

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

Teach us
Your ways,
Gracious Holy
One, so that
we may walk
in your truth.
Raise up our
spirits, so that
we may lift up
others with
your love.
Amen.



Sunday September 4, 2016 • 10:00 AM Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor

• Rev David Shackle

Director of Music Financial Secretary Ministers

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.

Summer Office Hours:

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

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net - web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

SEPTEMBER 4, 2016 - SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Meditation Music

Divine Source of Grace and Wisdom; help us to remember your strength, instead of our own weakness. Inspire us so we may teach in the light of your faithfulness, rather than from the shadow of our own frailties. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

* Please Stand as you are able.

Prelude Here I Am, Send Me Lenderman

"Hark! the voice of Jesus calling, Who will go and work today? Fields are ripe the harvest waiting, Who will bear the sheaves away?" Daniel March (1816-1909)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: When our lives seem hopeless or dreary, the Divine Spirit shines forth! People: We are here to seek light among the darkness, fulfillment out of our brokenness.

L: The Holy One calls us from separation and apathy, to love and faith.

P: We have come to find healing and peace, to experience forgiveness and acceptance.

L: In the midst of the ordinary, the Sacred One comes; in our day-to-day living, the Divine Spirit inspires us!

P: The Holy One is our shelter, our strength, and our guide!

L: Let us hope and trust in the abundance of Divine Grace,

All: For the Holy One is with us, now and forevermore!

* Hymn of Praise

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

#21

* Prayer of Confession [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, you call us to be your One Family, to care for your world and all within it. You challenge us to feed the hungry, heal the hurting, and bring hope and comfort where there is despair and heartache. Forgive us when we fail to do so. Mend our broken human family. By your Spirit, breathe into us the power of your abundant love and grace, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Brother, Redeemer, and Friend. Amen.

* The Assurance of Pardon

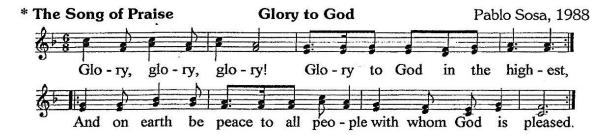
L: People of Faith, rejoice and give thanks! The Holy Spirit is here with compassion and power to heal our brokenness, forgive our sins, and fill us with newness of life and purpose!

All: Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace

L: As forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!



The Old Testament
The New Testament
The Continuing Testament

Leviticus 19:1-2; 9-15 James 2:1-8; 15-17 from *Holy* Pew Bible, p. 106 Pew Bible, p. 229 by David Lewick

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Never Turn Back
[Dave Debick, baritone]

Kittredge

Sermon

...With Dignity and Justice for All

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

O Grant Us, God, a Little Space

#516

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 Is Your All on the Altar Hoffman

*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]

We remember and give thanks, Gracious Holy One, that you provide for all of our needs. Your love strengthens and sustains us. Your bounty makes possible our giving of self and substance. Help us to be truly generous, that we may inspire generosity in others. Use us and our gifts for your loving service, that your blessings might freely flow. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, who lovingly gave himself for us all. Amen.

Holy Communion

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 Light and Glory, because you have manifested yourself in Jesus Christ, begotten from the heart of your love. And so, with your people of every time and place, we praise your Holy Name, saying,

All: Holy, holy, God 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

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Divine Source and Sustainer of Life, with joy we have received this Sacrament of Bread and Cup, remembering the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Unite us with your faithful people throughout the world, that together we may continue Christ's ministry of love and service to our sisters and brothers wherever they may be. Amen.

Communion Music

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

Cocker

"Then take the towel, and break the bread, and humble us, and call us friends.

Suffer and serve till all are fed, and show how grandly love intends to work till all creation sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things."

Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Going with God's Love

* 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 Summer Time Old French carol

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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, August 28, 2016 – Worship in the Park – no totals given

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

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 Betty Kaul & Family, in Memory of Jim Kaul

RALLY DAY WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH Since we skipped the carwash this year, we will be having another craft sale to raise funds for Brookside Hunger Center. Lanyards, stained glass jars, and other crafts we be on sale. Also, we are collecting school supplies for Cleveland Kids In Need. Most requested items include: Construction paper, Copy paper, Filler (lined) paper, No. 2 pencils, Pens, Markers, Colored pencils, Crayons (24 pack). Please bring in any supplies you'd like to donate on Rally Day.

MUSIC -With Rally Day fast approaching, it's time to remind everyone about the many musical opportunities available at Brecksville UCC! Here's a brief description of each group, with starting dates and times:

Adult Choir - First rehearsal is Thurs. Sept. 8 from 7:30-9:00 p.m. The adult choir presents weekly anthems and leads the congregation's hymn singing at Sunday services. A great way to prepare spiritually for upcoming Sundays, and to experience the joys of choral singing and fellowship as we journey together through the church seasons. High school students welcome.

Joyful Noise Choir - First practice is Thurs. Sept. 8 from 5:30-6:15 p.m. K-5th graders are welcome to participate! We learn accessible songs and present music at Sunday services every 3 weeks or so. We also discuss Bible stories, the teachings of Jesus, and enjoy activities/games together as time permits.

Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble - First rehearsal is Wed. Sept. 7 from 4:30-5:00. This group presents music at services about once a month. If you'd like to learn how to play either the soprano recorder or lap dulcimer - two relatively easy instruments to play - Dave Debick is glad to provide free lessons, and instruments are available to use. Contact Dave for more info.

Youth Percussion Group - First practice is Sunday Sept. 11 from 5:30-6:00 before Youth Ministry at 6. 6th grade and older welcome, or if younger talk with Dave about joining. Practice schedule changes each month based on church calendar, so players need to check bulletin or Pillar for practice dates.

We provide simple rhythmic accompaniment for prelude, offertory, and postlude music as needed, and sometimes support the adult and Joyful Noise choirs when they sing. Playing percussion is wonderfully therapeutic; come and check us out! Thanks to large number of participants, players not required to be present for all practices and services when percussion is playing.

Instrumentalists - If you play an instrument and would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation at a Sunday service, please let Dave know. You could play at offertory or communion time, or Dave can write an instrumental part for you to play along with choir as appropriate. All are welcome!

Seasonal Choir - These singers help out with our Christmas cantata and/or Holy Week services. A nice choral opportunity for those who aren't able to commit to regular choir. We'll probably start rehearsing for cantata on Oct. 6; practices are on Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. before regular choir starts.

Private piano lessons - These will begin on Wed. and Thurs. Sept 7 and 8. All ages are welcome. Contact Dave for more info and/or to schedule.

If you love making music and would like to share that joy with others, please consider participating in one of our musical groups.

You are welcome to sit in on a practice and see/hear how much fun we have together. Don't hesitate to contact current members or Dave with any questions or concerns.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MEETINGS SCHEDULE! For the groups that meet at **BUCC** on a regular basis, please refer to the calendar on the wall in the office. There is a list of Central School events that will take place throughout the year where we will all share the parking lot, **so plan accordingly!**

"200 YEARS OF SERVING" Many of the bicentennial cookbooks have been sold. Thanks very much for your support! We are putting some in the church office for people to purchase during the week, and on Sundays any one of the cookbook committee can get you as many cookbooks as you would like to purchase. They are also available for purchase on the website www. Cookbookshoppe.com.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Leviticus 19:1-2; 9-15

The Holy One spoke to Moses, saying: Instruct all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I - your God - am holy.... When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field,

or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Gracious One, your God.

You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Righteous One. You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until the next morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall reverence your God: I am the Compassionate One. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall regard your neighbor.

The New Testament James 2:1-7; 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Example, Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters, has not God chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the Realm that has promised to those who love God?

But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

....What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Continuing Testament - from Holy - by David Lewick [edited]

Who wants to be "holy" these days? For years we've grown accustomed to hearing "holiness" cast in more of a bad light than a good one. We say things like: "Isn't she acting a bit holier-than-thou?" Holiness has come to mean extreme self-righteousness, so who wants to be holy? Nevertheless, we still revere holiness. Martin Luther King was a holy vessel of Divine speech, calling all of us to a new and better way of living. Mother Theresa was a holy presence, dignifying lives others had dismissed. There are women and men that you know who have a bit of holiness in them - people in your family, your neighborhood, your congregation. They're not perfect, but they bring those around them to a better, higher place. They confer dignity....

Holiness is treating those who are weak with extra care. Holiness is welcoming newcomers in the community, and making sure there is food for everyone who is hungry. Holiness is treating every life with equal value and seeking justice for all. Holiness is not a list of rules; it is a vision for Life in all of its fullness, one in which no detail is too small to treat with care. It all matters to God. Every relationship you have, every choice you make - from recycling to Sabbath rest, from feeding the hungry to loving every child - it all matters to God!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 4	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour CE Meeting
Monday, Sept. 5	LABOR DAY	- OFFICE CLOSED
Wed., Sept. 7	6:00 am *Piano Lesson 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Early Birds Start* Recorder Dulcimer Spiritual Life
Thurs., Sept. 8	1:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Bible Study Joyful Noise Choir
Sunday, Sept. 11	10:00 am 11:00 am 5:30 pm 6:00 pm	Worship Service *Rally Day* Coffee Hour Youth Percussion Youth Ministries

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

SEPT. 4, 2016

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
Head Usher: Caroline Chandler
Ushers: Stu & Dot Bailey

Kathy Pastor, Cliff Cribbs

Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Ann Kelley

Narthex Grtr: Chad Sproul Flowers: Betty Gifford Nursery: Gina Cook

Counters: Nancy Stella, David Pastor
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Julie Bernard
Clean Up: Jill Zedan, Jon Thompson
Snacks: Heidi Spangler, Beth Rehling

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

SEPT. 11, 2016

RALLY DAY

Lay Reader: Tina Ortiz
Head Usher: Anne Melfo

Ushers: Ed Lusk, Beth Rehling

Wes & Evie Novak

Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg

Sound: Mike Westerberg
Comns Grtr: Linda Kriynovich
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith

Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Maria Corrado

Counters: Bruce McCain, Jan Renovetz
Servers: Joanne Cook, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Snacks: Gina Cook, Tia Began