



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*

Sweet Jesus,
the Wise Ones
brought you
gifts. Though
precious, those
gifts were small
compared to
your gift to
the world:
you gave us
your life.



Sunday, January 6, 2019 • 10:00 AM

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 6, 2019 – Epiphany

Meditation Music

Christmas season may come to a close, but those who are wise keep Christmas all year long. Fill our hearts with love and joy and peace and generosity. Remind us that these are the gifts that give life to others and to ourselves. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

O Little Love, Who Comes

Eastgate

"As all the wise look for your star,
so I must follow where you are --
as you are light so must I be,
as you are peace, be peace in me."
Shirley Erena Murray, (b. 1931), alt.

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Today we remember the light of the star.

People: We give thanks for those who enlighten our path!

L: Today we gather to celebrate sharing gifts.

P: We give thanks for those who have been generous to us.

L: Today we share the Bread and Cup.

P: We give thanks for Jesus who lives among us!

L: Today we are called to share the gift of ourselves with the world.

P: We carry the love of Jesus with us.

L: Today we lift our voices in thanks and praise!

All: We carry the Light of Christ to the world!

Hymn of Praise

The First Nowell

#139

*** Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

Sweet Jesus, the Magi came to honor you with gifts. We need to honor you by honoring one another. True-hearted and generous giving of ourselves saves the world. Remind us of our obligation to live as you lived. Amen.

* The Assurance of Pardon

L: Jesus came into the world to show us the beauty of being human. Living as Jesus did is the greatest honor we can offer. When we fail, we are called to rise again and follow Jesus, the example of True Humanity.

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.

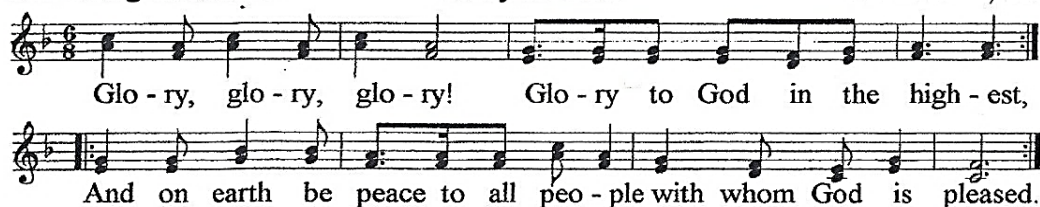
The Peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

* The Song of Praise

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



Old Testament

Isaiah 60:1-6

New Testament

Matthew 2:1-12

Continuing Testament

"Sharing Epiphany"

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

With Dancing and Singing

Strasbourg Gesangbuch,
arr. Ehret

Sermon

Pass the Oranges

Ann P. Klonowski

Hymn of Reflection

What Child Is This

#148

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

Many Are the Lightbeams

Widestrand

"Many are the lightbeams from the one light.
Our one light is Jesus...we are one in Christ."

Cyprian of Carthage, 252 C.E.; Swedish paraphrase by Anders Frostenson (b. 1906);
trans. David Lewis, 1983

* Offertory Hymn

**We praise the Babe this time of year,
Sing carols to him whom we hold dear.
Our love, His power, we now proclaim;
We send our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen**

* Prayer of Dedication [unison]

**Generous One, all that we have is not really ours. It was first given to us by you.
Show us that generosity frees us to live a life of freedom and joy.**

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken

#346

The Thanksgiving

Leader: The Holy One is 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: It is truly good and right to give you thanks, Divine Source of all Life, for you have called us into your Church to serve you by serving the entire human family, and to proclaim your Good News to all the world. In gratitude we accept your call, and praise your Holy Name, saying,

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Pastoral Symphony from *The Messiah*

G. F. Handel

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Gracious One, Christmas comes to an end. We thank you for this communion of love and life. When gift giving can take over our lives, thank you for sending us models of gift givers. The Wise Ones who brought gifts to Jesus show us to share what is beautiful and precious and rare. Remind us that these words describe our true selves and that it is our obligation to share ourselves with others. Amen.

