

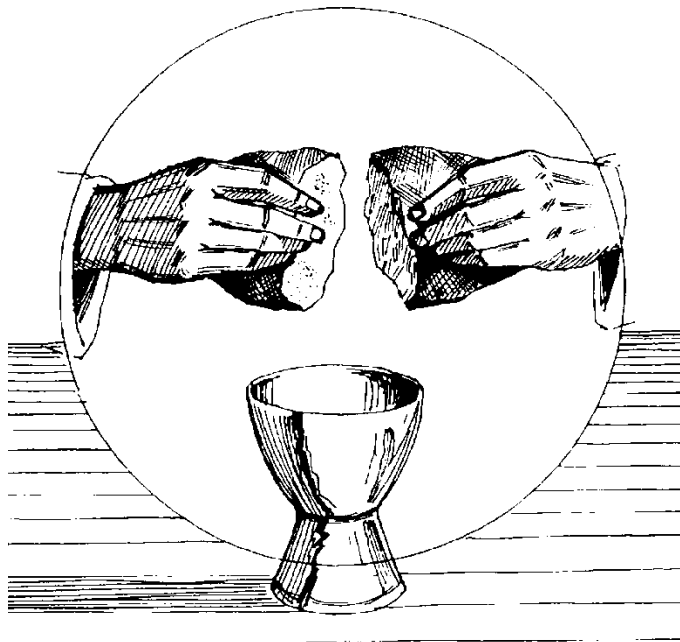
# BRECKSVILLE

## 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, open our hearts to love more freely and more fully. Let the power of your gracious generosity flow through us, into the lives of those around us. Inspire us to gladly give of ourselves for the sake of others, as we learn how to be a true friend to those in need. Amen.



***All Are Welcome At Christ's Table!***

**Sunday May 6, 2018 • 10:00 AM**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

*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, or transgender

**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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

## May 6, 2018 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

### **Meditation Music**

Divine Source of Compassion and Welcome, we pray for hearts and hands that are ready to reach-out to all those around us. Grant us the courage to move beyond our comfort zones, so that we may be true disciples of the One who calls us to extend Divine Love to each person we encounter. Amen.

### ***Gathering in God's Presence***

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Love One Another

Dufford

"Love one another as I have loved you.  
Care for each other, I have cared for you.  
Bear each other's burdens.  
Bind each other's wounds;  
and so you will know my return."  
Bob Dufford, b. 1943

#### **Bearing the Light of Peace**

#### **Bearing the Light of Christ**

#### **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: In the darkest times of our lives, the Spirit of the Holy One shines forth!

**People: We gather today seeking that Divine light and hope!**

L: The Holy One calls us from apathy and separation, into love and community.

**P: We have come to find healing and peace, to experience forgiveness and acceptance.**

L: In the midst of the ordinary, the Sacred One comes; in our day-to-day living, the Holy One inspires us!

**P: Our Divine Source is our shelter, our strength, and our guide!**

L: Let us put our trust in the abundance of Divine Love,

**All: For the Holy One is with us, now and always!**

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

From All That Dwell below the Skies

#27

#### **\* Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

**Eternal Holy One, we look to your saving power and grace. Enter those parts of ourselves that disturb us and heal them. Use our broken places as the places where you bring us together in community. Transform our own weakness into compassion for the weakness of others. Give us that graceful combination of humility and self-esteem, that we may see ourselves and others as you see us - your restored and loved people. Amen.**

**\* The Assurance of Pardon**

L: One fact remains and does not change: God has loved us, loves us now, and will love us always. This is the Good News that brings us new life!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**\* Passing the Peace**

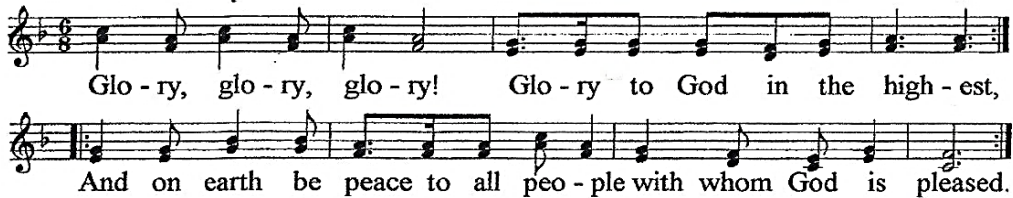
L: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**The Old Testament**

Isaiah 56:1-8

Pew Bible, page 686

**The New Testament**

Acts 8:26-40

Pew Bible, page 127

**The Continuing Testament**

from *No Longer at Ease*

by Sidney Hall

**Youth Anthem**

Put On Love  
*[Joyful Noise Choir]*

Walker

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Anthem**

Live in charity Berthier

(Taizé Community)

**Sermon**

*So...What's Stopping Us?*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

#306

## ***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**

Year by Year

Heafield

"Each loving faith is seeking peace,  
and peace is made by seeking  
to spin the strands of trust  
in patterns free and just,  
till every family on earth  
is in safe-keeping."  
Brian Wren, b. 1936

**\* 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 love we share our gifts. Amen.**

**\* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

**Accept these offerings, Gracious Holy One, Giver of every good gift. Grant that they may represent our love - and our lives - offered more fully to you. Use all these gifts and each of us to help proclaim and advance your message of love and welcome, hope and peace. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Risen One who brings new life to us all. Amen.**

***Holy Communion***

**Communion Hymn**

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

#342

**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: Because you show us your perfect Love in the person of Jesus Christ, who endured the Cross for the sake of us all, it is right that we should give you thanks and praise, 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**

We Meet as Friends at Table

Hopson

**Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]**

**Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that you show us - and share with us - the Presence of the Risen Christ at this Table of Welcome and Inclusion. We ask that you continue to inspire and renew our lives, so that we may show- and share - Christ's compassion and peace wherever your Spirit leads us! Amen.**

## Going with God's Love

\* Hymn of Departure

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#76

\*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

Love With Your Life

Miller/Fowler/McKeehan

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Kathy & Leroy Ford and their Grandson, Garion, The Family of Donn Whyte, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "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, 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 29, 2018 – Adult: 71 Kids: 15 Total: 86

## 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.

**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.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given by Maureen Stanley, in Loving Memory of her Mother, Edna Stanley (5/3/225-3/29/15).

