



# 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*

Journey with us, O Holy One, through this day, and through this Season of Lent. Lead us to that place where we know and share the fullness of your justice and grace. And may we always follow your lead and draw strength from your Presence. Amen.



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**Sunday, March 10, 2019 • 10:00 AM**  
**First Sunday of Lent**

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

## March 10, 2019 – First Sunday of Lent

### **Meditation Music**

Divine Source of Compassion and Mercy, may we always be willing to respond to the needs of the voiceless and powerless; to understand the struggles of the oppressed; to feel the injustice of those who are wronged; and to be instruments of your justice, grace and peace - wherever it is needed. Amen.

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

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Like a Child Rests

Walker

**Bearing the Light of Peace**  
**Bearing the Light of Christ**

**\* Call to Worship** - based on *Ecclesiastes* 3

Leader: For everything there is a season,

**People: And a time for every purpose under heaven.**

L: A time to be born,

**P: And a time to die;**

L: A time to tear down,

**P: And a time to build up;**

L: A time to embrace,

**P: And a time to release.**

L: Lent is a time to reflect and repent,

**P: To hold on to what is Life-affirming, and to let go of what is not.**

L: This morning, may we let go of all those things which would keep us from living in Divine Grace,

**All: That the Holy One might take hold of us, inspire us, and lead in the way of Light and Love!**

## \* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Divine Source of all that is, we thank you that you reveal yourself in the events of human history. We thank you that you have shown yourself fully in the person of Jesus Christ, who shared our humanity, walking the path of loving service all the way to the Cross. Following Christ's example, may we also be willing to give ourselves fully and freely for the sake of others. Amen.

## \* The Song of Praise

Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]

1  
Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong  
2  
3  
bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.  
4

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Gathered Here'. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains measures 1 through 4, with measure 1 marked with a '1' and measure 4 with a '2'. The second staff contains measures 5 through 8, with measure 5 marked with a '3' and measure 8 with a '4'. The lyrics are written below the notes: 'Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.'

The Old Testament

Psalm 91:1-2; 9-16

Pew Bible, page 548

The New Testament

Luke 4:1-13

Pew Bible, page 61

The Continuing Testament

from *Sarah Laughed*

by Sarah Dylan Breuer

## Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Anthem

Cohen

"Ring the bells that still can ring.  
Forget your perfect offering.  
There is a crack in ev'rything.  
That's how the light gets in."  
Leonard Cohen (1934-2016)

Sermon

*Certitude is Dangerous, I'm Certain!*

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Jesus, Still Lead On

#446

# ***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**

When Trouble Looms

Plainsong, mode I

"From every plan which harms the poor,  
from schemes to victimize the weak,  
from those who snare the innocent,  
God, your defense, your help we seek."  
Martin Leckebusch, 2006

**\* Offertory Hymn**

**We now are in the time of Lent,  
To learn again what Jesus meant.  
His life and message are so great,  
We send these gifts to celebrate. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious and Merciful Holy One, as we present our gifts at your Table, we pray that  
you would warm our hearts and expand our generosity. Help us to faithfully trust in  
your loving care for us, so that we might boldly give of our lives and resources to  
care for others. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who freely gave himself  
for us all. Amen.**

## Going with God's Love

- \* Hymn of Departure      Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days      #211
- \* Carrying the Light of Christ into the World      Acolyte
- \* Circle of Community      Hear Our Prayer, O God - sung twice

*As we move to form a circle around the pews, we will sing **Hear our Prayer, O God.** 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      Fugue in E minor      Handel

### 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 March 3, 2019– Adults: 82 Kids: 17 Total: 99**

## 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.

**A LONG-STANDING LENTEN TRADITION** within the Christian Church is to “put away” hymns or verses which contain “Alleluias”, and to set a more reflective tone with our musical selections. The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday, our “Alleluias” and praise can ring-out with renewed freshness and vigor, as we hail the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different Song of Praise and concluding hymn for the benediction today.

**TAKING THE BIBLE SERIOUSLY, NOT LITERALLY** is the theme of our 5-week Lenten Study, which begins this Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup> in Pilgrim Hall. Each Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30, we will explore and discuss various aspects of how the Scriptures were written, different approaches to interpreting them, and how we ourselves - in light of Jesus’s life and teachings - understand them. It is important that you and I approach the Biblical texts openly and honestly, so that the Still-Speaking Holy One can continue to inspire and refresh our faith and our lives! I hope to see you Tuesday - Pastor Dave

**LAST SUNDAY’S SPECIAL OFFERING** - to the United Church of Christ’s **Coalition for LGBTQ Concerns** was \$560.00. Thanks to all of you who gave so generously!

