



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 Peace and Joy, Life and Celebration: fill us today with your Holy Spirit. Unite our hearts in praise and worship, and transform our lives through the gift of your grace. Gather us together as One Family, and send us forth from here into the world to serve you, by serving others. Amen



“Woven Together With Love”

Sunday February 11, 2018 • 10:00 AM

Last Sunday After Epiphany

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.

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

February 11, 2018 – Mardi Gras Sunday

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, we pray that we may move from the shadows of discouragement and despair, into the light of your Compassion and Peace. Guide us by your Spirit, as we seek to faithfully follow the open and affirming ways of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

American folk song

*** Call to Worship** - Our BUCC Affirmation of Welcome [see opposite page]

***Hymn of Praise**

O When the Saints Go Marching In

1. O when the Saints go marching in,
When the Saints go marching in.
Lord, I want to be in that number
When the Saints go marching in.

2. O when the sun begins to shine,
When the sun begins to shine.
Lord, I want to be in that numbers
When the sun begins to shine.

3. O when the air is pure and clean...

4. O when our leaders work for
peace...

5. O when we see the truth at last...

6. O when we join our hands as
one...

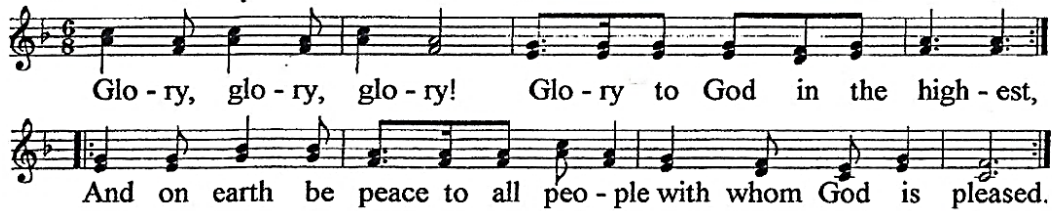
*** Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Divine Source of Life and Love, we thank you for gathering us together in this time and place. Open our eyes and our hearts, so that we might recognize - and rejoice - that you are with us in this very moment. Help us to trust in your Presence, both in our times of joy and prosperity, as well as in our days of difficulty and doubt. We thank you that you are always near, ready to strengthen, guide, and inspire us. May we respond to this Good News, by graciously sharing it with all those we encounter. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Deuteronomy 24:14-22

Pew Bible, page 179

The New Testament

Matthew 13:2-9; 18-23

Pew Bible, page 14

The Continuing Testament

Cleveland Roots

Maria Livers

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Do Lord, Remember Me

Trad. American
Spiritual, arr. Mauldin

Sermon

Rooting for our Roots!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

#506

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Dorsey

*** Offertory Hymn**

Winter has come, it's taken hold.

The days are short, the nights are cold.

The poor need food and light and heat.

We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, we offer ourselves with our gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Expand our vision to see and to embrace new possibilities. May our offerings reach beyond the barriers of our restricted thinking, bringing help to others and glory to your name. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Hope and our Joy! Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

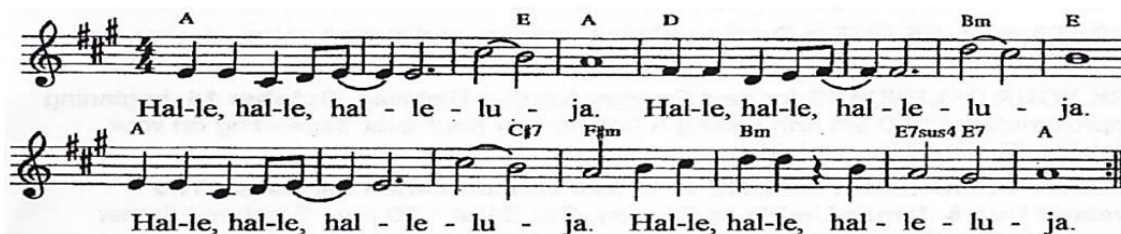
#282

*** Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

Acolyte

*** Circle of Community *Caribbean melody***

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**

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Donn Whyte, 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, 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 4, 2018 – Adults: 61 Kids: 11 Total: 72

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.

THIS WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY, the first day of Lent. Lent is a time when Christians traditionally contemplate Jesus' journey to Jerusalem - from the mountaintop experience of the Transfiguration, through the valley of the shadow of Good Friday, to the glorious Good News of Easter. We will begin our Lenten Journey with our annual Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall, followed by a service of Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. All are invited to come and to bring a friend! Those whose last name begins with a letter from A through K are asked to bring a loaf of bread to share. [The L through Z's will be asked to bring bread to our Maundy Thursday supper on March 29th]

PLEASE BE SURE to thank our guest musicians after today's service! They are: Eric Seddon, clarinet; Steve Ostrow, trombone; Steve Kraus, banjo; and Mark Mazak, tuba.

SEASONAL CHOIR: This Thursday from 7-8 PM, seasonal choir will begin preparing for Holy Week services. If you enjoy group singing but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a wonderful opportunity for music, fellowship, and spiritual preparation for Palm/Passion Sunday (March 25), Maundy Thursday (March 29), Good Friday (March 30), and Easter Sunday (April 1.) Listening CDs are provided to help make the learning process easier. High school students are welcome.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

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 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.

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.

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***.

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.

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 - Deuteronomy 24:14-22

The Holy One declares... You shall not oppress the poor and needy, whether they be other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land or in one of your towns. You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them; otherwise they might cry to the Holy One against you, and you would incur guilt. You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the Holy One redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this. When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Holy One may bless you in all your undertakings. When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. Remember that you were slaves in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

The New Testament - Matthew 13:2-9; 18-23

Jesus told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let everyone who has ears, listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the Divine Realm and does not grasp it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but persists only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and grasps it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 11	10:00 am	Mardi Gras Service
		ONA Offering
	11:00 am	Mardi Gras Potluck
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Wednesday, February 14	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/ Guitar
	6:30 pm	Soup Supper
	7:00 pm	Service of Ashes & Communion
Thursday, February 15	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Friday, February 16		*Office Closed*
Sunday, February 18	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Lay Reader:	David Pastor
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Bob & Caroline Chandler Betty Kaul, Sam Koch
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Ben Davis
Sound:	Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr:	Dave Bernard
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Jon Cook
C.E Teacher:	Robin Coyer
Counters	Matt Wolbert, Kathy Pastor
Servers:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Clean-Up:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Snacks:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Snow Herder:	Joe Wilson

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 18, 2018

Lay Reader:	Darlene Kelly
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Kate Klonowski, Matt Wolbert , Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte:	Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle:	Drew Demko
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Jan Renovetz
Nursery:	Valerie Tyler
C.E Teacher:	Heidi Spangler
Counters:	Jan Renovetz, Bruce McCain
Servers:	Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Jim & Peg Duffy
Snacks:	Susan Snyder, Anne Melfo
Snow Herder:	Dan Stewart