



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***

Holy Spirit,
open us to your
possibilities
and your
promises. Help
us hear, with
fresh ears, the
story of the
Holy One's
definitive
revelation in
Jesus the
Christ. May that
Divine Voice
speak to our
hearts, dispel
our fear, and
call us by name.
Amen.



***“You Are My Child, My Beloved; With You I Am
Well Pleased.”***

Luke 3:22

Sunday, January 13, 2019 • 10:00 AM

First 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, 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

January 13, 2019 – First Sunday After Epiphany

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, too often we get ahead of ourselves, filled with anticipation and preconceived ideas about who others are before we meet them. Help us to set aside our notions about who we are encountering, so that we may witness to what your Spirit is doing among us. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

What Ruler Wades through Murky Streams

Hurd

"What ruler wades through murky streams
and bows beneath the wave,
Ignoring how the world esteems
the powerful and brave?"

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984; rev. 1993

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship** [from *Psalms* 29]

Leader: Ascribe to the Holy One, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Holy One glory and strength!

People: Ascribe to the Holy One glory; worship the Righteous One in holy splendor!

L: The voice of the Holy One is over the waters; the glorious Creator thunders!

P: The voice of God is awesome; the voice of God is full of majesty!

L: The voice of God flashes forth in flames of fire;

P: The voice of God shakes the wilderness.

L: The Holy One sits enthroned over the flood, as Ruler forever!

All: May God give strength to the people! May God bless the people with peace!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Living God

#8

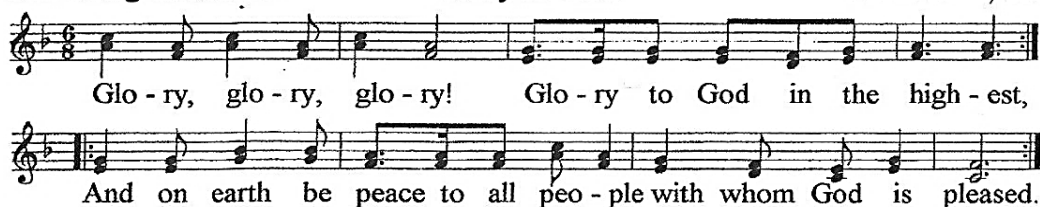
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, at his baptism Jesus heard you say, "This is my beloved Child, in whom I am well pleased!" As you breathe your Spirit into us today, remind us that we, too, are your beloved children. Inspire us to reach out to all people with this encouraging message! Help us to uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all your children; and to affirm that they, too, are precious in your sight. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the One who embraces and welcomes us all. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 43:1-7

Pew Bible, page 670

The New Testament

Luke 3:15-22

Pew Bible, page 60

The Continuing Testament

from *Called and Loved*

by Todd Weir

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

When John Baptized by Jordan's River Bourgeois,

arr. Debick

Sermon

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

#539

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

Piece in C major

Nielsen

*Offertory Hymn

**Winter has come, it's taken hold.
The days are short, the nights are cold.
The poor need food and help and heat.
We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

**Divine Source, Creator of Life, Maker of all things: through your goodness you
have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and
dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, through
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

#82

*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

Toccata del secondo tono

G. Giovanni

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The Family of Kirk Sanderson, Suzanne Patrick, Niece of Kathy Smith, Pat Bailey, Fred Pesek, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, 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 January 6, 2019– Adults: 70 Kids: 10 Total: 80

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 Carole & George Snider "Celebrating the Joy all our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren bring to our lives."

THE MITTEN TREE in the narthex is nearly bare of items. The previous "ornaments" have been taken to a hunger center to be distributed when families receive food and other items. The mitten tree angels supplied five! bags of hats and mittens! This magic tree will probably fill up two or three times before the cold weather is over, which says something about the view of BUCC members and friends about outreach.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTICAL LEARNING:

#1 - What are ADVANCE DIRECTIVES? All adults admitted to any hospital will be asked if they have *Advance Directives*. On **Tuesday January 15th** Mark Lehman, LISW (retired Hospital Social Worker) will present an overview of the 4 documents that make up *Advance Directives*. The documents are: *The Living Will*, *Health Care Power of Attorney*, *Guardianship*, and *Organ Donation*

#2 - Understanding Care after a Hospital Admission. Patients and families are provided an overwhelming amount of information on care in the community after a hospital stay. On **Tuesday January 29th** Mark Lehman will present an overview of the various care options in the community, what is fitting for the patient and the how it is paid for.

