



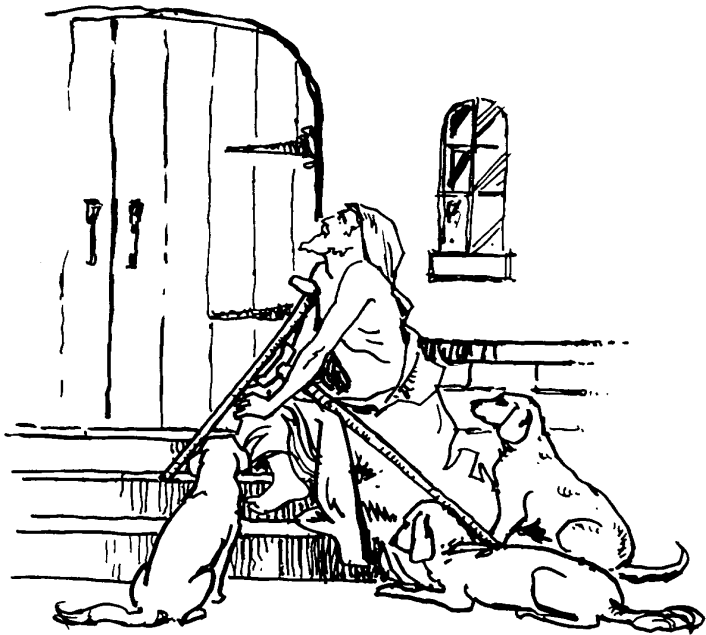
# BRECKSVILLE

## 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 Source  
of us all: in the  
beauty of  
Creation, in the  
glow of each  
other's faces,  
we see your  
wonder and  
grace. Your love  
becomes  
tangible for us  
in the person of  
Jesus Christ.  
May your love  
for us inspire us  
to share with  
others the same  
compassion  
and kindness  
that we  
ourselves have  
received. Amen.



***...At His Gate Lay A Poor Man Named Lazarus...  
Luke 16:20***

**Sunday September 25, 2016 • 10:00 AM**

**Nineteenth 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.

### **Summer Office Hours:**

**Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 - 12:00**

**Church Phone: 440-526-4364**

**e-mail: [buccoh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

# SEPTEMBER 25, 2016 – NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## **Meditation Music**

Gracious Holy One, may we be mindful of the people and all living things around us - and of our place in this phenomenal universe. Help us this day and every day to recognize our interconnectedness with one another and with all of Creation, so that we might treat everything with appropriate respect. Amen.

## ***Gathering in God's Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Baloché

**Bearing the Light of Peace**

**Bearing the Light of Christ**

## **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: People of the Holy One, look around and see the faces of those we know and love;

**People: Neighbors and friends, sisters and brothers - a community of kindred hearts.**

L: People of the Infinite One, look around and see the faces of those we hardly know;

**P: Strangers and sojourners, forgotten friends, those who need an outstretched hand**

L: People of the Transcendent One, look around and see all the images of the Holy gathered here.

**P: In you, in me, in each of us, the Divine Spirit shines forth for all to see.**

L: People of the Ever-Living One, let us worship together;

**All: Let us sing-forth our praises!**

## **\* Hymn of Praise**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

#4

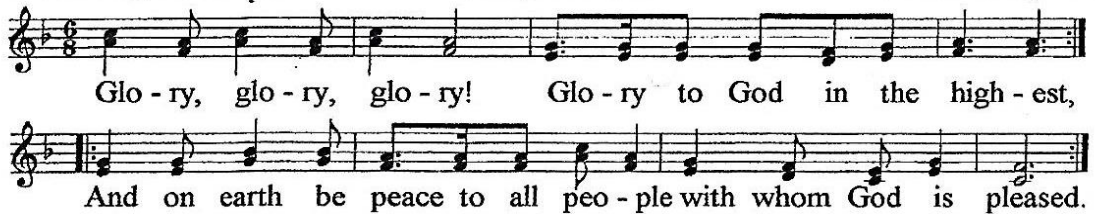
## **\* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Gracious Holy One, in whom we live and move and have our being: we have gathered in your presence to sing your praise and to seek your guidance for our living. Unite our hearts into one harmony of worship, that we might truly be One Body in Christ. May our time together this morning inspire us to serve you and others in our days ahead. This we ask in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior, Example and Friend. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Amos 5:11-15

Pew Bible, page 853

**The New Testament**

Luke 16:14-15; 19-31

Pew Bible, page 79

**The Continuing Testament**

from *In God We Trust*

by David Lose

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Our Bondage It Shall End

*Southern Harmony, 1854; setting Parker*

*[Betsey Wilson, flute; assisted by Youth Percussion Group]*

**Sermon**

*You've Got to be Kidding Me!*

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

Consolation

Liszt

\*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 joy we share our gifts. Amen.

\* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, we offer ourselves with these gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Open our eyes and hearts, that we may see and respond to the needs of those around us. Expand our vision to embrace new possibilities. Open our lives to find new ways to do justice and to walk humbly with you. This 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

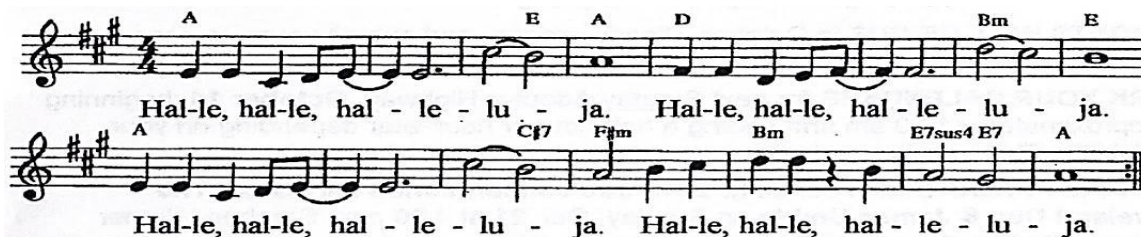
#575

\*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**

Let Us Go Rejoicing

Hurd

### **PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Betty Gifford, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Dorie Gabor, William Zmich, Lenore & Bill 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, September 18, 2016 – Adult: 88 Kids: 18 Total: 106

## ***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'S FLOWERS** are given by the Hunt Family in Honor of Family & Friends near, far, and looking over us from above.

**BICENTENNIAL RSVP'S** We hope you received your invitation in the mail. Please don't forget to mail, or drop off your RSVP at the Church. We need to know the exact count please. Thank You.

**THE NEXT HUNGER** meal will be on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Bethany UCC. The menu is posted on the sign – up board in the narthex, as well as the shift times (1<sup>st</sup> shift – 2:30 – 4 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> shift – 4 – 6 PM). About 50 or 60 meals are anticipated.

**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***.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS** Have a Need for Beads...If anyone has beads that they would like to donate, we could use them in our classroom. The type most wanted are colorful, clear or wooden. If you'd like to donate money towards the project or get a gift card for Catan's Craft center please see Tia Began. We will be making sun catcher 'streamers' for the classroom window!

**SEASONAL CHOIR** Rehearsals will begin on Thurs. Oct. 6 from 7-8:00 PM for our annual Christmas cantata, which is scheduled for Dec. 11. If you enjoy singing music in a group setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for the Christmas season. High school students are welcome to participate.

**JUST THE SPOKEN WORDS** are amplified by our sound system into the sanctuary during our worship service. The musical offerings do not normally need amplification. However the complete worship service, including the anthems, hymns, etc., is fed to our audio-CD recorder (CDs are available in the church office for borrowing) and to the narthex speakers (for the benefit of anyone who must leave the sanctuary because of a restless child or for any other reason). Our sound operators continuously select and adjust the output from one or more of the six or seven microphones normally in use during a typical worship service to provide what they hope is optimum, seamless sound in the sanctuary as well as in the narthex and for the CD recorder. If you should use one of the portable microphones during the service, please do not turn it off but return it to its original location so that it is not eliminated from its next planned use.

**HAVING TROUBLE HEARING PARTS OF THE SERVICE?** Please talk to any usher about the Williams Sound - Personal PA Receiver, available for your use. These simple-to-use units can help improve your worship experience, by amplify those parts of the Service that may be more difficult to hear.

**NAME TAGS** are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

**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!

**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.

## ***The Readings***

### **The Old Testament -Amos 5:11-15**

Because you trample on the poor and unfairly impose levies on their grain, you have been able to build houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them. You have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins - you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy at the gate.

