



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, we know only too well our capacity for inflicting pain and suffering on ourselves and others. We preach your peace week after week, but we often don't translate our words into love. Make us patient with each other and give us the wisdom and courage to build our capacity for peacemaking. Amen.



Sunday, February 24, 2019 • 10:00 AM

Seventh 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

February 24, 2019 – Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Meditation Music

Divine Spirit of Mercy and Grace, help us to be willing to recognize and to share our own vulnerability, so that we may be more merciful and gracious to others - and thereby reflect your great compassion for us all. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Break Not the Circle

Tucker

"Break not the circle of enabling love,
where people grow, forgiven and forgiving;
break not that circle - make it wider still,
till it includes, embraces all the living."
Fred Kaan (b. 1929)

Bearing the Light of Peace
Bearing the Light of Christ

Call to Worship - from *Psalms* 89

Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Holy One;

People: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

L: I will declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

P: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

L: The heavens are yours, and the earth as well;

P: The world and all that is in it, for you have founded all things.

L: Happy are those who shout your praises;

All: Who walk in the light of your presence, O Holy One most high!

*** Hymn of Praise**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

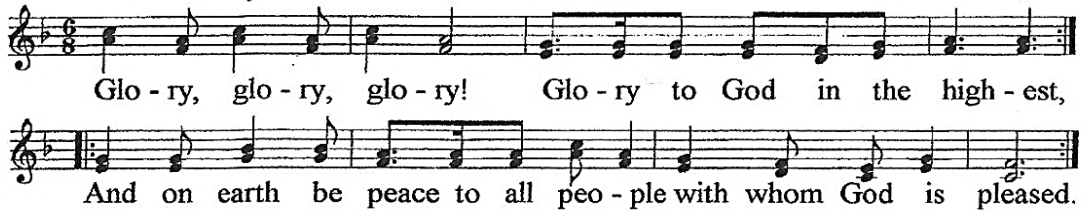
*** Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, be with us now and stay with us always - as we worship, as we work, as we share the challenges of living our faith each day. By the power of your Holy Spirit, turn our fear into courage and our confusion into confidence. Touch us with your Life-changing Love and speak to us through your Compassionate Word. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Leviticus 19:9-18

Pew Bible, page 106

The New Testament

Luke 6:27-38

Pew Bible, page 64

The Continuing Testament

Forgiving Others...

by Jessica Cassity

Youth Anthem

Though I May Speak

English folk melody,
adapt. Hopson

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Here Am I

Damon, arr. Debick

Sermon

Breaking the Cycle

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Your Ways Are Not Our Own

#170

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

Humbly in Your Sight

Traditional North
Malawian melody

"These, our hearts, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
purify our love to make it like your own."

Tumbuka hymn, J. P. Chirwa (d. 1940),
trans. and adapt. Tom Colvin (1925-2000), alt.

***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 [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, Source of our lives and Giver of every good gift: accept these offerings that we present to you today. May they serve as symbols of our commitment to you and to your saving work in this place and in this world. May they also be a sign of our willingness to give our whole lives in service to you and to your message of welcome and love. This we pray in the gracious Name and Spirit of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Now Is the Time Approaching

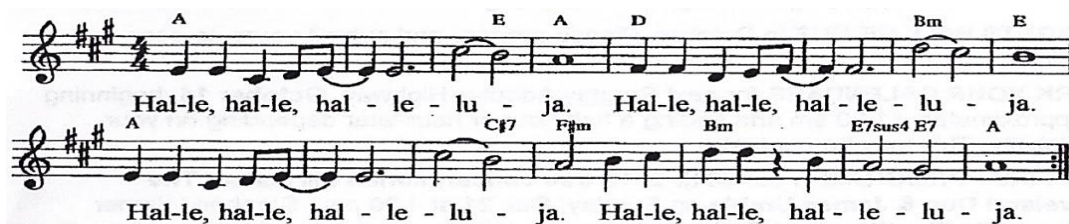
#609

***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

All You Works of God

Haugen

"All you works of God...
 bless the One who shapes your beauty,
 who has caused you all to be
 one great song of love and grace,
 ever ancient, ever new."
 Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR

The Family of Ed Lusk, 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 February 17, 2019— Adults: 73 Kids: 14Total: 87

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 refreshments and conversation.

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 Janet Renovetz, in Memory of my good friend Irene, who passed away on February 7, 2019.

