



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, inspire us to be faithful and joyful witnesses of the Resurrection, by freely sharing the new life and abundant love which we have seen in Jesus Christ. Embolden us to tell and to show the marvelous ways that we encounter Christ each day - through the gift of community, through random acts of kindness, and through your Spirit's enduring Presence. Amen.



“Do not doubt but believe.”

Jn 20:27

Sunday April 3, 2016 • 10:00 AM

Second Sunday Of Easter

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

APRIL 3, 2016 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Meditation Music

Risen and Ever-living Christ, breathe your Spirit of new life within each of us today. Where we cannot see clearly, help us to keep our minds open so that we might still trust. Strengthen us as we seek to know you better, and help us to grow in our love for you and for one another. Amen

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Alive! Alive!

Composer unknown

[Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble, assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

"Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
Christ Jesus is alive forevermore."

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: This is the day that our Creator has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L: The renewing energy of the Holy Spirit bursts-forth all around us;

P: In flowers and trees, and in the hearts and lives of the people we encounter!

L: Our Sacred Source has not forgotten us;

P: The Holy One has not forsaken us!

L: Like a loving Mother and Father,

P: Our Divine Creator holds us close.

L: God's everlasting love rests upon us,

All: In the Holy One's gentle care, we are forever safe and secure!

***Hymn of Praise**

The Day of Resurrection

#245

*** Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

Eternal Holy One, we look to your saving power and grace. Enter those parts of ourselves that disturb us and heal them. Use our broken places as the places where you bring us together in community. Transform our own weakness into compassion for the weakness of others. Give us that graceful combination of humility and self-esteem, that we may see ourselves and others as you see us - your restored and loved people. Amen.

* The Assurance of Pardon

L: One fact remains and does not change: God has loved us, loves us now, and will love us always. This is the Good News that brings us new life!

All: Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace

L: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ.

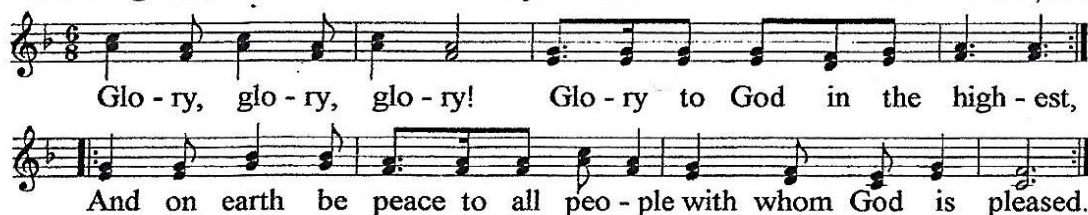
The Peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

* The Song of Praise

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Psalm 118:14-24

Pew Bible, page 565

The New Testament

John 20:19-31

Pew Bible, page 115

The Continuing Testament

by Elisabeth Johnson

in *WorkingPreacher*

Youth Anthem

Celebrate Jesus
[Joyful Noise Choir]

Oliver

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

We Walk by Faith

Haugen, arr. Debick

Sermon

That Never-Ending Refrain

Pastor Dave Shackle

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

God, My Lord, My Strength

Czech, 16th century

"Christ in me, and I am freed
for living and forgiving,
heart of flesh for lifeless stone;
now bold to serve him,
now cheered his love to own,
nevermore alone."

Tranoscius, 1636; trans. Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

*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, as Jesus Christ offered himself for us, so we offer ourselves
with these gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. We thank
you for calling us to carry forward the compassionate work that Jesus began. By
the power of his Resurrection, create in us new hearts and lives, so that we might
continue to serve you in this place, and throughout this world. Amen.**

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

#342

The Thanksgiving

Leader: The Holy One be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts!

P: Our hearts rejoice in our Creator's Presence!

L: Let us give thanks for the Spirit's abundant love!

P: It is good to raise our thanks and praise!

L: It is truly good and right to give thanks to you, Divine Source of Grace and Glory, Spirit of Life and Love! Because you have raised Jesus Christ to newness of life, we now raise our voices with your people of every time and place, praising your Name and saying,

All: Holy, holy, holy, Source of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O Holy One Most High!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Élévation

Dubois

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Glorious Holy One, we give thanks that you have blessed us with the presence of the Risen Christ at this Table of Grace. Grant that now, renewed and refreshed in spirit, we may carry Christ's forgiveness, compassion, and peace with us into all the world! Amen!

