

# 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***

Before you speak to me about your religion, first show me how you treat other people; before you tell me how much you love your God, show me how much you love all [God's] children; before you preach of your passion for your faith, teach me about it through your compassion for your neighbors. In the end, I'm not as interested in what you have to tell or sell as I am in how you choose to live and give.

-Cory Booker-



**Sunday January 1, 2017 • 10:00 AM**

**First Sunday After Christmas**

*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)**

# January 1, 2017 – First Sunday After Christmas

## **Meditation Music**

Divine Presence, within us and beyond us, fill us with love and compassion, we pray. Help us to embody your grace, your presence – today and in all our days to come. May we live in such a way that our lives become a song of praise to you. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Adagio Cantabile

Mendelssohn

**Bearing the Light of Peace**

**Bearing the Light of Christ**

## **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We are God's people, the work of God's hands.

**People: God holds all the people in love!**

L: We are Christian and Jew. We are Muslim and Hindu.

**P: God holds all the people in love!**

L: We are American and Syrian. We are Turkish and Somali.

**P: God holds all the people in love!**

L: When we are chased from our homes or offering refuge,

**P: God holds all the people in love!**

L: No matter the time or the place, wherever we go,

**All: God holds all the people in love!**

**\* Hymn of Praise**

As with Gladness Those of Old

#159

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

**Good and Gracious One, we look to your liberating power and grace. Jesus, Mary and Joseph were refugees, fearing for their lives, running in the night to a strange country. Liberate us and show us how to be the welcoming ones. Liberate us from our fear of the stranger. Liberate us from our blindness to their troubles. Liberate us from our fences that we may build bridges. Strengthen our resolve by reminding us that those others are you. Amen.**

## **\* The Assurance of Pardon**

L: We often live in worry and fear. Yet 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**

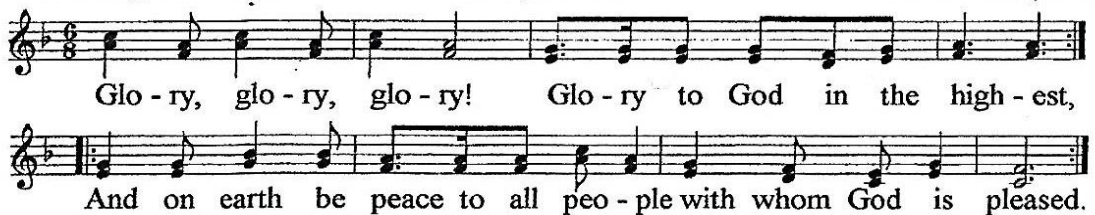
L: We are God's own people. Let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**Old Testament:**

Isaiah 63:7-9

**New Testament:**

Matthew 2:13-23

**Continuing Testament:**

The Mood of Christmas

by Howard Thurman

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Patricia Franks, Organ

**Sermon**

*"What do you want ME to do about it?"* Ann Klonowski, RCWP

**\*Hymn of Reflection**

Arise, Your Light Has Come

#164

***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

Dialogue

A Noel Warner

### **\*Offertory Hymn**

**We praise the Babe this time of year,  
Sing carols to him whom we hold dear.  
Our love, His power, we now proclaim;  
We send our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen!**

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

**Accept these offerings, Gracious Holy One, Giver of every good and perfect gift.  
Grant that they may represent our love and our lives offered more fully to you. Use  
all these gifts, and each one of us, to help proclaim and advance your message of  
forgiveness and love, welcome and peace. This we ask in the name of Jesus the  
Liberator who sets us free. Amen.**

### ***Holy Communion***

### **\*Communion Hymn**

**As We Gather At Your Table  
[Verse 1]**

**#332**

## The Thanksgiving

**L: Our God is with you.**

**P: And also with you.**

**L: Lift up your hearts.**

**P: We lift them up to our God.**

**L: Let us give thanks to our loving God.**

**P: It is right to give God thanks and praise!**

L: It is truly good and right to give thanks to you, O God of generous inclusion, Spirit of Life and Love. Because you have sent us Jesus to show us how to live, we have the courage to live as sisters and brothers, with respect and love for one another. So, we raise our voices with all your people, praising your Holy Name and saying,

**All: Holy, holy, holy God, Spirit of love and peace, heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**The Invitation**

**Receiving the Bread and Cup**

**Communion Music**

Patricia Frank, Organ

**Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]**

**We give you praise and thanks, O God, that you have invited us to this banquet of love. Grant that now, with hearts and minds open to love for our neighbors, we may live as fully as you hope. Amen.**

