



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 Life and
Love, we give
thanks that the
ending of the
Holy Week story
is not Death,
but Life. Yet
may we still
pause this day
to reflect on the
impending
death of Jesus
Christ, that we
might celebrate
more fully the
new life offered
to us through
his glorious
resurrection.
Amen.



Sunday April 9, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday

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

April 9, 2017 – Palm Sunday

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, as we seek to faithfully follow Jesus' path to the cross, we pray for the courage to believe that his sacrificial love - and our own - truly makes a difference in this world. Help us today, and every day, to hold true to this conviction. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

March in D Major

Handel

Welcome and Announcements

***Processional Gospel**

Leader: When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find a donkey tied there that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'The teacher has need of it.' "

People: So those who were sent departed and found it as Jesus had told them.

L: Then they brought the donkey to Jesus; and after throwing their garments on it, they set Jesus upon it.

P: As he rode along, most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

L: As he approached the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

All: "Hosanna to the Heir of David! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!"

L: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, order your followers to stop!"

P: But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these people were silent, the stones themselves would shout out!"

L: This is the Good News for today!

All: Thanks be to God!

***Processional of Palms**

Palm Procession Music

Sing Hosanna!

Larson

[Adult Choir, Joyful Noise Choir and Congregation]

Bearing the Light of Peace

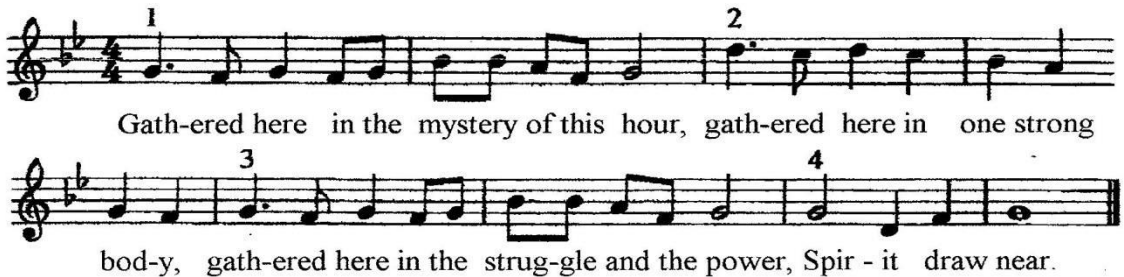
Bearing the Light of Christ

* Prayer of Invocation [unison]

Gracious Holy One, as Jesus was greeted with shouts of joy as he entered Jerusalem, may we also welcome him into our hearts and lives today. Grant that we may open ourselves to hear your Good News of peace, welcome, and grace that Jesus brings us. This we pray in the name of the One who comes to serve and to save. Amen.

*Song of Praise

Gathered Here - sung twice



The Old Testament

Isaiah 50:4-9

Pew Bible, page 681

The New Testament

Philippians 2:3-11

Pew Bible, page 197

The Continuing Testament

by Rob Fringer

in *A Plain Account*

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Cloaks and Palm Branches Avila, arr. Gonzalez/Debick

[Becky Anderson, Betsey Wilson, flute; Pastor Dave, trumpet;
assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

Sermon

Are You Kidding Me?

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

#216

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

Sing to the Lord Hosanna!

Liebergen

*** 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 [Unison]**

Compassionate Holy One, as we remember Christ' gracious giving of himself for the sake of all people, we are truly moved. Grant that we may faithfully follow his example and fully give ourselves for the sake of others, by fulfilling Christ's mission of reconciliation, justice, and peace. We pray that you bless our gifts and bless us, that both gift and giver may be used in your service. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

#213

*** 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

Gavotte

Saint-Saëns

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, George Snider, "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, April 2, 2017 – Adult: 83 Kids: 10 Total: 93

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.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER OPPORTUNITIES AT BUCC:

April 13th - 6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

7:00 - Holy Communion

7:30 - Tenebrae Service of Shadow

April 14th - 7:00 pm Saint Bridget Good Friday Service

April 15th - 8:30 pm Saint Bridget Easter Vigil

[The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.]

April 16 - 6:00 am - Easter Sunrise Service and Holy Communion at the Brecksville/Highland Cemetery [Highland Drive, just South of Rte. 82 - park at the water tower]

10:00 a.m.- Easter Festival Celebration

EASTER CHOIR REHEARSAL – A reminder to our choir and instrumentalists for Easter Sunday that there will be a rehearsal on Saturday morning April 15 at 10 AM. Percussion players are encouraged to attend. See Dave D. with any questions.