**MANY THANKS** to everyone who helped in any way with last Sunday's free concert featuring violinist Kyung Ah Oh and pianist Christine Hill. The musical program was magnificent, and lots of volunteers helped with set up, clean up, greeting, ushering, counting, and bringing in delicious food items for our audience and musicians to enjoy. Thank you all for making this event a success!

**SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM:** Starting next Sunday, Dave Debick will be recruiting volunteers to sing or play their instruments at services over the summer. If you would like to share your musical gifts with our congregation and guests on a scheduled Sunday, let Dave know so he can mark you down on the calendar. He is glad to help you find music and rehearse with you on an as-needed basis. Any questions, see Dave

**OCWM** - Sunday, May 13th is our annual Mother's Day collection! This year we will be collecting donations to benefit Edna House (as we did last year) to help women who are in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. We will collect funds as well as items:

- Clean, gently worn clothing, professional attire, shoes, pocketbooks, briefcases, backpacks, scarves, accessories, and jewelry for Spring and Summer wear, new socks and new packaged underwear—please place in garbage bags (no boxes and no hangers needed!).
- Notebooks, pencils, highlighters, pens, paints, canvases, brushes, Big Books and 12 x 12 Books, and journals (no paperback novels!)
- Unopened toiletries that do not contain alcohol!
- Cleaning products such as Murphy's Oil Soap, floor cleaner, bathroom cleaner, bleach, sponges, spray bottles, mops, and large black garbage bags
- Canned food, condiments, and nonperishable snacks, coffee, creamer and sugar
- Paper towels, toilet paper, personal hygiene products
- Gift Cards, Bus Passes, Postage Stamps!
- Flash drives, resume and copier paper and envelopes for Job Development
- Light bulbs and extension cords
- Prayers are ALWAYS welcome! ►



Find out more about Edna House at [ednahouse.org](http://ednahouse.org) Also, on May 1, 2, & 3rd, you can support Edna House by eating at Melt Bar & Grilled (so good!) and presenting the flyer you can download and print from this URL: <https://www.ednahouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/EdnaHouse.jpg>

**SUNDAY BULLETINS** We do our best to average out the number of Bulletins from the previous week & same Sunday of the previous year on each Sunday. If there is a shortage, please see that adults get Bulletins first, if that is still not enough, could we suggest that couples share the Bulletin. BUCC is firmly dedicated to the conservation of paper & and has an excellent recycling program, we would rather print less, than have too many Bulletins. Thank you.

**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.

**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.

## ***Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Isaiah 56:1-8**

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil.

Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely separate me from his people"; and do not let the eunuch say, "I am just a dry tree." For thus says the Lord: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and

hold fast my covenant— these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

### **The New Testament - Acts 8:26-40**

Then an angel of God said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

### **The Continuing Testament - from *No Longer at Ease* - by Sidney Hall [edited]**

Every time we look into the face of a fellow human being, regardless of who that person is - regardless of how different that person is from us - we dare to see the face of Christ. And at the core of our spiritual journey we know that such an affirmation goes far beyond inclusiveness or even diversity. Simply stated, we are called to see Christ, *everywhere*. We are called to experience the joy of looking across God’s welcoming table and seeing the diversity of God’s family; but this vision comes with a cost.

There is so much pain to be shared. There are people who sit in silent anguish in church pews Sunday after Sunday, who have not yet experienced the welcoming Church. There are people who wonder if they are absolutely alone in this world, and have not found a way to see themselves as God's included ones. They have not been fortunate enough to encounter others who see the face of Christ in their face. It's not always easy to see the face of Christ in others. And sometimes the prejudice and fear of others even prevents us from seeing God's face in our own. Yet we continue to hope and rejoice and recommit ourselves to be those people who dare to see Christ wherever we look.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, May 6</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>C.E. Library</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Spiritual Life</b>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Youth Percussion</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Youth Ministry</b>
<b>Monday, May 7</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Book Discussion</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Facilities – Library</b>
<b>Wed., May 9</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Recorder/Dulcimer</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Council - Parlor</b>
<b>Thurs., May 10</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Joyful Noise</b>
	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Friday, May 11</b>		<b>*Office Closed*</b>
<b>Sunday, May 13</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service/ Edna House Offering</b>

## 11:00 am Coffee Hour

### **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**MAY 6, 2017**

Lay Reader:	David Pastor
Head Usher	Bridget Sproul
Ushers:	Ed Lusk, Kathy Smith Jill Zedan, Jess Barnes
Acolyte:	Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr:	Dave Bernard
Flowers:	Maureen Stanley
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Carole Snider
Servers:	Betty Kaul, Joy Garapic
Clean Up:	Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan
Snacks:	Susan Snyder, Max Roha

### **PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**MAY 13, 2018**

Lay Reader:	Darlene Kelly
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Chad & Bridget Sproul Kate Klonowski, Kathy Smith
Acolyte:	Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Jess Barnes
C.E Teacher:	Tia Began
Counters	Jon Thompson, Matt Wolbert
Servers:	Sue & Cliff Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Dave & Kathy Pastor
Snacks:	Marilyn Wrights, Pat Rehm