**MAIN DISHES**”, **AND MISCELLANEOUS**. You don't have to type the recipes, handwritten will be fine, and don't worry about using a certain format. You can use your favorite recipe from a magazine or cookbook that you have tweaked and made your own. Just remember to give us your name and if you wish to make a comment about the recipe that will be welcomed. You can put your recipes in the box that sits on a table in the commons area or give the recipes to Caroline Chandler, Bob Chandler, Sue Stenzel, Dorie Gabor, Max Roha, Tina Ortiz or me, Caroline Snider. The cutoff date is January 24th. Thanks you very much.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

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.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 19:1-4; 7-11

The heavens declare the glory of the Holy One; and the firmament proclaims the Creator's handiwork. Each day announces it to the following day; each night repeats it to the next. No speech or words are used, no sound is heard; yet their message goes out to all the world and is heard to the ends of the earth....The Divine Law is perfect; reviving the soul. The commands of the Holy One are trustworthy, making wise the simple; the Heavenly Precepts are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of God is clear, enlightening the eyes; Reverence for God is good; enduring forever; the Divine Ordinances are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. They give knowledge to me, your servant; in keeping them there is great reward.

The New Testament - Luke 4:14-30

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Holy One is upon me, and has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the Season of Divine favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' " And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Continuing Testament - from *Jesus’ Agenda* - by Nancy Rockwell [edited]

Jesus’ public announcement in his home-town synagogue declared that he was to “bring good news to the poor, release to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the Year of Divine Favor.” Not much of this is being focused on in our Presidential candidates’ public announcements. One or two focus on the economy and how it affects the poor, but most focus on immigration and terrorist aggression. There is hardly any mention of prisoners, or of prisons and their conditions. Much work has been done for the blind, yet Jesus’ words are also about those who lack compassion because of their blindness to the needs of those around them. There is more emphasis on keeping the oppressed out of our nation than on helping them go free. And as for the Year of Divine Favor, which biblically is a year of redistribution of wealth and land, no candidate is talking about that.

Granted, it is a stretch to assume that Jesus’ words, read from Isaiah, are the appropriate agenda for would-be world leaders. Yet they strike me as the remedy we need for our broken economy, our highest-in-the-western world rate of imprisonment and the shockingly large proportion of our prisoners who are black and Latino. And they ring true as the decent and moral response to throngs of oppressed refugees desperately seeking freedom. As a nation, we are deeply divided in our responses to refugees, the poor, and minorities. Ancient as Jesus’ words are, still there is a ring of truth, that these are the priorities we must embrace.

Jesus' words challenge us to hear that he has not come to save us individually, apart from one another, or privately, through our personal belief; but he comes for us all, and is revealed in us and through us, as we reach out to embrace one another's needs. So many of our candidates profess to be Christians - it would be a welcome wonder if one of them were to have the

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 24	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Tues., Jan. 26	10:00am	CWRU
	10:30 am	Cookbook
Wed., Jan. 27	6:00 am	Early Birds
Thurs., Jan. 28	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday, Jan. 31	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JANUARY 24, 2016

Lay Reader:	Betsey Wilson
Head Usher:	Anne Melfo
Ushers:	Jim Duffy, Sam Koch Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz
Acolyte:	Ben Rehling
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Jill Zedan
Narthex Grtr:	Jon Thompson
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Nursery:	Jon Cook
Counters:	David Pastor, Caroline Chandler
Servers:	Chad Sproul, Julie Bernard
Clean-Up:	Kathy & David Pastor
Snacks:	Anne Melfo, Tina Ortiz
Snow Herder:	Wes Novak

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

JANUARY 31, 2016

Lay Reader:	Sam Koch
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Darlene Kelly, David Ritchey Sue Stenzel, Vicki Szabo
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Joanne Cook
Narthex Grtr:	Kathy Pastor
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
Counters:	David Pastor, Jon Thompson
Servers:	Julie Bernard, Jill Zedan
Clean Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks:	Vicki Szabo, Jon Thompson
Snow Herder:	Doug Fawcett