**SEASONAL CHOIR** - It’s not too late to join seasonal choir as we prepare for Holy Week. Rehearsals are on Thursdays during Lent from 7:00-8:00 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.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

**MONTHLY CALENDAR ONLINE** the Church Calendar is also printed on our website: [www.brecksvilleuucc.org](http://www.brecksvilleuucc.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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Psalm 91:1-2; 9-16**

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Holy One “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust....”

Because you have made the Holy One your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For God will command the angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

### **The New Testament - Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan river and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘You shall only worship and serve the Holy One, your God.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, God will command the angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Holy One, your God, to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**The Continuing Testament** - from *Sarah Laughed* - by Sarah Dylan Breuer  
[edited]

In the story of Satan tempting Jesus, we hear the devil using Scripture with relative ease. “For it is written ...” Satan says. Seeing Scripture used as a means of *temptation*, can offer a strong argument against the ways we are sometimes tempted to use Scripture. One of those ways, is what I call the “Magic 8-Ball” method. In the 8-Ball method of interpreting Scripture, we come to the Bible with a question. We then pick up the Bible and open it to some random portion, as we might shake the Magic 8-Ball, reading whatever biblical passage comes up as being somehow related to the question. Or, we can be tempted to selectively pick words, phrases, and sentences from the Bible, and read the resulting combination as a kind of secret message to us.

Neither of these methods of using Scripture is particularly helpful; they tell us more about our own psychology and interpretive prejudices than they do about the Holy One’s will. Scripture’s inspiration and usefulness doesn’t make it a magical book, - an oracle that has the answer to any question we might want to ask. Even true statements that would be helpful in one context could be destructive if applied elsewhere. I am thankful that Jesus doesn’t simply believe that every word of Scripture is equally applicable in every circumstance. He does not accept just any word from Scripture as being God’s word to him at that moment. For Jesus, it’s not just about Divine Truth; it’s also about Divine Timing, and most of all about Divine Love

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

|                            |                 |                                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, Mar. 10</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. Meeting</b>             |
|                            | <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Spiritual Life/Library</b>   |
|                            | <b>5:30 pm</b>  | <b>Youth Percussion</b>         |
|                            | <b>6:00 pm</b>  | <b>Youth Ministry</b>           |
| <b>Tuesday, March 12</b>   | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Lenten Study PH</b>          |
| <b>Wednesday, March 13</b> | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Council</b>                  |
| <b>Thursday, March 14</b>  | <b>1:00 pm</b>  | <b>Bible Study</b>              |
|                            | <b>4:30 pm</b>  | <b>Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar</b> |
|                            | <b>5:30 pm</b>  | <b>Joyful Noise</b>             |
|                            | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Seasonal Choir</b>           |
| <b>Sunday, Mar. 17</b>     | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Worship Service</b>          |
|                            | <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Coffee Hour</b>              |

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE**

**MARCH 10, 2019**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Lay Reader:   | Bridget Sproul  |
| Head Usher:   | Jan Renovetz  |
| Ushers:       | Sam Koch, Ben Tomlinson<br>David Ritchey, Sue Stenzel |
| Acolyte:      | Michelina Fawcett                                     |
| Peace Candle: | Amelia Tyler  |
| Sound:        | David Pastor  |
| Comns Grtr:   | Max Roha  |
| Flowers:      | Julie Bernard   |
| Nursery:      | Courtnei Began  |
| C.E Teacher:  | Kate Klonowski  |
| Counters:     | Marge Culver, Jon Thompson                            |
| Servers:      | Joanne Cook, Betty Kaul                               |
| Clean-Up:     | Bob & Caroline Chandler                               |
| Snacks:       | Heidi Spangler, Pat Rehm                              |
| Snow Hrdr:    | Joe Began   |

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE**

**MARCH 17, 2019**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Lay Reader:   | Darlene Kelly   |
| Head Usher:   | Sue Maier   |
| Ushers:       | Diane Gressley, Beth Rehling<br>Dan Stewart, Matt Wolbert |
| Acolyte:      | Ryan Stewart  |
| Peace Candle: | Olivia Klonowski  |
| Sound:        | Doug Fawcett  |
| Comns Grtr:   | Betty Kaul  |
| Flowers:      | Jan Renovetz  |
| Nursery:      | Erin Tomlinson  |
| C.E Teacher:  | Beth Rehling  |
| Counters:     | Marge Culver, Jan Renovetz                                |
| Servers:      | Cliff & Sue Stenzel                                       |
| Clean-Up:     | Cliff & Jane Cribbs                                       |
| Snacks:       | Kathleen Stewart, Erin Tomlinson                          |
| Snow Hrdr:    | Joe Wilson  |