



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*

Source of all goodness and compassion, inspire us to dream dreams and to take bold actions to create with you "a new earth." A place where all may live whole and wholesome lives, free of want and fear, in communities of peace, joy, and love. Amen.



"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not only me but the one who sent me."

Mark 9:37

Sunday, September 23, 2018 • 10:00 AM

Eighteenth 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, or pangender
You Are Welcome Here!*

*If you are fully abled, 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!***



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, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Simply ask an usher. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use. Pillows for back support are also available, if needed

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

September 23, 2018 – Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Holy Source of Strength and Wisdom, you lift us up from low places and help us see more than we could see on our own. Free us from hopelessness. Rescue us from apathy. Inspire us with your vision of a time when abundant life will spill into every part of Earth, when justice flows down like a waterfall, and when things that are divisive and destructive are replaced by that which is wholesome and holy. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

A Charge to Keep Have I

Christian Harmony, 1866, setting Parker

"To serve the present age my calling to fulfill,
O may it all my pow'rs engage to do my Master's will."
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship - from *Isaiah 25***

Leader: Gracious Holy One, you are our rock and our strength.

People: We will exalt you and praise your name!

L: For you have done wonderful things;

P: All your works are faithful and sure!

L: You have been a stronghold for the poor;

P: A sure support to the needy in their distress.

L: You subdue the chaos of violence and hatred,

P: As the shade of a cloud subdues the heat of the day.

L: Gracious Holy One, you are our rock and our strength.

All: We will exalt you and praise your name!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Living God

#8

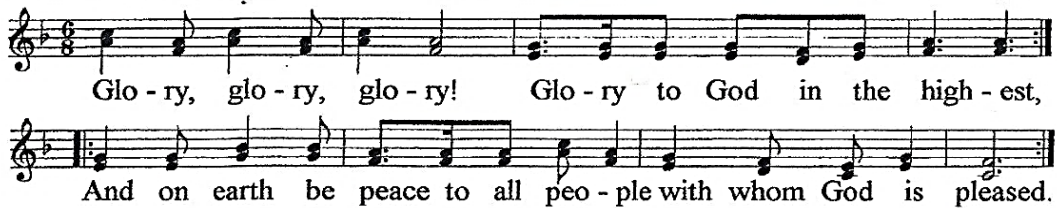
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Our Divine Source of Wisdom and Love, we come before you as your children, eager to learn of your gracious works, and generous ways. Help us to be open and flexible, that we might creatively meet the needs and challenges ahead of us. Fill us with the Spirit of your Compassionate and Goodness, so that we may faithfully serve you by serving one another. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1-7

Pew Bible, page 670

The New Testament

Mark 9:33-37

Pew Bible, page 45

The Continuing Testament

from *Just Mercy*

by Bryan Stevenson

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

O Servants of the Lord

Dennis & Nan Allen

Sermon

So ***That's*** where God's Hangs-out!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

#583

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

Sinfonia VIII

J. S. Bach

*** 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 bring you our offerings, Gracious Holy One, in thanksgiving for what you have first given us: Ourselves, our time, and our possessions - signs of your goodness and love. Bless our gifts and bless our giving, we ask in the name of the One who freely 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

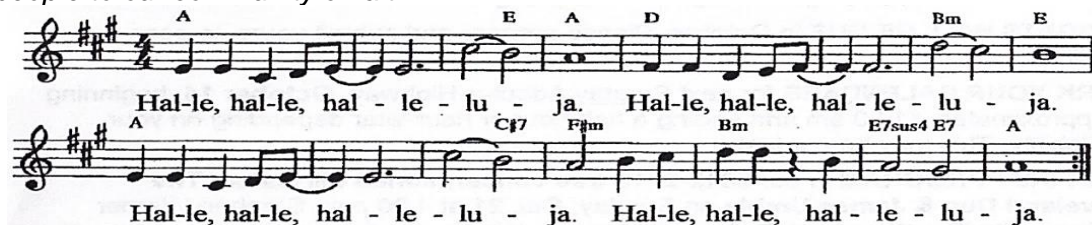
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*** Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

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

Now Sing to Our God

Ergo

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Michele Namitka and Family, Pat Bailey, Fred Pesek, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Doris Schmid, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, 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 September 16, 2018 – Adults: 58 Kids:9 Total:67

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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Nathan and Heather Hunt in Honor of Family and Friends who are not with us today. May they rest in Peace & Joy.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Isaiah 42:1-7

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says the Holy One, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Holy One, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

The New Testament - Mark 9:33-37

Jesus and his disciples then came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not only me but the one who sent me."

The Continuing Testament - from *Just Mercy* - by Bryan Stevenson [edited]
Stevenson is an attorney, and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama

My years of struggling against inequality, abusive power, poverty, oppression, and injustice had revealed something to me about myself. Being close to suffering, death, executions, and cruel punishments didn't just illuminate the brokenness of others; in moments of anguish and heartbreak, it also exposed my own brokenness.

I guess I'd always known but never fully considered that being broken is what makes us human. We all have our reasons. Sometimes we're fractured by the choices we make; sometimes we're shattered by things we would never have chosen. But our brokenness is also the source of our common humanity, the basis for our shared search for comfort, meaning, and healing. Our shared vulnerability and imperfection nurtures and sustains our capacity for compassion.

We have a choice. We can embrace our humanness, which means embracing our broken natures and the compassion that remains our best hope for healing. Or we can deny our brokenness, foreswear compassion, and, as a result, deny our own humanity.

So many of us have become afraid and angry. We've become so fearful and vengeful that we've thrown away children, discarded the disabled, and sanctioned the imprisonment of the sick and the weak - not because they are a threat to public safety or beyond rehabilitation but because we think it makes us seem tough and less broken....But simply punishing the broken, walking away from them, or hiding them from sight, only ensures that they remain broken, and that we do, too. There is no wholeness outside of our reciprocal humanity.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 23

**10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee Hour
5:30 pm Youth Ministry
6:00 pm Youth Percussion
7:00 pm Council**

Thurs., Sept. 27

**1:00 pm Bible Study
4:30 pm Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar
5:30 pm Joyful Noise
7:00 pm Choir**

Friday, Sept. 28

Office Closed

Sunday, Sept. 30

**10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee Hour**

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Cliff Cribbs, Diane Gressley,
Dot & Stu Bailey
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Valerie Tyler
Flowers: Betty Gifford
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E. Teacher: Anne Melfo
Counters: Stu Bailey, Kate
Klonowski
Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Sue Stenzel

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Kate Klonowski, Betty
Kaul, David Rtichey, Ben
Tomlinson
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Kathy Pastor
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E. Teacher: Heidi Spangler
Counters: Jim Duffy, David Pastor
Servers: Joy Garapic, Caroline
Chandler
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Susan Snyder, Bridget Sproul

Stewardship, 2019

