

# BRECKSVILLE

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# 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*

O Holy One,  
we await your  
Presence  
among us in the  
person of Jesus  
Christ our  
redeemer and  
healer, friend  
and teacher.  
Give us  
courage, like  
Mary and  
Joseph, to live  
according to  
your will for  
ourselves, and  
for our  
world. Grant us  
patience and  
open minds and  
hearts as we  
welcome  
Christ's  
presence in  
our lives  
today. Amen.

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**Sunday December 18, 2016 • 10:00 AM**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*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)**

# DECEMBER 18, 2016 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, as we draw closer to the celebration of Christ's birth, may we continue to draw closer to you. Help us to recognize your Presence in the beauty and bounty of Creation. Help us to see you in the faces of all those people around us - especially those who need our help, compassion and care. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

### Prelude

The Voice of God Goes Out

Watson

“Our God has said: 'Receive my messenger,  
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,  
a lamp to every nation, light from light':  
with power, with justice, he will walk his way.”  
Luke Connaughton (1917-1979)

## Bearing the Light of Peace

## Bearing the Light of Christ

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: God's Children of all ages, sizes and places,

**People: This is the season to rejoice and sing!**

L: Come, let us make a joyful noise to the Holy One!

**P: Let us come into God's presence with praise and thanksgiving!**

L: And let us celebrate the wonder of God's coming among us!

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all!**

### \* Hymn of Praise

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#144

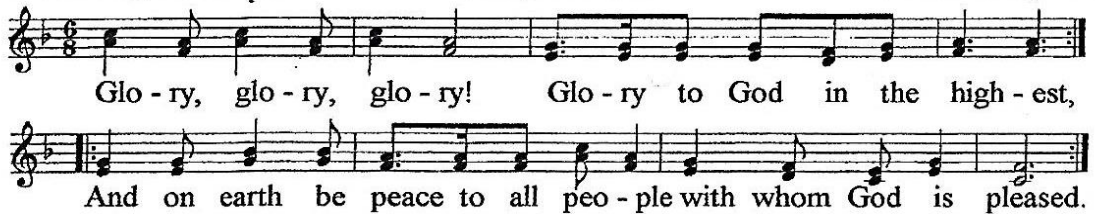
### \*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

**Divine Source of Light and Life, your Still-Speaking Voice comes to us in many different ways and places, sometimes when we least expect it. Help us to pay attention to you as Mary and Joseph did; and, like them, may we be faithful and trusting, even in the midst of our doubts. May we also, like them, know the joy of seeing your loving promise come to life and grow among us each day. This we pray in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
And on earth be peace to all peo - ple with whom God is pleased.

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

**The Candle of Love**

[As the Candles are lighted, we will sing the following verse of *One Candle Is Lit*]  
*Come wander, where lion and lamb gently play,  
Where evil is banished and faith takes the day.  
A babe in a manger astounds the world's eyes,  
One candle is lit for God's loving surprise!*

L: Our fourth Advent candle is the Candle of Love.

**P: In Jesus Christ, Divine Love is wrapped in human form and lives among us.**

L: As the light of this candle burns brightly, so may the love of Christ shine brightly in our hearts and lives;

**P: That those who seek light and warmth may find it among us.**

L: As the light of Christ's love touches, inspires, and transforms us,

**P: May we use our lives to touch others with hope and peace, joy and love!**

**The Old Testament**

Micah 5:2-4

Pew Bible, page 865

**The New Testament**

Matthew 1:18-25

Pew Bible, page 1

**The Continuing Testament**

*God is Still Speaking...* Through our children and youth!

**The Pageant "The Lease of These"**

***The Church at Prayer***

**Silent Meditation**

**Prayers of the Church**



once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.  
Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja'. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is on the top staff, and the accompaniment is on the bottom staff. Chords are indicated above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E on the top staff; and A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A on the bottom staff.

### \*Benediction

#### Postlude

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy  
[Assisted by Percussion Group]

W. Indian traditional

### 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 Sunday, December 11, 2016 – Adult: 90 Kids: 19 Total: 109

## **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.

**OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT/COMMUNION SERVICE** will be at 10:00 pm. We will commemorate Jesus' birth with carols and Scripture, and celebrate Christ's timeless presence through the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Our service will conclude with our traditional circle of candlelight, as we each receive and spread to others the Light of Christ's love and peace.

**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].

**THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING** will be received next Saturday at the Christmas eve service, scheduled for 10:00 PM. This offering is used to help meet the needs of retired and low-income clergy and lay employees of the UCC. The fund works all throughout the year, not just at Christmas time. The proceeds go directly to those who have served in the past or who serve the church now, especially in times of need. This also includes health premium supplements and prescription medication coverage.

**THE NEXT HUNGER MEAL** is scheduled for today at Pearl Road United Methodist Church. The menu is posted on the sign-up board in the narthex. One or two more people for the early shift (2:30 PM to 4:00 PM) or the late shift (4:00 PM to 6:00 PM) would be nice. Also the dessert is planned for Christmas cookies, and a few more cookies would be nice. There is still a time and place to take advantage of this opportunity to provide food to those who need it.

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

**OFFICE CALENDAR** Please mark your meetings, or any get together on the Office Main calendar for January, 2017. Would like to be include in the January Pillar.