Going with God's Love

*Hymn of Departure

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

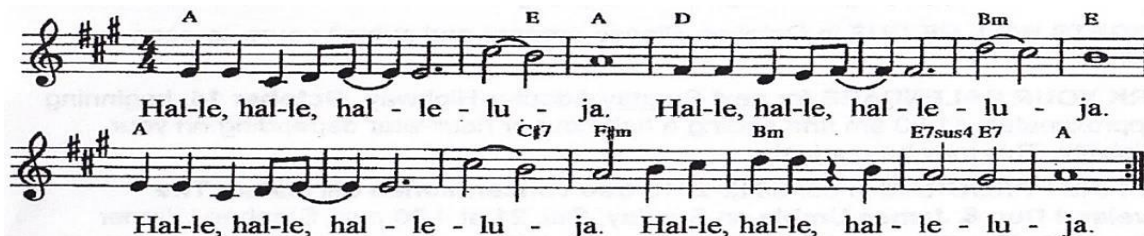
#241

*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

Toccata quasi Fantasia con Fuga

Purcell

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Jan Rahnenfuehrer, Dorie Gabor, Jim Kaul, William Zmich (Marla Corrado Father), Lenore Harris, 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 27, 2016 – Adults: 135 Kids: 28 Total: 163

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.

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Max Roha in Loving Memory of Mary C. Roha on our 70th Wedding Anniversary, and Lois L. Wallin on her 93rd Birthday.

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.

NEXT 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. 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. 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 TODAY April 3.***

BOWLING TODAY! Our annual Bowling outing at North Woods 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. Hope to see you there!

The Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 118:14-24

My Divine Creator - my strength and my power - has also become my saving help. There are glad songs of victory in the dwelling places of the righteous: "The right hand of the Holy One does valiantly; the right hand of the Everlasting One is exalted; the right hand of the Gracious One is triumphant!"

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Holy One. The Holy One has tested me severely, but did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness that I may enter through them and give thanks to my deliverer. This is the gate of the Holy One; those who act justly shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the doing of the Divine Source of all good things; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that our Creator has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

The New Testament - John 20:19-29

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As my Heavenly Parent has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas, who was called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

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

The Easter Season of alleluias can sometimes seem to leave little room for our doubts, our fears, and our pain. We tend to forget that for the first disciples, there was fear, doubt, pain, and confusion before there was understanding and joy at what had taken place.

One week after Jesus appeared to his disciples, they were gathered once again behind locked doors, suggesting that Thomas was not the only one still needing reassurance that Jesus had in fact conquered death.

The natural thing to do when we are feeling anxious or threatened is to hunker down and lock the doors - to become focused on our own security rather than the risky mission to which we are called. The promise of Easter is that Jesus cannot be stopped by our locked doors. Jesus comes to us as he came to the first disciples, right in the midst of our fear, pain, doubt, and confusion. He comes speaking peace, breathing into our anxious lives the breath of the Holy Spirit.

What is more, Jesus keeps showing up. As he came back a week later for Thomas, Jesus keeps coming back week after week among his gathered disciples - in the Word, the Water, the Bread and the Cup - not wanting any to miss out on the life and peace he gives. And he keeps sending us out of our safe, locked rooms, into a world that, like us, so desperately needs his gifts of life and peace.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, April 3	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	1:00 – 3:00 pm	Bowling North Woods Lanes
Wed., April 6	6:00 am	Early Birds
	7:00 pm	Spiritual Life
Thurs., April 7	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sunday, April 10	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	4:00 pm	BBH Community Chorus Concert

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 3, 2016

Lay Reader:	Bridget Sproul
Head Usher:	Jon Thompson
Ushers:	Vicki Szabo, Donn Whyte Kathy Smith, Bob Chandler
Acolyte:	Garrett Demko
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	David Pastor
Narthex Grtr:	Sue Stenzel
Flowers:	Kathy Pastor
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Donn Whyte, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Julie Bernard, Joanne Cook
Clean Up:	Anne Melfo, Doug Fawcett
Snacks:	Marla Corrado, Kate Klonowski
Snow Herder:	Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 10, 2016

Lay Reader:	David Ritchey
Head Usher:	Kathy Smith
Ushers:	Dave & Julie Bernard Fred Pesek, Joanne Cook
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lily Hunt
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Cliff Cribbs
Narthex Grtr:	Jane Cribbs
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up:	Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks:	Beth Rehling, Tia Began
Snow Herder:	Joe Wilson