

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*

Divine Source of Wisdom and Guidance, sometimes Life's journey and challenges can seem daunting, even overwhelming. Yet somewhere in our hearts we know that no matter where the path may lead, you are with us as we venture-forth. Remind us, throughout the entirety of our lives, that your grace is sufficient to sustain and uphold our every moment. Amen.

First Sunday In

LENT

Sunday March 5, 2017 • 10:00 AM

First Sunday in Lent

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

March 5, 2017 – First Sunday In Lent

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, inspire us to follow in the compassionate and caring way of Jesus Christ. Teach us to pray and work together for a community that welcomes all and that does not discriminate or manipulate. Give us the strength and courage to be true sisters and brothers to one another, especially to those most vulnerable. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Waiting for the Touch of God

Sandberg

[Adult and Joyful Noise Choirs; Dulcimer/Recorder Ensemble]

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship [from *Psalms* 25]

Leader: To you, O Holy One, I lift up my soul.

People: My Divine Source, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame.

L: Make me to know your ways, O Gracious One; teach me your paths.

P: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the Source of my salvation.

L: For you I wait all day long;

P: Be mindful of your mercy, and of your steadfast love.

L: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness,

All: For all those who keep God's covenant and decrees.

* Hymn of Praise

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#23

* Prayer of Confession

Leader: You call us, O Holy One, to rest in your Holy Presence.

People: Yet there are times when we ignore you, when we are easily distracted, when our lives become too busy, and we do not make time for you.

L: You call us to be aware of sorrows we could lighten and joys we could share.

P: Yet there are times when we dismiss you, unwilling to stop and listen to your hope for creation.

L: You call us to take up your work of peace in a violent world.

P: Yet there are times when we would rather not risk the courage it takes to be peacemakers.

L: You call us to live with love and generosity.

P: Yet we live in a world where greed and waste is accepted, and where many go hungry.

L: Forgive us, Compassionate One, when we do not care.

P: Forgive us, Gracious One, when we do not love.

*** Words of Assurance**

L: Hear the Good News: the Holy One has promised to forgive and welcome all those who want to live as people of light and walk as people of peace. Even before we turn toward our Compassionate Source, the Holy One anticipates our return and welcomes us with open arms!

P: Thanks be to God!

*** Passing the Peace**

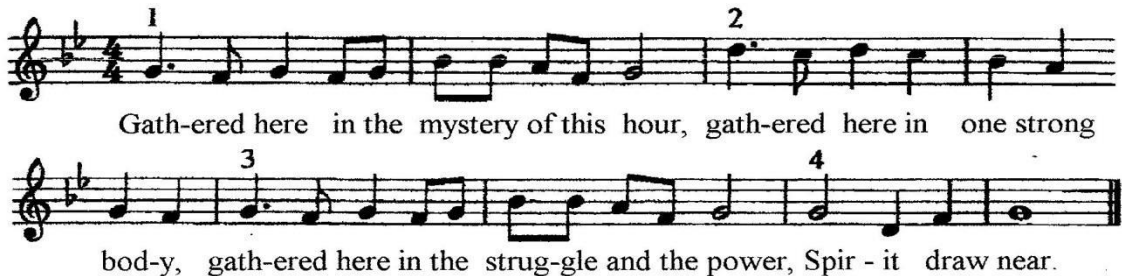
L: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ.

The Peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

***Song of Praise**

Gathered Here - sung twice



The Old Testament

Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7

Pew Bible, page 2

The New Testament

Matthew 4:1-11

Pew Bible, page 3

The Continuing Testament

from *Of Stones and Bread*

by Melissa Bane Sevier

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

In the Wilderness

Card

Sermon

The Powerful Allure Of Power

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days

#211

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.**

Response

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema



Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spir - it in this place.



Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.---

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Offertory

Tu fidelidad (Your faithfulness)

Cassina

"I depend upon your faithfulness.
I can journey on, for you are always there.
None compares with you, O blessed One;
O how great your faithfulness."

Miguel Cassina, 1994; trans. Andrew Donaldson, 2001

*** Offertory Hymn**

We now are in the time of Lent,
To learn again what Jesus meant.
His life and message are so great,
We send these gifts to celebrate. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious and Merciful Holy One, as we present our gifts at your altar, we pray that you would warm our hearts and expand our generosity. Help us to faithfully trust in your loving care for us, so that we might boldly give of our lives and resources to care for others. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who freely gave himself for us all. Amen.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Bread of the World

#346

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: Because you show us your perfect Love in the person of Jesus Christ, who endured the Cross for the sake of us all, it is right that we should give you thanks and praise, saying,

All: Holy, holy, holy, Source 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

Communion Music

Aria
[Becky Anderson, flute]

Rutter

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your Table through these gifts of Bread and Cup. We ask that you now strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace; through Jesus Christ our ever-present Savior. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

God of Grace and God of Glory
[verses 1 and 5]

#436

*Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

* Circle of Community

Hear Our Prayer, O God - sung twice

*As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Hear our Prayer, O God.** 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

Fantasy and Fugue

Couperin

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

“Edna House”, 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, February 26, 2017 – Adult: 86 Kids: 16 Total: 102

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.

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 Pat Rehm in Honor of Lorraine and John Urban.

