



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***

Gracious Holy One, as we strive to confront the evils and wrongs of this world, may we follow Christ's example of speaking the truth while remaining centered in love and hopefulness. May our awareness of our own inadequacies and limitations also make us more considerate and compassionate toward the faults and failings of others. This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

Sunday June 25, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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, 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

June 25, 2017 – Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Divine Source of Wisdom and Courage, every day we face a mixture of continuity and change, the familiar and the unfamiliar. Help us to trust that you are with us in all of Life's perplexing situations, so that we may remain open to new possibilities. And may your Gracious Presence give us the confidence we need to move faithfully forward. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

In the Morning Light

Hryssomàllis (Yanni)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us praise the Holy One!

People: Let us praise the Creator who has filled the earth with blessings!

L: Let us give thanks to the Gracious One who has filled our lives with joy!

P: Let us worship the Compassionate One who is always with us!

L: Let us gather together in hope and faith,

P: To praise our Divine Source of Life and Love.

L: The Holy One who creates heaven and earth, renews and remakes us today!

All: Let our spirits soar to greet our God!

*** Hymn of Praise**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#25

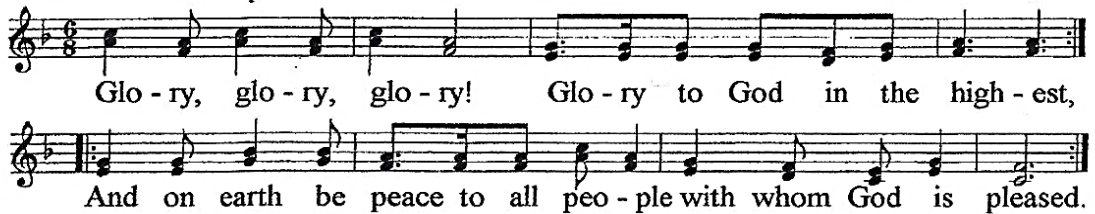
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that your compassionate care is for all people and all creation. Help us to trust in your deep concern for us and for our entire world. Bring your wisdom and power into our lives, that we may join you in bringing help and healing to those in need, that your Reign of justice and peace might be known among us all. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Pew Bible, page 614

The New Testament

Romans 8:22-28

Pew Bible, page 159

The Continuing Testament

from *Expectant Hope*

by Audrey West

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Take Up Your Cross

Broughton

[*Anne Melfo, soprano; Dave Debick, baritone*]

Sermon

Back to the Future

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

#286

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

The Prayer of Jesus

[*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

Sonatina

Handel

* Offertory Hymn

We bring our gifts because we care;
They are a part of what we share.
Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts;
With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, may the light of your love shine in and through us today. Bless these gifts, that they might be used to further your work in this community and in our world. Bless us as we seek to give of ourselves in serving you, by serving others. We ask in the name of the One who gave himself for us all, Jesus Christ our Savior, Example, and Friend. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*Hymn of Departure

O for a World

#575

*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

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 two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. Chords are indicated above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A.

*Benediction

Postlude

Exalt the Lord, God's Praise Proclaim

Haydn

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty Gifford, Joan Doyne (on the death of her Husband, Jeff), Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Bill 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, June 18, 2017 – Adult: 63 Kids: 10 Total: 73

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Diane Gressley – "To The Glory Of God!"

TODAY IS THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the United Church of Christ! Our Denomination was formed right here in Cleveland Ohio on June 25th, 1957 through a merger of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church. From the rich and varied backgrounds of our predecessor Church bodies, we *are* a melting pot - a blended Family of Faith that seeks to promote Christ-like inclusiveness without compromising our Christian integrity. We are a Church that takes seriously Christ's call to reach-out and welcome *all* people, no matter where they may be in their life's journey.

OUR HYMN OF THE MONTH for June is *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*, written by James K. Manley. Manley was born in 1940 at Holyoke, Massachusetts, and received his education at Whittier College, Pacific School of Religion, and Claremont School of Theology. He was ordained to the ministry of the United Church of Christ in 1966. Manley "felt the urging of the Holy Spirit to write this hymn" after he had completed the rough draft of his Doctor of Ministry thesis. A new arrangement was created for *The New Century Hymnal* in 1995. ►

As we move into our long Church Season of Pentecost, this hymn serves as a good reminder of the many ways in which the Spirit has moved - and continues to work - through the lives of God's people. If you find a particular hymn with words that move you, please let Pastor Dave or Dave Debick know, and we will try to use it as a future Hymn of the Month

OUR CHRISTIAN ED AND SPIRITUAL LIFE MINISTRIES will be organizing a group to march in the Cleveland Pride Parade. The parade is June 24th and starts near Erieview Plaza in Cleveland at 12:00. The route ends at Voinovich Park and is just about a mile long. We will need to line up by 11:00 and will be given our staging location closer to the date. This is a great opportunity for us to present BUCC as a truly open and affirming congregation and to attract new members who may not know that we are here.

SUMMER MONTHS are busy. This is a fact. If you know when you will not be available to be included in the schedule please email me at stenzelsj@sbcglobal.net with the details. Sue Stenzel

WOMEN UNITED It is Picnic Time! On June 28th at 11:30 AM we will meet at the Metroparks Pavilion across from the Nature Center off Rt 82. Bring a salad or sandwich or perhaps a dish to share. For further info and directions call Dorie Gabor at 440-552-4029. All church women and friends are welcome.

