

Brecksville

# UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364



Stewardship Sunday  
November 13, 2016

### **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)**

# NOVEMBER 13, 2016 – 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## Meditation Music

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Lord of Glory

Prichard

*Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble; Youth Percussion Group*

"Naked, sick, in prison, hungry –  
in the least, your face we view,  
saying by your poor and needy,  
'Give as I have giv'n to you.' "

Eliza S. Alderson (1818-1889), alt.

#### **Bearing the Light of Peace**

#### **Bearing the Light of Christ**

#### **\*Call to Worship**

L: Gracious Holy One, because you gave us your breath of life,

**P: We give you our thanks with every breath.**

L: Because you bless our lives with love,

**P: We bring you all of our relationships for your blessing.**

L: Because you gifted us with time to be,

**P: We bring our moments and our days as gifts to you.**

L: Because you gave us skills to work and create,

**P: We bring you what our hands have made and what our skills have earned.**

L: Because you freely offer us your amazing grace,

**All: We bring our gifts of grateful praise!**

#### **\* Hymn of Praise**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

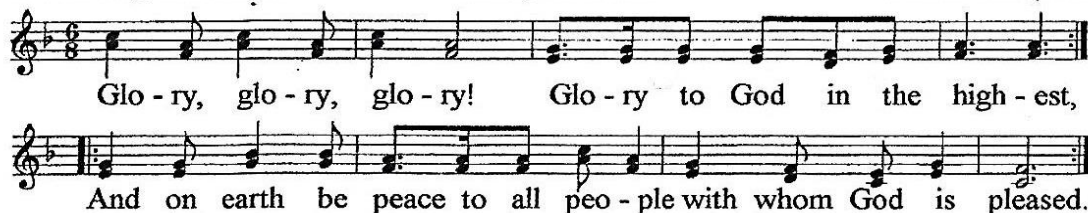
#### **\*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**Holy Creator, Giver of all good things: we praise you for the beauty of nature and for the bounty of the earth. We give thanks for Life's seasons and cycles: for day and night, summer and winter, seedtime and harvest. We thank you for Life's comforts and joys: for our homes, our friends, our families and our Church Family. In grateful response for all these blessings, may we strive to be more kind and compassionate, gracious and generous. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Leviticus 19:9-15; 33-34

Pew Bible, page 106

**The New Testament**

Luke 10:25-37

Pew Bible, page 71

**The Continuing Testament**

by Michael Rogness

in *WorkingPreacher*

**Anthem**

To Christ the Seed

O'Riada

**Sermon**

*The Generosity Factor*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

#563

***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.**

**Choral Response**

***Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings***

**The Invitation**

## Offertory

All That We Have

Ault

"All that we have and all that we offer  
Comes from a heart both frightened and free.  
Take what we bring now and give what we need,  
All done in God's name."

Gary Ault, b. 1944

## \*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]

Eternal and Abundant Source of All, the opportunity to share Life's blessings with others is a gift for which we are truly thankful. Your generous provisions for us, allow and prompt us to be generous in return. We pray that you would accomplish your loving purposes through these gifts and through our lives. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, who lovingly gave himself for us all. Amen.

## Presenting Our Pledges for 2017

[Please come forward and place your pledges in the basket]

## Hymn of Dedication

We Praise You, O God

#420

*We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;*

*In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.*

*We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers;  
Through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been.  
When perils o'er take us, you never will forsake us,  
And with your help, O God life's struggles we win.*

*With voices united our praises we offer,  
And gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.  
Our faith now confessing, we pray for your blessing;  
To you, our Great Redeemer, forever be praise!*

### \*Prayer of Commitment

Pastor: With joy and thanksgiving, let us dedicate our pledges of commitment and support for the work of Christ's Church in this place and in our world.

**All: Gracious Holy One, may these pledges serve as a sign of our gratitude for all your Life-giving gifts to us, and as a symbol of our renewed commitment to serving you in this place and throughout our world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shows us how to freely and generously live, love, and give. Amen.**

## ***Going with God's Love***

### \* Hymn of Departure

For the Fruit of All Creation

#425

### \*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

Sing, Sing to God

Hunnicut

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

Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Dorie Gabor, William Zmich, Lenore & Bill Harris, Ann Toneff, 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, November 6, 2016 – Adults: 91 Kids: 17 Total: 108

## ***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.

**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!

**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.

**PLEASE BE SURE** to enter your meeting and event schedule in the office calendar. This is used to list your times in the ***Weekly Bulletin, Monthly Pillar, and Online Calendar – BUCC Website.***

**MONTHLY CALENDAR ONLINE** the Church Calendar is also printed on our website: [www.brecksvilleucc.org](http://www.brecksvilleucc.org). It is filled with up to date events, and times, even last minute changes. Please check it out.

