



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*

Radiant Holy One, may we hear your call, see your light, and be your light for those who struggle in the darkness. Grant us wisdom and insight to recognize your loving vision for this world, and give us the courage to faithfully follow where that vision leads. Amen.



***"You Are The Light Of The World!...Let Your Light Shine
Before Others, So That They May See Your Good Works
And Give Glory To Your Heavenly Parent!"
(Matthew 5:14,16)***

Sunday February 5, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

February 5, 2017 – Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, as Jesus came to bring Good News to the poor, the hurting, and the struggling of this world, may we too be carriers of that Good News. May Christ's compassion inspire us - and all those around us - so that together we might bring wholesome and positive change wherever it is needed. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Prelude in C major

Krebs

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship [from Psalm 113]

Leader: Blessed be the name of the Holy One, from this time forth and for evermore!

People: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of God is to be praised.

L: It is good to give thanks to God, to sing praises to the Most High.

P: To declare God's steadfast love in the morning and God's faithfulness by night.

L: People of the Holy One, let us praise God together:

All: Glory be to God on high!

* Hymn of Praise

From All That Dwell below the Skies

#27

* Prayer of Confession [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, sometimes we respond to you as we would to a sudden bright light: surprise, a little unsure, yet drawn to see where it leads. The light of your love draws us to Jesus Christ and the way of life we find in him. Yet we sometimes turn from your light, nervous of the unknown, uncertain of where you might lead us, afraid of what we might see in ourselves. And in turning away, we no longer see your light. Forgive us, O Holy One, and give us the courage to come again to the light of your love and to faithfully follow you.

L: God's love is always shining - calling us, guiding us, forgiving us, restoring us. As God's forgiven and renewed people, we are invited to see ourselves and others in a new light, and to walk each day in newness of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace

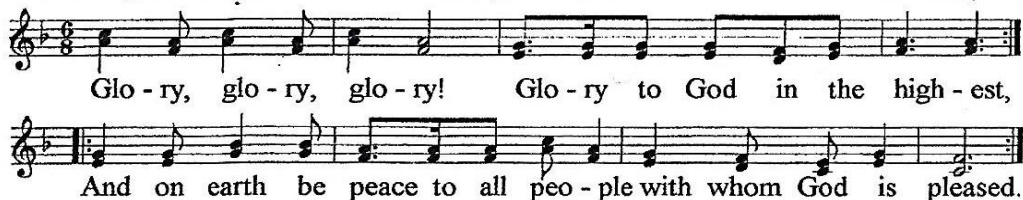
L: As people of the light, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 58:2-10

Pew Bible, page 688

The New Testament

Matthew 5:13-20

Pew Bible, page 4

The Continuing Testament from *Isaiah's Call for Justice*

by Tim George

Youth Anthem

You Are Salt for the Earth

Haugen

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Let Your Little Light Shine
[Pastor Dave, trumpet]

Traditional spiritual,
arr. Parker

Sermon

Cutting Through the Darkness

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Your Ways Are Not Our Own

#170

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

Bless Thou the Gifts

adapt. Vaughan Williams

“Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought;
bless thou the work our hearts have planned.

Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;
the rest, O God, is in thy hand.”

Samuel Longfellow, ca. 1886

*Offertory Hymn

Winter has come, it's taken hold.

The days are short, the nights are cold.

The poor need food and help and heat.

We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

We thank you, Gracious Holy One, that we can sing your praises, hear your Good News, and reflect the light of your love in our lives and in our world. We now seek to express our faith through offering our gifts and ourselves to Christ's mission of justice and peace. Bless all that we bring, that it may be used according to your will, so that through our giving others may also know of your grace and blessings. Amen.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Jesus Is Here Right Now
[sung twice]

#348

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, 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 of all blessings, we give you thanks for Jesus, the Light of the World - the Light that no darkness can overcome. We thank you that you have called us to walk in your light and have nourished us for our journey with this Bread and Cup. Fill us with your Spirit and guide us in the compassionate steps of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Communion Music

Communion

Marty

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

#18

***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

O Love of God, How Strong and True

Hampton

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Don Butler, Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, 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, January 29, 2017 – Adult: 68 Kids: 14 Total: 82

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Anne Melfo & Doug Fawcett in Gratitude of their family.

CHURCH SURVEY The Parish Staff Relations & Leadership Development Ministries have prepared a survey and we ask that you answer and respond to this survey no later than Sunday, February 12th. The results of this questionnaire will give the Parish-Staff Relations Ministry an opportunity to follow-up and work with the church staff and the ministries to better serve our church life. Those who receive email should have received a copy of the survey on Monday, January 30th. Those who prefer a hard copy can either ask the church office to mail them a copy or can pick up a copy during coffee hour today. We thank you in advance for responding to the church survey.