Both sessions will be held from **7:00-8:00 pm** in Pilgrim Hall. Each session stands alone, so feel free to attend one or both according to your interests and needs, and to invite a friend!

FINANCE A check was sent to Living Water Association, the new name of the Western Reserve Association, in the amount of \$634. This collection will be used to provide gifts and pension supplementation for clergy and lay employees at all stages in their lives and ministries. Health premium and emergency grants are also included. These funds are critical for a sustainable quality of life for these "veterans of the cross"

Year-end statements are ready to be picked up in the Commons area.

FLOWER MINISTRY - Flowers are placed in the front of the church each Sunday to honor/celebrate your family/friends/events. We need your help to get this information to our office manager, Jeannette Kroeger, before she prepares the Bulletin on Wednesdays. It's easy as 1-2-3.

1. Put your name on the chart hanging on the west wall just inside the double doors to the Narthex.
2. Fill out the information form found in the pocket below the chart. **If you are providing the flowers yourself, please check that box on the form and let me know so there are no mix ups.
3. Turn this information and money in to Joy Garapic, our financial secretary.

The flower ministry does not want to miss sharing your joy by not having the correct information. Thank you, Janet Renovetz

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.

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.

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!

The Readings

The Old Testament - Isaiah 43:1-7

[This is the message of hope that the prophet proclaims to the people of Israel living in exile.]

But now, says the Holy One - the One who created you, O Jacob; who formed you, O Israel: Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Sovereign One your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. ►

I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - liberate everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The New Testament - Luke 3:15-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been reprimanded by John because he had married Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the other evil things that Herod had done, added to his wrongdoings by shutting John in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Child, my Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Continuing Testament - from *Called and Loved* - by Todd Weir [edited]

With his baptism Jesus chooses a Divine calling: to be fully human, and to accept the suffering that comes with serving the poor and oppressed. Many months of wrestling lead to this moment, where he joins the crowd and humbly asks to be baptized. Jesus does not walk on the water, but wades out into it, to be submerged by human hands and re-emerge with a Divine calling.

We have made Jesus so different from us, in order that we might worship him; but I follow him because he is so human. When I young I was fascinated by super-heroes and their unique and amazing powers. That is an expression of the human desire to transcend the limits of our mortal, sometimes silly, and often vulnerable selves. But as I become older my great admiration is for people who have the courage and commitment to doing something worthwhile, especially if the outcome is tenuous, the risks and dangers are many, and they must face human limits and vulnerability to succeed. Multiplying loaves and fishes, walking on water, doesn't stir my soul as much as the hug given to a leper, the protection of a woman about to be stoned, the prophetic courage to drive money changers from the temple, bravery in the face of those who wanted him dead and who would ultimately succeed. It is the risking of self to protect human dignity that touches me so much more than any superhuman powers. I can't do supernatural miracles; but with Jesus as my example and inner strength, I might just be able to do an act of courage.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 13	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Tuesday, Jan. 15	7-9 pm	Advanced Directives Presentation in Pilgrim Hall
Wednesday, Jan. 16	7:00 pm	Council - Library
Thursday, Jan. 16	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Choir
Friday, Jan. 18		*Office Closed*
Sunday, Jan. 20	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE
JANUARY 13, 2019

Lay Reader:	Kate Klonowski
Head Usher:	Anne Melfo
Ushers:	Dave & Julie Bernard Beth Rehling, Sue Stenzel
Acolyte:	Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle:	Amelia Tyler
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Caroline Chandler
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Nursery:	Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher:	
Counters:	Marge Culver, Kathy Pastor
Servers:	Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean-Up:	Jan Renovetz, Sue Stenzel
Snacks:	Marla Corrado, Kate Klonowski
Snow Hrdr:	Matt Wolbert

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE
JANUARY 20, 2019

Lay Reader:	Jim Duffy
Head Usher:	Jon Thompson
Ushers:	Dan Stewart, Betty Kaul George & Carole Snider
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Olivia Klonowski
Sound:	Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr:	Max Roha
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher:	
Counters:	Jim Duffy, David Pastor
Servers:	Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Jane & Cliff Cribbbs
Snacks:	Kathleen Stewart, Jill Zedan
Snow Hrdr:	Tim Wallis