

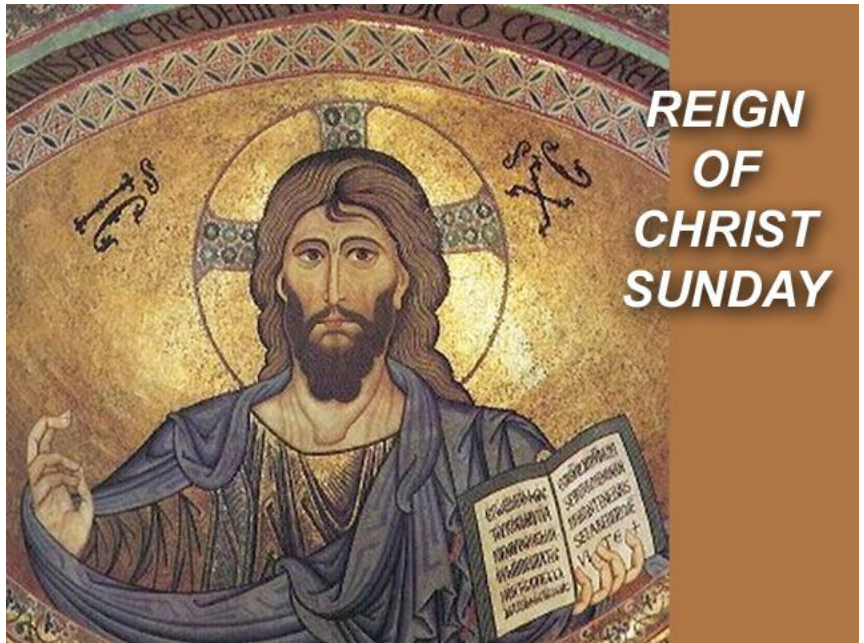
BRECKSVILLE

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, may we feel your genuine Presence in everyone we meet, every day. Inspire us to greet them as we would a beloved companion, and to treat them as our fellow travelers on the winding, yet wonderful road of Life. Amen.



Sunday November 26, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Reign of Christ 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, 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

November 26, 2017 – Reign of Christ Sunday, Last Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Compassionate Holy One, help us to hear and respond to your call that challenges us to see Christ in those people around us in need. Remind us that it is only by loving and serving them, that we can truly love and serve you. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Before the Throne of God Above

Cook

"Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea;
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart."
Charitie L. De Chenez (1841-1923)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Draw near to us now, O Holy One,

People: As we seek to draw near to you.

L: Be with us in our compassion for those in need,

P: In our care for those who are vulnerable.

L: Walk with us as we walk with your children who are hungry and hurting,

P: Guide our steps as we seek to help and encourage those who are lost and lonely.

L: Inspire us with your gracious love,

ALL: That it might flow from our lives into the lives of others!

* Hymn of Praise

Now Is the Time Approaching

#609

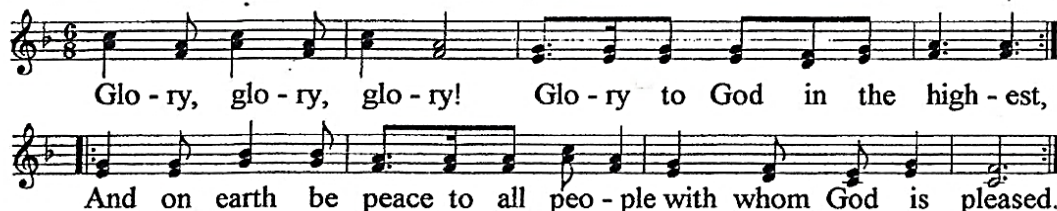
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious Giver of Life, 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 Christ's 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

Ezekiel 34:11-16

Pew Bible, page 803

The New Testament

Matthew 25:31-45

Pew Bible, page 29

The Continuing Testament

from *The Face of Christ*

by Janet Hunt

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Alleluia, Praise the Lord!

Besig

Sermon

I Thought She Looked Familiar....

Pastor Dave Shackel

Hymn of Reflection

O God in Whom All Life Begins

#401

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

Gloria, et in terra pax
[Translation: Glory to God, and on earth peace.]

N. de Grigny

* 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]

Compassionate Holy One, accept these offerings that we present to you, and grant that the causes to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance and bring glory to your name. Help us also to give ourselves fully and freely to the work of your Present and Coming Realm, that the love of Christ might shine through us and throughout the world! Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Jesus Shall Reign

#300

* 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

Christ Is the World's Redeemer

Irish tune

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Doris Schmid, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, 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 November 19, 2017 – Adults: 70 Kids: 18 Total: 88

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 The Harris Family, in Loving Memory of Bill Harris.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUCC next Sunday December 3rd, at our morning worship service. If you are interested in learning more about membership at BUCC, please talk with Pastor Dave.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD - next Sunday, immediately following worship. We will vote to approve our slate of Officers and Ministry members, as well as a preliminary budget for 2018. Please plan to attend!

TIME TO PUT UP THE CHRISTMAS TREE! TODAY AFTER CHURCH SERVICE! We can use all the helpers we can get! We will have snacks and pizza!

DECORATING PILGRIM HALL - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 9AM

Come join us as we decorate! We have another tree to put up and assorted decorations to hang.