Going with God's Love

Hymn of Departure

As with Gladness Those of Old

#159

***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

Grand Choeur (Sortie pour Noël)

Franck

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Jim Kroeger, 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, 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 December 30, 2018 – Adults: 46 Kids: 12 Total: 58

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.

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 by Bettina Ortiz in Honor of granddaughter Stephanie Hough's 30th Birthday (1/8) & great-grandson Bradley Joseph Hough's 7th Birthday (12/27); and In Memory of Joseph Ortiz (12/29) & Dennis Rini (1/6)"

PASTOR DAVE WILL BE ON VACATION from Dec. 26th through Jan.6th. Ann Klonowski has graciously offered to be available in the event of a pastoral emergency. She can be reached through the Church Office [440-526-4364] or by cell phone [216-544-4717].

TODAY we are serving a **HUNGER MEAL** at Iglesia Emmanuel. The menu will be the usual mostaccioli, salad and cookies. The sign-up board is in the narthex. The first group will arrive at 2:30 PM to set up and prepare food, and the second group will arrive at 4 PM to serve the meal and clean up. Cookies for dessert are appreciated.

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.

FINANCE 2019 Offering envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Commons.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Is 60:1-6

Arise, shine, Jerusalem! Your light has come,
the glory of our God is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth,
and darkness the peoples.
Above you Our God now rises
and God's glory now appears on you.
The nations come to your light,
and the leaders to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
all are assembling and coming toward you:
your daughters and your sons journey from afar.

At this sight, you will grow radiant,
your heart will thrill and rejoice;
the riches of the sea will flow to you,
and the wealth of nations will come to you.
Camels in throngs will cover you,
the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah.
Everyone in Sheba will come
bringing gold and incense,
and singing the praise of our God.

The New Testament - Mt 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
in the days of King Herod,
astrologers from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?

We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.”

When King Herod heard this,
he was greatly troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him.

Assembling all the chief priests and religious scholars of the people,
He inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea.

Here is what the prophet has written:

And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the astrologers secretly
and found out from them the time of the star’s appearance.

He sent them to Bethlehem and said,
“Go and get detailed information about the child.

When you have found him, bring me word,
so that I may go and offer homage too.”

After their audience with the ruler, they set out.

The star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

They were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house

they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

Then they opened their treasures

and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,
they departed for their country by another way.

The Continuing Testament - “Sharing Epiphany”

We were traveling in a taxi in Bombay... the traffic light was taking long and the heat was getting to us all. The windows were rolled down and sweat was being mopped from foreheads. My daughter sat on my lap patiently. A man selling oranges appeared on the left side of us. He begged that we purchase something before the cab took off... he had not made any sales that day. I began reaching for my handbag. Serendipitously, a beggar child appeared near the window to the right... please help... she lamented as the baby on her hip stared at us. As we paid for the oranges at one window, my daughter was handing them out to the beggar children through the other... for a moment everything seemed perfectly balanced... Then the cab moved on.

<https://www.passiton.com/your-inspirational-stories/1202-sharing-epiphany>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 6	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
		Hunger Meal – Iglesia Emmanuel
Monday, Jan. 7	1:00 pm	Book Discussion – Parlor
	7:00 pm	Library
Thursday, Jan. 10	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Choir
Friday, Jan. 11	11:00 am	Kirk Sanderson Memorial Service
Sunday, Jan. 13	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE

JANUARY 6, 2019

Lay Reader:	Diane Gressley
Head Usher:	Jan Renovetz
Ushers:	Ben Tomlinson, Kim Wallis Bob & Caroline Chandler
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lily Hunt
Sound:	David Pastor
Comms Grtr:	Dave Bernard
Flowers:	Bettina Ortiz
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
C.E Teacher:	
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Jon Thompson
Servers:	Betty Kaul, Joanne Cook
Clean-up:	Jim & Peg Duffy
Snacks:	Beth Rehling, Heidi Spangler
Snow Hrdr:	Joe Wilson

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT 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
Comms 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