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 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.

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***.

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

BUCC HAS THE LATEST, up-to-date version of the Williams personal sound system. It may just be your answer if you are concerned (1) that the quality of sound deteriorates between the speakers and your pew in the sanctuary, or (2) that your hearing is getting poorer but not yet bad enough to buy hearing aids, or (3) that you have hearing aids and you want to hear even better or (4) that you are bothered by the route 82 traffic noises or any noise generated by your pew mates during worship.

Receivers are available in the narthex for you to borrow which pick up ALL PARTS of the worship service - sermon, readings, choir and organ music, etc. Just plug in one of our head phones, your favorite Walkman head phones or any other unit with a 3.5mm plug and you are ready for a new hearing experience. Don't know if you want to do this? Then try it out; borrow one of the church's head phones and "test drive" a Williams receiver during a worship service.

And if you already have digital hearing aids, an even better experience awaits you. Simply have your audiologist activate the teleloop option of you hearing aids, borrow a receiver with a teleloop plugged in and experience sound quality you never would have expected. The sound remains electronic all the way from the speaker's mic to your ear drum.

One of our ushers and members of the Spiritual Life Ministry are ready to help you get started. Check with them before the service next Sunday. Your questions are gladly answered.

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.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Isaiah 50:4-9

The Holy One has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning the Holy One wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Holy One has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Holy One helps me, therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; the One who exonerates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Holy One who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

The New Testament - Philippians 2:3-11

Saint Paul writes, Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which you find in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking on the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God.

The Continuing Testament - by Rob Fringer - in *A Plain Account* [edited]

In a world of self-preservation, self-promotion, and just plain selfishness, we might be perplexed by the words of Saint Paul in Philippians Chapter 2. With so many people striving for power they do not deserve, why would Christ surrender his? This question invites us to imagine a reality far different from the one we often experience - a reality that might change our outlook on Life. Imagine a reality in which God is more concerned about saving humanity than about condemning it. Imagine a reality where God exhibits humility and sacrificial giving not just to rescue humanity, but because these things are at the core of who God is. Imagine a reality where power looks more like Christ's actions than those of certain world leaders today.

Paul invites the Philippians to ponder this as he presents a picture of a God who *yields* power rather than *wields* power. In presenting this picture, Paul invites the Philippians to embrace God's story as their own story. In other words, he reminds them that through Christ they are no longer defined by their earthly genealogies, worldly histories, or even by their societal and cultural norms. In very practical terms, this means that the God they serve is not like the Roman Emperor who acquires power through force and who thrives on people's fears. Likewise, this means they are not to be like the people around them who share this same attitude and who persecute those unlike them. Christ exemplifies that God has always been a God of love; a God willing to suffer humiliation and death for the sake of reconciliation and restoration. It is this particular God, as exemplified in Christ, that Paul invites the Philippians - and us - to emulate.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, April 9	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Wed., April 12	6:00 am	Early Birds
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
	7:00 pm	Council
Thurs., April 13	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	6:30 pm	Soup Supper
	7:00 pm	Communion
	7:30 pm	Tenebrae Service
Friday, April 14	7:00 pm	St. Bridget Passion Reading
Saturday, April 15	10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal for Easter
	8:30 pm	St. Bridget Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 16	6:00 am	Sunrise Service – Highland Cemetery
	10:00 am	Easter Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 9, 2017 PALM SUNDAY

Lay Reader:	Darlene Kelly
Head Usher:	Caroline Chandler
Ushers:	Tim & Kim Wallis Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound:	David Pastor
Comns Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	Palms
Nursery:	Gina Cook
Counters:	Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel
Servers:	Joanne Cook, Carole Snider
Clean-Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks:	Marilyn Wrights, Heidi Spangler
Snow Herder:	Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 16, 2017 EASTER SUNDAY

Lay Reader:	Jim Duffy
Head Usher:	Bob Chandler
Ushers:	George & Carole Snider Matt Wolbert & Kate KloInowski
Acolyte:	Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Easter Lilies
Nursery:	Valerie Tyler
Counters:	Jan Renovetz, Jim Duffy
Servers:	Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Cliff & Jane Cribbs
Snacks:	Gina Cook, Betty Kaul
Snow Herder:	Joe Wilson