**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.

## ***The Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Micah 5:2-4**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

### **The New Testament - Matthew 1:18-25**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a honorable man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel',  
which means, 'God is with us.'

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

### **2016 POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS**

Anonymous

*In Memory of the Lost but not Forgotten.*

Julie Bernard &  
Linda Kriynovich

*In Memory of Tony, Julie & Lori Gorenc.*

Community of  
St. Bridget

*In Thanks to Pastor Dave Shackle, and the Members of BUCC  
for their kindness and support over the last year.*





Joanne Cook                      *In Memory of my dear husband, and much loved  
Deeter Family*

Jeanne Cowden                      *In Memory of James W. Cowden.*

Jane & Cliff  
Cribbs                      *In Memory of Loved Ones.*

Marjorie Culver                      *In Memory of Richard & Carlton Culver, Ron Lang, and Nan Martin.*

Jim & Peg  
Duffy                      *In Honor of Aunt Jill's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.*

Dorothy Faust                      *In Memory of my Husband, John Faust.*

Dorothy Faust  
& Daughter                      *In Memory of Mother and Father; Clinton & Caroline Tallant.*

Anna Mary Fisher                      *In Memory of Rhoda & Albert Orr, and Erma & Oliver Hartman.*

Joy Garapic                      *In Memory of William Garapic, Dear Husband, Father, Grandfather.*

Barb Fisher Gray                      *In Memory of Truman Fisher.*

Diane Gressley                      *In Memory of Evan & Emma Gressley.*

Phyllis Hassler                      *In Memory of Frank Hassler.*

Betty Kaul                      *In Memory of Jim Kaul.*

Mark Lehman                      *In Memory of Ralph Lehman.*

Dassie Matsuoka &  
Daughters                      *In Memory of James Matsuoka.*

Phyllis Molnar                      *In Memory of Edward Molnar & Parents, and  
George & Bertha Ulsenheimer.*

Wes & Evie Novak                      *In Memory of Nancy Karras.*

Bettina Ortiz                      *In Memory of Betty, Joseph & Timothy Ortiz. Also, in Memory of David S. King (my children's father).*

*In Honor of Daniel King; Rachel, Grace, Julianne, Jenna Kubic; Stephanie, Steven, Lyndsey & Bradley Hough With love from Bettina Ortiz.*

Fred & Connie                      *In Honor of our Parents.*  
Pesek

Eric Rahnenfuehner                *In Memory of Jan Rahnenfuehner, in Honor of Marjorie Rahnenfuehner.*

Max Roha                              *In Loving Memory David J. Roha, Mary C. Roha, and Lois L. Wallin.*

Mariam R.                              *In Memory of Family Members, and Loved Ones.*  
Rosewicz

Janet M. Roth                        *In Memory and Honor of Donald E. Hornung.*

Kathy Smith                         *For the Gladness of my Grandchildren, Gabriella Grace, Giuliana Gem, and Evan Sawyer.*

Carole & George                      *In Joy of our 2 great grandsons Emilio William Delrosario, and Evan Gardiner.*  
Snider

The Stewart Family                 *In Memory of Chuch Stewart.*

The Szabo Family                    *In Loving Memory of Vic Szabo.*

Jon K. Thompson                    *In Memory of Loved Ones.*

Bill & Ann Toneff                    *In Memory of Elizabeth & C.C. Thorton, and Vera & Milan Toneff.*

Tim & Kim                              *In Celebration of our First Wedding Anniversary!*  
Wallis

The Wilson                              *In Memory of Norinne & John Brownlow, and Randy Trefzger.*  
Family

Jill Zedan                              *In Memory of Mom, Dad, Sister, Brother, and many Friends.*

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday, Dec. 18</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service/ <b>Pageant</b>
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	2:00 pm	Hunger Meal (PRUMC)
<b>Wed., Dec. 20</b>	6:00 am	Early Birds
<b>Thurs., Dec. 22</b>	1:00 pm	Bible Study {No Adult Choir}
<b>Friday, Dec. 23</b>		<b>*OFFICE CLOSED*</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec. 24</b>	10:00 pm	Worship
		*Christmas Offering*
<b>Sunday, Dec. 25</b>		<b>Merry Christmas!</b>
	10:00 am	Worship Service
<b>Monday, Dec. 26</b>		<b>*OFFICE CLOSED*</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**DEC. 18, 2016**

Lay Reader: Sam Koch  
Head Usher: Anne Melfo  
Ushers: Joanne Cook, Darlene Kelly  
Bob & Caroline Chandler  
Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett  
Peace Candle: Lucy Brown  
Sound: Max Roha  
Comns Grtr: Bridget Sproul  
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Smith  
Flowers: Poinsettias  
Nursery: Kathy Pastor  
Counters: Nancy Stella, Marge Culver  
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell  
Clean-Up: Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey  
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Anne Melfo  
Snow Herder: Dan Stewart

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**DEC. 24, 2016**

Lay Reader: David Pastor  
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz  
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Wes Novak  
Tim & Kim Wallis  
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg  
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg  
Sound: Mike Westerberg  
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul  
Narthex Grtr: Fred Pesek  
Flowers: Poinsettias  
Counters: Sue Stenzel, Kathy Pastor  
Snow Herder: Dave Bernard