**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** - Leviticus 19:9-15; 33-34

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 Holy 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 Holy One. You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall reverence your God: I am the Holy One.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be unfair to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you yourselves were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Holy One your God.

### **The New Testament** - Luke 10:25-37

At that moment, an expert in religious Law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the Law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Holy One with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Jesus said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

## **The Continuing Testament** - by Michael Rogness - in *WorkingPreacher*

Societies in biblical days were strongly tribal. You identified with “your people.” There was much hostility between the Jews of Judah and Galilee against the Samaritans, who considered themselves Jewish, but whose center of worship was on Mount Gerizim rather than Jerusalem. The orthodox Jews considered Samaritans not only heretical but also as ceremonially unclean. In contrast, the priest and Levite were at the heart of temple worship.

With the parable of the Good Samaritan, notice how Jesus changes the lawyer’s question. The lawyer asks, “And who is my neighbor?” By his definition the neighbors of the story would have been the priest and the Levite, members of his group, not the alien and heretical Samaritan. However, at the end of the story, Jesus changes the question by asking, “Which of these three, do you think was a neighbor?” that is, “Who *proved* to be a neighbor?” Neighbor is as neighbor does, so to speak! “Neighbor” is not defined by location or group but by those who need [or provide] concern and care. Thus the lawyer replies, “The one who showed him mercy” - to which Jesus adds, “Go and do the same!”

We are all “tribal” by instinct and by habit. We are most comfortable with and usually care most about those like us. But the Christian faith, and following Jesus, reaches out beyond our tribal walls. Our “neighbors” are those who need us - as well as those “others” who surprisingly step-up and help us in our time of need.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, Nov. 13**

10:00 am	Worship Service/Dedication
	Sunday
11:00 am	Thanksgiving Banquet

**Tuesday, Nov. 15**

**\*December Pillar Deadline\***

**Wed., Nov. 16**

6:00 am	Early Birds
4:30 pm	Recorder Dulcimer

**Thurs., Nov. 17**

1:00 pm	Bible Study
5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
7:00 pm	Choir

**Sunday, Nov. 20**

10:00 am	Worship Service
11:00 am	Coffee Hour
5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**NOV. 13, 2016**

Lay Reader:	Betsey Wilson
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Julie & Dave Bernard Joe Wilson, Drew Wilson
Acolyte:	Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	David Pastor
Comms Grtr:	Marge Culver
Narthex Grtr:	Jon Thompson
Flowers:	Harvest - Miriam
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Bruce McCain, Kathy Pastor
Servers:	Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up:	Thanksgiving Dinner &
Snacks:	Committees

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**NOV. 20, 2016**

Lay Reader:	Jill Zedan
Head Usher:	Caroline Chandler
Ushers:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs George & Carole Snider
Acolyte:	Michalina Fawcett
Peace Candle:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	Max Roha
Comms Grtr:	Ann Kelley
Narthex Grtr:	Linda Kriynovich
Flowers:	Harvest - Miriam
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
Counters:	Sue Stenzel
Servers:	Joanne Cook, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up:	Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey
Snacks:	Kate Klonowski, Susan Snyder

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POINSETTIAS IN OUR  
SANCTUARY**



*Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Christmas with those who are ill or shut-in, or have recently lost a loved one. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, and turn it in to the Church Office*

**DEADLINE – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4**



***I Enclose \$12.00\_\_\_\_\_ or other\_\_\_\_\_ for Poinsettias***

***In Memory \_\_\_\_\_ or Honor \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_***

***Of \_\_\_\_\_***  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Your Name***

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***I WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS \_\_\_\_\_***

***\*\*PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOUR  
POINSETTIA OR LEAVE IT HERE FOR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS\*\****

***WILL KEEP \_\_\_\_\_***

***WILL NOT KEEP \_\_\_\_\_***

