

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, in our times of turmoil and trouble may we be reminded to entrust ourselves to your unfailing love. Give us wisdom to know when to stand strong, and when to make ourselves vulnerable. Empower us to always be ready to show and to share your compassion and grace with others. Amen.



Hosanna In The Highest!

Sunday March 20, 2016 • 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday

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

MARCH 20, 2016 – PALM SUNDAY

Meditation Music

Divine Source of love and mercy, may we have the courage to speak truth to those in power who seek personal gain at the expense of others. Keep us steady in the face of challenging times and circumstances. May Jesus's remarkable example of compassion combined with courage, strengthen and sustain us throughout our days. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

***Processional Gospel**

Leader: When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find a donkey tied there that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'The teacher has need of it.'"

People: So those who were sent departed and found it as Jesus had told them.

L: Then they brought the donkey to Jesus; and after throwing their garments on it, they set Jesus upon it.

P: As he rode along, most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

L: As he approached the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

All: "Hosanna to the Heir of David! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!"

L: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, order your followers to stop!"

P: But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these people were silent, the stones themselves would shout out!"

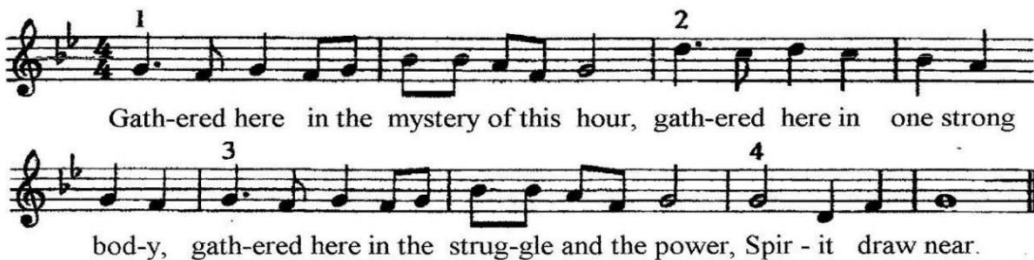
L: This is the Good News for today!

All: Thanks be to God!

***Processional of Palms**

Bearing the Light of Peace**Bearing the Light of Christ***** Prayer of Invocation [unison]**

Gracious Holy One, just as Jesus was joyfully greeted as he entered Jerusalem, so may we welcome him into our hearts and lives today. Grant that we may open ourselves to hear the Good News of peace, welcome, and grace that Jesus brought as your Messenger and Prophet. This we pray in the name of the One who comes to serve and to save us all. Amen.

***Song of Praise [sung twice]**

Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.

The Old Testament

Isaiah 50:4-9

Pew Bible, page 681

The New Testament

Luke 19:37-48

Pew Bible, page 82

The Continuing Testament - by Rodney Sadler - in *The African American Lectionary***Time with Young Worshipers**

[Youth Percussion Group with Bob Chandler, Donn Whyte & Jim Demko]

Pastor Dave Shackles

#215

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer

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

Ride On, King Jesus African-American spiritual, arr. White

* Offertory Hymn

**We now are in the time of Lent,
To learn again what Jesus meant.
His life and message are so great,
We send these gifts to celebrate! Amen!**

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

Compassionate Holy One, in the shadow of the Cross we stand in humble awe. As we remember Jesus Christ gracious giving of himself for our sakes, we are overwhelmed. Grant that we may faithfully follow his example and fully give ourselves to your mission of reconciliation, justice, and peace. We pray that you would bless our gifts and bless us, that both gift and giver may be used in your service and in service to others. Amen.

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

The Blessing

Communion Music

Communion

Franck

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

#213

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

Acolyte

*** Circle of Community [Hear Our Prayer, O God - #769 - sung 2X's]**

*As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Hear our Prayer, O God.** 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

March (from *Joshua*)

Handel

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Jim Kaul, William Zmich (Marla Corrado Father), Lenore Harris, Caroline Chandler, 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, March 13, 2016 – Adults: 62 Kids: 12 Total: 74

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.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER OPPORTUNITIES AT BUCC:

March 24th - Maunday Thursday Soup Supper at 6:30. 7:00 Celebration of Christ's Last Supper and reenacting Christ's example washing his disciple's feet.

March 25th - 7:00 pm. Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary, hosted by the Community of St. Bridget.

March 26th - Holy Saturday - Saint Bridget Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary [The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.]

March 27th - Easter morning Sunrise Service at 7:00 at Highland Cemetery.
Easter Celebration Service at 10:00 in the Sanctuary.

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.

ON SUNDAY, APRIL 10 AT 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host the **Brecksville Broadview Heights Community Chorus**, directed by Joy Parker. The free concert will feature settings of early American hymns, folk tunes and spirituals along with several secular pieces. The program was chosen to help us celebrate our bicentennial year as a congregation. A free-will offering will be received, and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us April 10 for an inspiring program of choral music.

