

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, when we are hungry, you feed us with the Bread of Life. When we struggle, you sustain us with words of wisdom and stories of hope. May we remain always grateful for your ever-present generosity and care. Amen



Sunday August 6, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Ninth 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

August 6, 2017 – Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Our Divine Source of Strength: we know that each of us struggles in our lives at various times and places. May we also know the strength of your Holy Spirit and the support of our fellow travelers, as we negotiate our journey through Life's ups and downs. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Processional

Bloch

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: The Holy One says, "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

People: Come, even those with no money, come buy and eat!"

L: We have come to feast on the Living Bread,

P: That we might minister to the world's hungers.

L: We have come to drink from the Water of Life,

P: That we might minister to the world's thirsts.

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

P: For they shall be satisfied!

L: Blessed are those who serve God by serving others -

All: For this is the true worship that pleases the Holy One!

*** Hymn of Praise**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

*** Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

Creative Holy One, you call us to be your One Family, to care for your world and all within it. You challenge us to feed the hungry, heal the hurting, and bring hope and comfort where there is grief and despair. Forgive us when we fail to do so. Mend our broken human family. By your Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power of your amazing and abundant love and grace, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Brother, Redeemer, and Friend. Amen.

*** The Assurance of Pardon**

L: People of Faith, rejoice and give thanks! The Holy One, who makes and loves us all, is here with power to heal our brokenness, forgive our sins, and fill us with newness of life!

All: Thanks be to God!

* Passing the Peace

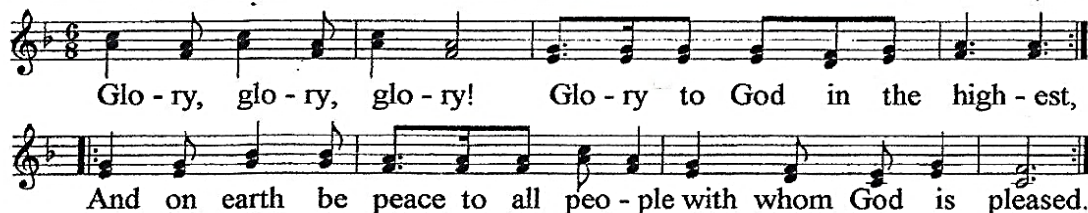
L: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!

* The Song of Praise

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Psalm 145:3-16

Pew Bible, page 581

The New Testament

Matthew 14:13-21

Pew Bible, page 16

The Continuing Testament

from *The Real Miracles*

by David Lose

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Communion
[Cliff Cribbs, bass]

Third Day

Sermon

Abundantly Clear Abundance

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

#588

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

Glory and Gratitude

Bell

"Glory and gratitude and praise
now let earth to heaven raise.

Glory and gratitude and praise:
these we offer to God."

John L. Bell (b. 1949) & Graham Maule (b. 1958)

* 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]

We remember and give thanks, Gracious Holy One, that you provide for all of our needs. Your love keeps and sustains us. Your bounty enables our giving of self and substance. Open our hearts, that we may be generous and inspire generosity in others. Employ us and our gifts for your loving service, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, who lovingly gave himself for us all. Amen.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table
[verse 1]

#332

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: Baptized by your Spirit into One Body, we testify to your faithfulness toward people of every time and place, language and nation, 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

Unto Your Table, Lord

Rosas

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

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

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name
[verse 1]

#80

*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

The Moon over the Ruined Castle

Taki

*[In memory of the victims of the nuclear bombings at
Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki, Japan (August 9, 1945.)]*

Final verse of song:

Up in the sky the moon and the stars remain unchanged

But in the earthly life, rises and falls come and go

Does the moon hang there to reflect those changes?

Ah! the midnight moon over the ruined castle

Rinkichi Tsuchii (1871-1952)

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Joel Black, Betty Gifford, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, 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, July 30, 2017 – Adult: 62 Kids: 13 Total: 75

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.

SPIRITUAL LIFE MINISTRY will meet this Monday, August 7 at 7:00 pm the Parlor.

SEND A CARD - Betty Gifford is recovering very well!. She will be turning a young 98 on August 8! Please consider sending her a Birthday card to her home address (13428 Chippewa Rd. – Brecksville, OH 44141). Thank you!

THE FACILITIES MINISTRY is looking anyone wishing to help maintain the landscaping. Weeding is the primary need and anyone who can help would be greatly appreciated. If there are any questions, please contact Cliff Cribbs.

THE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP is reading **EVERYONE BRAVE IS FORGIVEN** by Chris Cleve, which is set in 1939 London when most of the city's children are evacuated except the mentally impaired, disabled or black. A totally inexperienced teacher is assigned these children as her first teaching experience. The book has been praised for its "ability to stay small and quiet against the raging tableau of war." This discussion begins at 1:00 in the parlor, August 7. All are welcome.

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.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 145:3-16

Great is the Holy One and greatly to be praised; God's greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness. All shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Holy One is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Merciful One is good to all, and shows kindness toward those in need. All your works shall give thanks to you, O Gracious One, and all your faithful people shall bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your realm and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your domain.

Your realm is everlasting, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The word of the Holy One is always faithful, and the Holy One's deeds are constantly gracious. The Compassionate One upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The New Testament - Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this [the news of John the Baptist's death], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me."

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Continuing Testament - from *The Real Miracles* - by David Lose [edited]

The point of Jesus feeding the 5,000 isn't *what* he does, but *why*. Matthew says that when Jesus saw the crowd that had followed him he had "compassion" on them. So, in the name and power of God, he healed their sick, tended their needs, and shared his presence with them. Then, when evening came and they found themselves without food, Jesus fed them.

In the First Century, gods aren't normally supposed to care about people like the crowds. The gods of the ancient philosophers, for instance, were considered dispassionate and were referred to by names like "the Unmoved Mover" or "First Cause." At the other end of the spectrum, the gods of the Greek and Roman empires were notorious for using humans as playthings and for ordering the world to their whims. At best, gods were supposed to take the side of the rich and powerful. They were definitely not known for siding with the oppressed, the ordinary, the downtrodden, or the hungry. Yet Jesus renews, embodies, and fulfills the consistent call of the God of Israel to feed the hungry and care for the poor.

God even employed the reluctant disciples to care for those poor and hungry people that God loves so much. Whatever their initial skepticism, or doubt, or self-preoccupation, the disciples get caught-up in Jesus words of abundance and gratitude; and they give-away what they have. God still cares deeply and passionately for those who are most vulnerable - the poor, the immigrant, the hungry. And God continues to use us today - in spite of our reluctance - to care for them.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 6	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Monday, August 7	1:00 pm	Book Discussion
	7:00 pm	Spiritual Life – Parlor
	7:30 pm	Facilities
Wednesday, August 9	6:00 am	Early Birds
	7:00 pm	Council
Thursday, August 10	1:00 pm	Bible Study
Friday, August 11		*Office Closed*
Sunday, August 13	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE
AUGUST 6, 2017

Lay Reader:	David Ritchey
Head Usher	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Julie & Dave Bernard Sam Koch, Fred Pesek
Acolyte:	Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	David Pastor
Comms Grtr:	Marge Culver
Flowers:	Dorie Gabor
Nursery:	Valerie Tyler
Counters:	Carol Snider, Nancy Stella
Servers:	Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Clean Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
AUGUST 13, 2017

Lay Reader:	Betsey Wilson
Head Usher:	Bridget Sproul
Ushers:	Beth Rehling, Betty Kaul, George & Carole Snider
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters	Stu Bailey, David Pastor
Servers:	Marge Culver, Betty Kaul
Clean-Up:	David Pastor