MARDI GRAS SERVICE: NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 3 we will host our annual Mardi Gras service, complete with New Orleans-style jazz band! The ensemble will feature Pastor Dave on trumpet; Steve Ostrow, trombone; Mark Mazak, tuba; Bob Gref, clarinet; Steve Kraus, banjo; and Dave Debick, piano. The service will be followed by a potluck luncheon to celebrate the last Sunday before the start of Lent. We hope you can join us on March 3 to share in the festivities. Bring a friend!

At Our Mardi Gras Service on Sunday, March 3rd...

...We will take a special offering for the UCC Coalition for LGBTQ Concerns - and the ONA Program. The Open and Affirming [ONA] Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community within the UCC, and helps UCC congregations bear witnesses to Christ's extravagant welcome to *all* people.

This year's Lenten Season begins March 6th, with our Ash Wednesday Soup Supper at 6:30 in Pilgrim Hall, followed by our Service of Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00.

SEASONAL CHOIR - Seasonal choir will begin preparing for Holy Week on Thursday March 7 at 7:00 PM. If you enjoy singing in a group, but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for Palm Sunday (April 14), Maundy Thursday (April 18), Good Friday (April 19), and Easter Sunday (April 21.) Listening CDs are provided to help make the learning process easier. High school students are welcome to participate

THE FACILITIES MINISTRY has determined that the sanctuary roof will need to be replaced this coming summer. The current roof is over 25 years old and has had minor repairs to prevent leaking and water damage. The Church Council has approved the roof project and a 'Fund the Roof Campaign' to help raise the necessary funds to pay for it. More information will be forthcoming over the next several months.

FLOWER MINISTRY – *THERE ARE STILL MANY OPEN DATES FOR 2019!*

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.

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.

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.

OFFICE *Thank you!!!!* to the strong volunteer who put the paper in the cupboards for me. Thank you for your kindness, Jeannette

The Readings

The Old Testament - Leviticus 19:9-18

The Holy One spoke to Moses, saying: "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Sovereign One, your God.

You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Holy One. You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall revere your God: I am the Holy One. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Holy One. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall admonish your neighbor when appropriate, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Holy One.

The New Testament - Luke 6:27-38

Jesus taught the crowd saying, “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; who is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Heavenly Parent is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Continuing Testament - *Why Forgiving Others Is the Best Thing You Can Do - for Yourself* - by Jessica Cassity [edited]

Forgiveness is a process over time that includes letting go of negative emotions, thoughts, and behaviors, and replacing those with positive thoughts, emotions, and behaviors toward the offender. However, moving forward doesn't mean letting someone off the hook or minimizing a wrong. Forgiveness is not releasing the offender for legal obligations. It's not condoning or excusing, which implies there's a justification. It's not forgetting or refusing to remember the event. It's not even necessary reconciling, which implies there's restored trust and contact. And it's not pretending that everything is fine.

In fact, you may never say the words "I forgive you" out loud. Instead, forgiveness is an internal process, something you do to help come to terms with a past experience and end your suffering, pain, anger, and resentment around the event. You simply decide to stop focusing on blame and instead move forward in a more positive direction. It's a gift you give to yourself.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 24	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	CE Meeting – Library
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Wednesday, Feb. 27	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar
Thursday, Feb. 28	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sunday, Mar. 3	10:00 am	Mardi Gras Service/ ONA Offering
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

Lay Reader:	Jill Zedan
Head Usher:	Anne Melfo
Ushers:	Dave & Julie Bernard Beth Rehling, Jill Zedan
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound:	Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Betty Gifford
Nursery:	Jonathan Cook
C.E. Teacher:	Anne Melfo
Counters:	David Pastor, Jon Thompson
Servers:	Marge Culver, Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up:	Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks:	Susan Snyder, Bridget Sproul
Snow Hrdr:	Dave Bernard

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

MARCH 3, 2019

Lay Reader:	Jill Zedan
Head Usher:	Sue Stenzel
Ushers:	Bob & Caroline Chandler David Pastor, Cliff Cribbs
Acolyte:	Grace Hunt
Peace Candle:	Lily Hunt
Sound:	Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr:	Valerie Tyler
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher:	Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Clean-up:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Snacks:	Mardi Gras Potluck
Snow Hrdr:	Doug Fawcett