TEA TIME FOR PEACE: An Interfaith Dialogue - Concerned about fear of and hate and violence toward members of faith traditions different from your own? "Be the change" you want to see in the world! Meet your Muslim neighbors and other members of the interfaith community. Join us as we learn about, share and celebrate the rich diversity of our different cultural and faith traditions with tea and treats!

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

7:00 - 9:00 PM (registration from 6:30 - 7:00 PM)

St. Malachi Parish Hall
2459 Washington Avenue
(Corner W. 25th & Detroit)
Cleveland, OH 44113

Please RSVP by July 10, 2017 to Stephanie Riccobene riccobene726@gmail.com or 216-799-6015

MEMBERSHIP:

The Annual Picnic Is Coming Up On July 9
9256 Highland Drive Brecksville
2-6 pm

Please bring a dish to share as we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. This year our dessert contest for adults will be a dessert made with fruit. The children can participate in a cookie contest - 15 years old and under. Plan on a fun day with swimming, fishing, card games and more.

If you have questions call Kathy Smith 440 343 6354. Don't miss this great event and get your name on the sign-up sheet. If you are not able to attend church or cannot locate the sign-up sheet – please notify the church office and tell them you want to attend.

JUST THE SPOKEN WORDS are amplified by our sound system into the sanctuary during our worship service. The musical offerings do not normally need amplification. However the complete worship service, including the anthems, hymns, etc., is fed to our audio-CD recorder (CDs are available in the church office for borrowing) and to the narthex speakers (for the benefit of anyone who must leave the sanctuary because of a restless child or for any other reason). Our sound operators continuously select and adjust the output from one or more of the six or seven microphones normally in use during a typical worship service to provide what they hope is optimum, seamless sound in the sanctuary as well as in the narthex and for the CD recorder. If you should use one of the portable microphones during the service, please do not turn it off but return it to its original location so that it is not eliminated from its next planned use.

AFTER WORSHIP LUNCH BUNCH - All are welcome to join this spirited group of BUCC worshipers after coffee hour for brunch and some great conversation. We meet at a restaurant most Sundays around Noon. If you are single, widowed, a couple, or a family – anyone that just doesn't want to cook or dine alone, please join us. You'll be glad you did! We usually call in reservations around 11:30, to give the restaurant fair warning. Jon Thompson, Susan Snyder, Dave Debick, Bridget & Chad Sproul, Kathy Smith, Pastor Dave, and Marge Culver are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have!

Readings

The Old Testament - Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem: Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing.

What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new!"? It has already been, in the ages before us.

The New Testament - Romans 8:22-28

Saint Paul writes, We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And the Holy One, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the Divine will. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.

The Continuing Testament - from *Expectant Hope* - by Audrey West [edited]

Standing at the center of Saint Paul's letter to the church at Rome, is hope. For Paul, hope is not a pie-in-the-sky optimism that disavows the reality of sin and suffering, as if one simply needed to stop worrying and be happy. True hope is born out of the assurance that what we see and experience - the groaning reality all around us - is not the end of the story. This is hope as a woman in labor hopes: breathing through the pain, holding tight to a companion, looking ahead to what cannot yet be seen, trusting that a time will come when this pain is but a memory.

We must be aware of those around us who have lost hope, but are afraid to admit it. Whatever their circumstances - financial crises, broken relationships, devastating illnesses, unending losses - they have landed in a place where there is not one ounce of strength left to endure what is before them. For these people, the promise of God is a lifeline: when we cannot hope for ourselves, the Spirit hopes on our behalf, the Church endures with us, the whole creation groans in solidarity. We are not alone. Knowing that God is present in the midst of our greatest need, is good news that enables us to endure.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday, June 25 | 10:00 am | Worship Service <i>*Strengthen the Church Offering*</i> |
| | 11:00 am | Coffee Hour |
| | 11:30 am | Survey Response Session |
| Wednesday, June 28 | 6:00 am | Early Birds |
| | 11:30 pm | Women United – Park |
| Thursday, June 29 | 1:00 pm | Bible Study |
| Friday, June 30 | | *Office Closed* |
| Sunday, July 2 | 10:00 am | Worship Service |
| | 11:00 am | Coffee Hour |

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JUNE 25, 2017

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Lay Reader: | Kathy Smith |
| Head Usher: | Jan Renovetz |
| Ushers: | Jill Zedan, Betty Kaul Tim & Kim Wallis |
| Acolyte: | Michelina Fawcett |
| Peace Candle: | Drew Demko |
| Sound: | Doug Fawcett |
| Comns Grtr: | Dave Bernard |
| Flowers: | Jan Renovetz |
| Nursery: | Kathy Pastor |
| Counters: | David Pastor, Dave Bernard |
| Servers: | Julie Bernard, Carole Snider |
| Clean-Up: | Peg & Jim Duffy |
| Snacks: | Bettina Ortiz, Heidi Spangler |

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

JULY 2, 2017

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|---------------|--|
| Lay Reader: | Darlene Kelly |
| Head Usher | Jill Zedan |
| Ushers: | Julie & Dave Bernard Ed Lusk, Lindsey Maier |
| Acolyte: | Carrie Coyer-Westerberg |
| Peace Candle: | Amy Coyer-Westerberg |
| Sound: | Mike Westerberg |
| Comns Grtr: | Marge Culver |
| Flowers: | Dot Bailey |
| Nursery: | Marla Corrado |
| Counters: | Stu Bailey, Nancy Stella |
| Servers: | Joanne Cook, Betty Kaul |
| Clean Up: | Lynne Struck, Sue Stenzel |