BOOK CLUB - On February 6 at 1:00 the book club will meet to discuss "Still Life with Breadcrumbs". There are a few more books available in Joy's office.

SAVE THE DATE! Please make a special effort to join us for our Mardi Gras Worship, Pot-Luck Dinner, and the special presentation by Andy Lang on Sunday the 26th. This event can be a good reminder that every Sunday - and every day of our lives - is a celebration of Good News of Divine love and grace. It's also an excellent occasion to invite a friend or family member to come and celebrate with us.

DIRECTORY – LAST CALL! We are planning to put out a new directory in addition to the Pictorial Directory. Please let the office know if you have had a change of *name*, *address*, *email*, or if *your birthday* is not included, and you would like it to be. Either call Jeannette at 440-526-4364, or email me your changes to: buccoh@sbcglobal.net.

please send **updated email addresses to stay on top of the latest church information**

CHILDRENS BULLETINS are located in the Narthex. Please feel free to take a copy home with you.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

YOU ARE STILL PART OF OUR WORSHIP even when you must retreat to the narthex with an unhappy child or for any other reason. ALL parts of our worship are amplified into the narthex, including the music - choir anthems, congregational hymns and Dave's organ music - items which do not need to be amplified within the sanctuary and would result in bothersome echos.

DID YOU MISS last Sunday's service or do you just want to have a chance to rehear Pastor Dave's sermon. The Sunday services are recorded in their entirety on audio CDs each week. You can borrow a CD in the church office and listen to it at your convenience at home or in your car. Several recent weeks' recordings are always available. Check them out and check them out.

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***.

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.

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 - Isaiah 58:2-10

Day after day My people seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Holy One? Is not *this* the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own family?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Holy One shall follow you. Then you shall call, and the Holy One will answer; you shall cry for help, and God will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday!

The New Testament - Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus says “You are the salt of the earth; but if that salt has lost its flavor, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on a lamp-stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Heavenly Parent.

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the Realm of Heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the Realm of Heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Divine Realm!

The Continuing Testament - from *Isaiah's Call for Justice* - by Tim George [edited]

Isaiah will not let us sit comfortably in an inner spirituality that does not yield justice in our world. The “fasting” desired by God, is that we loose the chains of injustice and set the oppressed free. Who are these oppressed and afflicted? Who is the “poor wanderer” in our midst? God’s heart yearns for those who have not yet been welcomed into the fold, those who have been left in the margins because they are the have-nots. They lack resources, food, and shelter. They have no power with which to assure their own justice. They are the ones to whom our faithful practices must be directed.

Justice-making for those who exist in the margins is how our light shines, a light illuminating the grace and providence of a God who loves and cares for the least among us. Often the metaphor of light is thought as the city on a hill or perhaps as a beacon to the nations; however, the context may suggest a light metaphor functioning more like a lighthouse cutting through the fog. Our supplications are illuminated when we work to cut through the darkness of oppression. Isaiah will not allow us to settle into a reserved individualistic faith that rests in the comfort of one’s own salvation. No, such prayer and fasting is too far removed from the afflicted. Isaiah reveals that the oppressed are precisely where we will find the Presence of God. Any desires for personal or national restoration must be sought through seeking justice and care for the afflicted in our midst.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 5

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

Mon., Feb 6

1:00 pm Book Discussion

Wed., Feb. 8

6:00 am Early Birds
4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer
7:00 pm Council

Thurs., Feb. 9

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

Sunday, Feb. 12

10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

FEB. 5, 2017

Lay Reader:	Darlene Kelly
Head Usher	Bob Chandler
Ushers:	Sam Koch, Fred Pesek, Tim Wallis, Dave Bernard
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Ben Davis
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Jane Cribbs
Narthex Grtr:	Jill Zedan
Flowers:	Jan Renovetz
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Betty Kaul, Joy Garapic
Clean Up:	Jill Zedan, Lynne Struck
Snacks:	Beth Rehling, Max Roha
Snow Herder:	Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

FEB. 12, 2017

Lay Reader:	Ed Lusk
Head Usher:	Evie Novak
Ushers:	Jim Duffy, Darlene Kelly, Wes Novak, Lindsey Maier
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lilly Hunt
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Narthex Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Marge Culver, David Pastor
Servers:	Vicki Szabo, Julie Bernard
Clean-Up:	Anne Melfo
Snacks:	Marilyn Wrights, Peg Duffy
Snow Herder:	Joe Wilson