HEADS UP! CHANGES IN OUR LITURGY - A longstanding Lenten tradition in the Christian Church is to "put away" hymns or verses which contain "Alleluia." The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday our "Alleluias" can ring-forth with a new freshness and vigor, as we welcome the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different **Song of Praise**, and concluding hymn for the benediction today. For our **Offertory Hymn** we will be using words that Bill Toneff wrote to fit the tune of the Doxology, reflective of the Lenten Season

TUESDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY - This Tuesday March 7th at 7:15 pm, we will begin a five week study on "How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with...." Each week, we will share some of our personal experiences and insights concerning the different ways our Faith informs and inspires us as we face specific issues and concerns. BUCC member Leroy Ford will share with me in leading these sessions, drawing on his 40+ years of experience as a Presbyterian minister. As always, the real heart of our time together will be the sharing and support of all those who gather and participate each week. This week's topic is "How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with... Doubt and Uncertain Times." I hope you'll be able to join us, and that you'll bring a friend! Pastor Dave

SEASONAL CHOIR – It's not too late to join seasonal choir as we prepare for Holy Week. Practices are on Thursdays during Lent from 7:00-8:00 PM. The choir sings special music on Palm Sunday (April 9), Maundy Thursday (April 13) and Easter (April 16.) High school students are welcome to participate. Listening CDs are provided to help singers learn their vocal parts. Contact Dave Debick with any questions.

FREE CONCERT AT BUCC – On Sunday March 26 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring the **Mosa String Quartet** from the Cleveland Institute of Music. The ensemble will perform works by Schubert, Beethoven and Ravel.

A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us on March 26 for an outstanding program of chamber music.

PICTORAL DIRECTORY IS COMPLETE AND READY FOR PICK-UP! For those of you that have a picture in the Directory please find your copy on the counter in the Office, and please sign your name that you have received your copy. It is really beautiful – enjoy!

CHRISTIAN ED is planning a field trip to Hale Farm and Village on April 8th for their program A Fugitive's Path: Escape on the Underground Railroad. This is an evening program recommended for children and adults ages 10 and up. Tickets are \$12 for children and \$18 for adults. Please let Heidi Spangler know if you wish to attend by March 12th. The program is filling up quickly so we need to make a reservation in advance.

WE HAVE ADDED THE NAME OF EDNA HOUSE to the prayer list. Edna House is a residence on west 65th street that rehabilitates women who are recovering from alcohol or drug addiction. We will be receiving an offering for Edna House in May.

THE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will be meeting Monday, March 6th, at 1 p.m. in the Parlor to discuss “And After the Fire” by Lauren Belfer. If you didn't get a copy of the book join us anyway. You might decide that you would like to read it. April's book, “Flight Behavior” by Barbra Kingsolver will be available at that time.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

....Now the serpent was more subtle than any other animal that God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil!”

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The New Testament - Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written in Scripture, 'God will command the angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Sovereign One, and serve only God.'" Then the devil left him, and angels came and ministered to him.

The Continuing Testament - from *Of Stones and Bread* - by Melissa Bane Sevier [edited]

Jesus faces several temptations after his formative time in the wilderness. He's learned so much as he's put himself in touch with his calling, his humanity, his spirit, God's spirit. The first temptation - to turn stones into bread - is about meeting real needs. Why not take a shortcut if you can, and meet those needs faster? Why not, indeed? Because it's the work that goes into the bread that makes it meaningful, and delicious enough to feed both body and soul. Bread takes time. Place seed in the ground. Wait for rain and sun. Weed and harvest. Thresh and grind. Add ingredients. Knead. Bake. Serve. Enjoy.

Shortcutting the process of satisfying human hunger (physical or spiritual) means the outcome can't be as meaningful or as effective. Jesus extends the metaphor by saying that we don't just live from bread, but from every word that comes from God. That God-bread creates community around the table, feeds the hungry body and soul, and requires us to reach out to others.

In such a way, we're to reject taking the easy way out when looking for solutions to real problems. Instead, we search for ways that create community, feed body and soul, reach out to the excluded.

We won't solve any of our current problems with the stone-bread of hatred, but we may do so with the God-bread of reconciliation. We won't create community with the stone-bread of anger, but we may do so with the God-bread of compassion. We won't bring positive change with the stone-bread of fear, but we may do so with the God-bread of hope. We won't grow as a society with the stone-bread of alienation and separation, but we may do so with the God-bread of welcome and acceptance. So let's chuck the stones. Not at each other, but in favor of the time-consuming, inclusive processes that are nourishing and which create community.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 5	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Monday, March 6	1:00 pm	Book Discussion
	7:30 pm	Facilities
Tuesday, March 7	7:15 pm	Lenten Study
Wed., March 8	6:00 am	Early Birds
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
Thurs., March 9	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Sunday, March 12	10:00 am	Worship Service <i>*Daylight Savings Time*</i>
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 5, 2017

Lay Reader:	Bridget Sproul
Head Usher	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Joanne Cook, Ed Lusk, Kathy Smith, Dan Stewart
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Ben Davis
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Dave Bernard
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Kathy Pastor
Servers:	Marge Culver, Caroline Chandler
Clean Up:	Lynne Struck, Sue Stenzel
Snacks:	Jim Pay, Susan Snyder
Snow Herder:	Dave Bernard

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 12, 2017

Lay Reader:	Sam Koch
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Kate Klonowski, Beth Rehling Ian Stewart, Cliff Cribbs
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lilly Hunt
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Marge Culver
Flowers:	Betty Gifford
Nursery:	Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters:	Kathy Pastor, Sue Stenzel
Servers:	Joanne Cook, Vicki Szabo
Clean-Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks:	Kathleen Stewart, Marilyn Wrights
Snow Herder:	Matt Wolbert