



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 One of the
Open Table and
the Open Door,
we thank you
for your
invitation to us
and to all
people. You
feed the deep
places of our
souls and speak
words that
inspire us to
turn away from
selfishness and
turn toward
self-giving love.
Send your Spirit
to guide us as
we turn toward
you and your
compassionate
ways. Amen.***



Sunday, March 24, 2019 • 10:00 AM
Third 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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

March 24, 2019 – Third Sunday of Lent

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, sometimes it is hard to remain faithful to the Gospel of Openness and Compassion, when it is counter-cultural to the community in which we live. Empower and inspire us to be prophetic, to speak out for what is right and just, even when it is costly to us. May your Divine Spirit sustain us when do so. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Mercy (La Grace)

Telemann, arr. Hopson

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship** [from *Psalms* 63]

Leader: O Holy One, you are my Sacred Source, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;

People: My spirit thirsts for you, as in a dry and weary land.

L: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

P: My lips will gladly praise you.

L: I will bless you as long as I live;

P: I will lift up my hands and call upon your name.

L: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,

All: For you have been my help, and in your Presence, I sing for joy!

*** Hymn of Praise**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

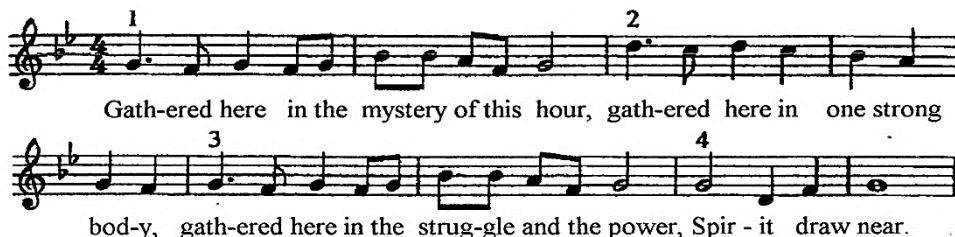
#25

*** Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Loving and gracious Holy One, you offer wholeness and restoration to all your children. Help us, as your faithful people, to extend to others the same love, grace, and welcome that you extend to us. May we, like Jesus, learn to overcome the social stigmas and prejudices of our day. Let the power of your Holy Spirit work in us and through us, that we may praise you with joy and serve you with ever thankful hearts. Amen.

* The Song of Praise

Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]



The Old Testament

Isaiah 55:6-11

Pew Bible, page 685

The New Testament

Luke 13:1-5

Pew Bible, page 76

The Continuing Testament - from *How to Survive Threatening Headlines* –

by Matthew Skinner

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

The Lord into his garden comes
[Erin Tomlinson, flute]

Setting Parker

Sermon

Sacred Sanctuary

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

#193

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

The Rowan Tree

Scottish melody, arr. Bell

"Come, touch our human toil with grace,
our work of hand or mind,
and shape it to the perfect plan
your wisdom has designed."

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. (1923-2007)

*** 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 [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, we offer ourselves with these gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Expand our vision to see the signs of your love which surround us every day, particularly in our times of trouble. Open our hearts to embrace new ways to serve you and to support others, particularly in their times of distress. Renew our compassion and inspire our living, through Jesus Christ, our Hope and our Joy. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

#18

***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

Sing a New World into Being

Hawk

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR

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 17, 2019– Adults: 70 Kids: 10 Total: 80

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 Max Roha in Loving Memory of Mary on what would have been their 73rd Wedding Anniversary.

HUNGER MEAL On Sunday, March 31st a hunger meal will be prepared and served at Pearl Road United Methodist Church in partnership with the Independence United Methodist Church. The menu will consist of mostaccioli, meatballs, salad (provided by IUMC) and cookies. The sign-up board is in the narthex for BUCC members and friends to indicate their interest in participating. The first shift will arrive at 2:30 PM to set up and prepare, and the second shift will arrive at 4 PM to serve and clean up. About 70 meals are anticipated.

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 continues this Tuesday March 19th 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. I hope to see you Tuesday - Pastor Dave

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. You should have received a letter about the roof, if not, please see a Facilities Member. Also, if you are not officially on our mailing list, we can give you a letter as well.