Protest and rebuke seem useless in such a time; for it is an evil time. Nonetheless, I advise you to seek good and not evil, that you may live! Then the Holy One, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate. Then it may be, that the God of hosts will be gracious to the remaining descendants of Joseph.

### **The New Testament - Luke 16:19-31**

*Jesus said,* "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.'



But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.'

He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - for I have five brothers - that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; if someone goes to them from the dead, they will surely repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

**Continuing Testament** - from *In God We Trust: God & Money* - by David Lose [edited]

There's nothing quite like a story about a rich guy going to hell, just before the Fall Stewardship campaign kicks off, is there? Perhaps the issue isn't simply that the man is rich, or that he demonstrates no compassion toward Lazarus, but rather that his wealth prevents him from seeing or relating to Lazarus as a fellow child of God. Could it be that not having compassion is one sure sign of being lost? Even more, might Jesus be warning that riches can stunt our compassion by insulating us from the need of others?

It seems to me that part of what's at stake in Jesus' parable, is the link between our well-being and that of others.

If we cannot feel compassion for others, we have lost something that is deeply and genuinely human. In time, the wealth that has numbed us to the needs of our neighbor deludes us into imagining that we ourselves have no need, are sufficient unto ourselves, and can easily substitute hard work and a little luck for grace and mercy. At that point, we are, indeed, lost.

But I think the reverse is also true - that as we become more responsive to the hurts, hopes, and needs of others, we become more acutely aware of our own humanity, of our own longings and insufficiency. Thereby, we can appreciate God's offer of grace in Christ - the one who took-on our need, our humanity, our lot and our life, to show us God's profound love for each and all of us.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Sept. 25</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Ministries Fair PH
	11:00 am	Open House – Arlington St.
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministries
<b>Wed., Sept. 28</b>	6:00 am	Early Birds
	4:30 pm	Recorder Dulcimer
<b>Thurs., Sept. 29</b>	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
<b>Sunday, Oct. 2</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service
		<b>Neighbors in Need</b>
		<b>Offering</b>
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Open House – Arlington St.
	2:30 – 6:00 pm	Hunger Meal (Bethany UCC)

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

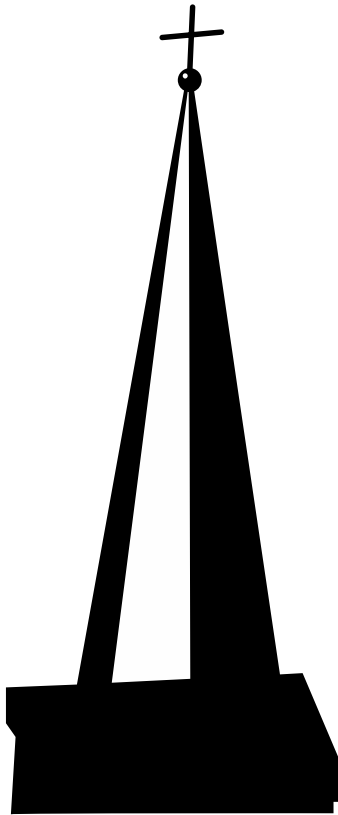
**SEPT. 25, 2016**

Lay Reader:	Sue Stenzel
Head Usher:	Jon Thompson
Ushers:	Joe & Betsey Wilson Vicki Szabo, Diane Gressley
Acolyte:	Drew Demko
Peace Candle:	Garrett Demko
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Fred Pesek
Narthex Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	Kathy Pastor
Nursery:	Valerie Tyler
Counters:	Donn Whyte, Marge Culver
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean Up:	Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks:	Dot Bailey, Kathleen Stewart

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**OCT. 2, 2016**

Lay Reader:	Tia Began
Head Usher	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Julie & Dave Bernard Diane Gressley, Cliff Cribbs
Acolyte:	Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle:	Lucy Brown
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Dorie Gabor
Narthex Grtr:	Joanne Cook
Flowers:	Dorie Gabor
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Jon Thompson
Servers:	Carole & George Snider
Clean Up:	Cliff & Jane Cribbs
Snacks:	Susan Snyder, Max Roha



*Brecksville United Church of Christ*

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CELEBRATING  
200  
YEARS

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Enter, Rejoice & Come In!