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

**\*Hymn of Departure**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

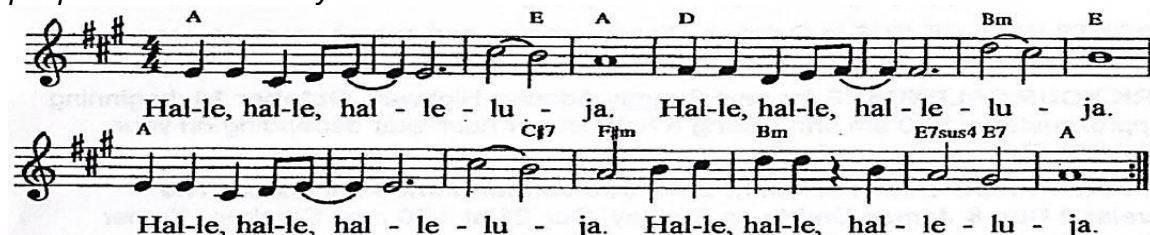
#126

**\*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**

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

Jon Thompson, Marla Corrado & Family, The Family of Mary K. Headly, The Family of Bill Harris, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Dorie Gabor, Ann Toneff, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, 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, December 24, 2016 – Adult: 62 Kids: 4 Total: 66

December 25, 2016 –Total: 28

***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.

**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.

**PASTOR DAVE WILL BE ON VACATION** from Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. **PASTOR DAVID DURKIT** has graciously offered to be available in the event of a pastoral emergency. He can be reached at First UCC in Eastlake [440-951-0291] or by cell phone [216-832-3453].

**BOOK DISCUSSION** Group will meet in the Parlor, Jan 2, 2017, at 1 p.m. At our last meeting it was suggested that we each give a brief review of a favorite book.

**FINANCE** - Please pick up your box of pledge envelopes in the Commons today.

**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 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.

**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.

**COPY MACHINE** Our copy machine has been beyond broke for at least the last 14 days. Last Thursday, Lake Business products had to take the machine back to the shop to repair. Please know that Large Print Bulletins and Hymn sheets will be available again as soon as the copy machine is fixed. Thank you for your patience.

## ***The Readings***

### **Old Testament: Isaiah 63:7-9** *[The Inclusive Bible]*

I will tell you of God's unfailing love,  
and sing the praises of God,  
for all that God has done for us,  
the many good things done for the house of Israel,  
which God did with motherly compassion and many kindnesses.  
For God said, "Truly these are my people,  
children who will not be false to me"—  
and so God became their Liberator.  
In all their distress, O God, you were distressed,  
and the angel of your Presence saved them;  
you redeemed them out of deep love and profound mercy;  
you lifted them up and carried them from time immemorial.

### **New Testament: Matthew 2:13-23** *[The Inclusive Bible]*

After the astrologers had left Herod, the angel of God suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command, "Get up, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him." Joseph got up, awakened Jesus and Mary, and they left that night for Egypt. They stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what God had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I have called my Own."

After Herod's death, the angel of God appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt with the command, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and set out for the land of Israel. Those who had designs on the life of the child are dead."

Joseph got up, awakened Jesus and Mary, and they returned to the land of Israel. Joseph heard, however, that Archelaus had succeeded Herod as Ruler of Judea, and Joseph was afraid to go back there. Instead, because of a warning received by Joseph in a dream, the family went to the region of Galilee. There they settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way what was said through the prophets was fulfilled: "He will be called a Nazarene."

### **Continuing Testament: The Mood of Christmas**

by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angel is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Jan. 1</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
<b>Monday, Jan 2</b>		<b>*Office Closed*</b>
	1:00 pm	Book Discussion
<b>Wed., Jan. 4</b>	6:00 am	Early Birds
	7:00 pm	Spiritual Life
<b>Thurs., Jan. 5</b>	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
<b>Sunday, Jan. 8</b>	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**

**JAN. 1, 2017**

Lay Reader:	Matt Wolbert
Head Usher	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Andrew Wilson, Kathy Smith Linda Kriynovich, David Ritchey
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lily Hunt
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Jill Zedan
Narthex Grtr:	Kathy Pastor
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Nancy Stella, David Pastor
Servers:	Marge Culver, Caroline Chandler
Clean Up:	Sue Stenzel, Jill Zedan
Snacks:	Jim Pay, Marilyn Wrights
Snow Herder:	Matt Wolbert

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**JAN. 8, 2017**

Lay Reader:	Kathy Smith
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Sue Stenzel, Betty Kaul Julie & Dave Bernard
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Ben Davis
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Max Roha
Narthex Grtr:	Linda Kriynovich
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Marge Culver, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Carole Snider, Joanne Cook
Clean-Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks:	Heidi Spangler, Susan Snyder
Snow Herder:	Wes Novak



HAPPY  
*New Year*

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REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AND AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE.

PHIL 4:4