BUCC'S STAFF AND ADULT CHOIR request that you *kindly refrain from applauding* after the adult choir anthem is presented at Sunday service - not only during Lent, but throughout the church year. We understand that people like to express their appreciation, but many find this applause disruptive to their worship experience. Thank you. As for the Joyful Noise Choir: please feel free to affirm them with applause as the Spirit moves you!

BUCC POLO SHIRTS We are now taking orders for the BUCC polo shirts and t-shirts with our 200 year anniversary logo. These high quality polo shirts are gray with an embroidered red, white and black BUCC logo. Sizes S-XL are \$25.00. 2XL and larger are \$27.00. Gray, logo screened t-shirts sizes S-XL are \$15.00 with an additional \$2.00 for larger sizes. Children's t-shirts are also available. Samples will be available for you to see and try on during coffee hour. A representative of the bicentennial committee will be available during coffee hour to take your order. ***Deadline for Orders is April 3.***

BOWLING Sunday April 3rd will be our annual Bowling outing at Northwoods Lanes in Macedonia at 1-3 pm. Cost is \$6 per person which includes 2 games, rental shoes, pizza, goodies and prizes. Please see David Pastor to sign up or contact David at 440.552.4403 or email at ridave@hotmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE for Sunday May 1st for the Akron Rubber Ducks game. Game time 2:05 pm. \$6 per seat and there is free parking in the garage across the side street from Canal Park. May 1st is MS Awareness day, with a 1K fun run, \$2 hot dogs, and kids can run the bases. We'll have sign-up sheets during coffee hour in April.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Isaiah 50:4-9

The Holy One has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning God wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Holy One has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Holy One helps me, therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; the One who exonerates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Holy One who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

The New Testament - Luke 19:37-48

As Jesus rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the sovereign who comes in the name of the Holy One! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these people were silent, the stones would shout out."

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there; and he said, "It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer'; but you have made it a den of robbers!" Every day Jesus was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him; but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

The Continuing Testament - by Rodney Sadler - in *The African American Lectionary* [edited]

On Palm Sunday, the people gave their all in joy to pave the way for the coming of the Divine Realm. Imagine the type of commitment and the excitement it takes to remove your clothes and cast them in the street. Some of these people were poor and may only have owned one cloak, yet they cast them on the ground so that their new leader would have a royal pathway on which to walk.

What would this world be like if we were so excited about our relationship with God that we committed all of our time, talent, and treasure to spreading the Gospel, to feeding the poor, to visiting and praying for the sick and shut-in, to comforting the discouraged who struggle with drug abuse and other addictions, to seeking justice for those treated unfairly by the prison system, and to sharing hope with hopeless young men and women?

The cloak-removing folk in 1st Century Jerusalem had experienced the coming Messiah and they could not keep quiet. They could not keep it to themselves! In front of their friends, family, coworkers, and even the leaders of their world, they proclaimed that they had found in Christ what they had waited for all of their lives. Such willingness to testify that God has done something amazing for us is a witness to the world! Because of Christ, there is a hopeful promise that we will be victorious over the powers and principalities that have oppressed and abused us. We have hope because God is in the house! God is with us! That's reason enough to celebrate, to sing God's praise, and to tell somebody!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 20	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Wed., March 23	6:00 am	Early Birds
Thurs., March 24	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Soup Supper
	7:00 pm	Communion
Friday, March 25	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
		Hosted by The Community Of St. Bridget
Sat., March 26	8:30 pm	Easter Vigil – Community of St. Bridget
Sunday, March 27	7:00 am	Sunrise Service – Highland Cemetery
	10:00 am	Worship Service/ Easter Sunday
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 20, 2016

Lay Reader:	David Ritchey
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	George & Carole Snider Joe & Betsey Wilson
Acolyte:	Carli Began
Peace Candle:	Lucy Brown
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Marge Culver
Narthex Grtr:	Sue Stenzel
Flowers:	<i>PALMS</i>
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Kathy Pastor, Jon Thompson
Servers:	Darlene Kelly, Michele Namitka
Clean-Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks:	Heidi Spangler, Sue Maier
Snow Herder:	Chad Sproul

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 27, 2016

Lay Reader:	Tia Began
Head Usher:	Evie Novak
Ushers:	Tim & Kim Wallis Ed Lusk, Joanne Cook
Acolyte:	Drew Demko
Peace Candle:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	George Snider
Narthex Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	<i>EASTER LILIES</i>
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
Counters:	Sue Stenzel, Bruce McCain
Servers:	Julie Bernard, Jill Zedan
Clean-Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks:	Jim Pay, Anne Melfo
Snow Herder:	Wes Novak