ALTAR FLOWERS There is an opening on the Flower Dedication Chart for next **Sunday March 31**. If you are interested, please fill out a Flower Dedication Form and give it to Joy for inclusion in next weeks Bulletin.

LAST-MINUTE MART: On Saturday, May 11th, 2019 from 10:00am - 3:00pm, BUCC is hosting our spring LAST-MINUTE MART in Pilgrim Hall, just in time for Mother’s Day! This event is very special because Christian Education is joining forces with OCWM and the Communications & Outreach Ministry to raise funds for this year’s Lenten Project to support refugee families in Cleveland. Our students will be selling handmade craft items to raise funds for these families. We are excited to welcome crafters, bakers, and vendors of all kinds (both parishioners and other community members) to join us! You may request a full 8’ table for \$25, or half table/card table (~4’) for \$15. ►

Please submit your request for a table to Heidi Spangler at heidi@heidihoonthego.com. We are also requesting that each vender supply one item to donate to our raffle. Concessions will be available! All table, concession profits and raffle proceeds will go to support our Lenten Project. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Klonowski at keightykay@gmail.com or 216-534-3498.

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.

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 - Isaiah 55:6-11

Seek the Holy One in the opportune moment, call out while the Holy One is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Holy One, who will have mercy on them, and to our God, who will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Holy One. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The New Testament Luke 13:1-5

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

The Continuing Testament - from *How to Survive Threatening Headlines* - by Matthew Skinner [edited]

Most people hear Jesus speak of “repentance” and think first of guilt and behavior; but this is to misunderstand repentance. At its root, the word “repent” is about thinking and perception. It refers to a wholesale change in how a person understands something. It implies an utter reconfiguration of your perspective on reality and meaning, including a reorientation of yourself toward the Holy Other. Your behavior might change as a result of this new perception, certainly; but repentance first involves seeing things differently, and coming to a new understanding of what the Holy One makes possible.

Jesus offers an alternate perspective on the cycles of violence, pain and meaninglessness. His summons to repent is not escapism nor a minimizing of Life's hardships. It means coming to discover the Holy One as the source of sustenance, belonging, meaning and hope in this difficult life - and into a future existence. Jesus doesn't promise to change the world by providing instant relief. His coming didn't put an end to tyrants or stop meteorites from falling on random people. But he does offer a new perspective on what's possible for us and for our world. He insists that the Holy One can be encountered, even within this fragile human existence. This new perspective isn't about passively resigning oneself to Life's afflictions. It is a way of aligning ourselves with the Holy One who cares for all the world and wishes to enlist our help in ushering-in compassion, relief and justice.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Mar. 24	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	CE Meeting
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
Tuesday, March 26	7:00 pm	Lenten Study PH
Thursday, March 28	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Rec/Dul/Guitar
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
Sunday, Mar. 31	10:00 am	Worship Service/ OGHS Offering
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:00 pm	*HUNGER MEAL* Pearl Road UMC

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE

MARCH 24, 2019

Lay Reader:	Diane Gressley
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	Dave & Julie Bernard Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte:	Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle:	Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound:	Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr:	Marge Culver
Flowers:	Betty Gifford
Nursery:	Jonathan Cook
C.E. Teacher:	Kate Klonowski
Counters:	Jim Duffy & Sue Stenzel
Servers:	Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean-Up:	Sue Stenzel, Jan Renovetz
Snacks:	Bridget Sproul, Erin Tomlinson
Snow Hrdr:	Matt Wolbert

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

MARCH 31, 2019

Lay Reader:	Jim Duffy
Head Usher:	Bob Chandler
Ushers:	Betty Kaul, Darlene Kelly, Kathy Smith, Kim Wallis
Acolyte:	Jillian Davis
Peace Candle:	Natalie Corrado
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr:	Caroline Chandler
Flowers:	Jan Renovetz
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher:	Anne Melfo
Counters:	Kathy Pastor, Dave Bernard
Servers:	Joy Garapic, Julie Bernard
Clean-up:	Jim & Peg Duffy
Snacks:	Marilyn Wrights, Diane Gressley
Snow Hrdr:	Tim Wallis