WE NEED DECORATIONS! Do you have any decorations you'd like to donate? Starting this Sunday, we'll have a box/basket in the narthex. We welcome any and all decorations! Thanks! Sue Maier & Anne Melfo

CHRISTMAS CANTATA - On Sunday, December 10 at our regular 10 AM service, the adult choir will present, "Emmanuel, Hope of Our Hearts," this year's Christmas musical. Created by Nancy Gordon, the dynamic score features pieces by a number of composers and arrangers, including Dennis and Nan Allen, Tom Fettke, Stan Pethel, Gary Rhodes, Robert Brown, John Chisum, George Searcy, David Winkler, Steven Curtis Chapman, Michael W. Smith, and Nancy Gordon. The presentation will be accompanied by flutes, trumpets, violin, assorted percussion, and narrators. Plan on joining us on December 10 to enjoy this BUCC holiday tradition. Bring a friend!

OUR "HYMN OF THE MONTH" for November is ***O God in Whom All Life Begins*** by Carl P. Daw, Jr., who has authored many contemporary hymns. Daw, an Episcopal priest, served as the Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada from 1996 to 2009. In this hymn, Daw expresses the idea that the Holy One, who is the Source of us all, also calls us all to join together in using our various gifts and talents to serve and love the world.

MITTEN TREE – The mitten tree is in place in the narthex. The weather is turning colder, and there are people who need warm hats, mittens, and scarves. Please respond to their need by placing these items on the mitten tree. This tree is magic, because it fills up two or three times over the cold months. The items are taken to a hunger center, and people can get these items when they pick up food items.

WOMEN UNITED There will be no set meetings for November and December, however, on Tuesday December 5th at 7:00PM Christ The Redeemer Lutheran Church will be presenting their Annual Advent Tea. Several of our women have attended this service in the last few years and found it truly meaningful and welcoming. If you would like to attend this year please meet in the lobby of CRLC and we will sit together. After an eventful service Tea and TRAYS of cookies are served in the Community Room. We highly recommend this opportunity to begin the Advent Season! Please Come!

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.

HAVING TROUBLE HEARING PARTS OF THE SERVICE? Please talk to any usher about the Williams Sound - Personal PA Receiver, available for your use. These simple-to-use units can help improve your worship experience, by amplify those parts of the Service that may be more difficult to hear.

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 - Ezekiel 34:11-16

For thus says the Holy One: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Holy One. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak; but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

The New Testament - Matthew 25:31-45

Jesus says, "When the Anointed One comes in glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ►

Then the Sovereign will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed, inherit the Realm prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the Sovereign will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to the least of these, you did not do it to me.' "

The Continuing Testament - from *The Face of Christ* - by Janet Hunt [edited]

The reminder today is straightforward. We will encounter Jesus in the "least of these" - in the hungry and the thirsty. In the stranger and the naked. In the sick and those in prison. Our faith is not only of the mind and of the heart, but is also for the hands and the feet. We live our faith in what we do. We live it in what we do in places that aren't always pretty. It is important to note, that Jesus doesn't debate or explain the actions of those who respond to such aching need in the world. In the end, he just looks to see who did and who didn't. And yet, for all of us, too much of the time, we find ourselves debating, weighing and wondering whether we should act or not.

I don't fully know if I am "sheep" or "goat." Yet I am grateful for Jesus' words, which at least seem to be opening my eyes to see the needs right in front of me. At least part of the time. I hope that more and more I will do less wondering and weighing, and simply give from what has been given to me. I pray that I will see ever more surely that all ground is holy ground, for the face of Christ is everywhere. Especially where we least expect to see him.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 26	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour
Wednesday, November 29	6:00 am	NO Early Birds
Thursday, November 30	5:30pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Joyful Noise Seasonal Choir Choir
Friday, December 1		*Office Closed*
Sunday, December 3	10:00 am 11:00 am 3:00 pm 5:15 pm	Worship Service Congregational Meeting/Coffee Hour Jingle Jam – Pilgrim Hall Cantata Percussion Practice

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

Lay Reader:	Kate Klonowski
Head Usher	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Dan & Ian Stewart Jess Barnes, David Pastor
Acolyte:	Carli Began
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Lenore Harris
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
Counters:	Jon Thompson, Bruce McCain
Servers:	Michele Namitka, Darlene Kelly
Clean Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks:	Diane Gressley, Beth Rehling

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

DECEMBER 3, 2017

Lay Reader:	Diane Gressley
Head Usher	Jon Thompson
Ushers:	Kathy Smith, Matt Wolbert Tim & Kim Wallis
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer Westerberg
Sound:	Max Roha
Comns Grtr:	Marge Culver
Flowers:	Jan Renovetz
Nursery:	Jonathon Cook
Counters:	Jan Renovetz, Nancy Stella
Servers:	Betty Kaul, Joanne Cook
Clean Up:	Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan
Snacks:	Jim Pay, Susan Snyder

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POINSETTIAS IN OUR
SANCTUARY**



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Christmas with those who are ill or shut-in, or have recently lost a loved one. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, and turn it in to the Church Office

DEADLINE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10



I Enclose \$12.00 _____ or other _____ for Poinsettias

In Memory _____ or Honor _____ or _____

Of _____

Your Name

I WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS _____

****PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOUR POINSETTIA
OR LEAVE IT HERE FOR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS****

WILL KEEP _____

WILL NOT KEEP _____