

# 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***

***Things of great  
wonder come to  
those who give  
their all to love.***

***—Hadewijch of  
Brabant, a 13<sup>th</sup>  
century mystic,  
whose poems  
and visions  
show her great  
love of God.***



**Sunday September 29, 2019 • 10:00 AM**

**Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

*Pastor*

• Allan Lane

*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)***

## September 29, 2019 –Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

### Meditation Music

We think, “who are we if we cannot proudly point to something special that sets us apart from others? This all-pervasive competition, which reaches into the smallest corners of our relationships, prevents us from entering into full solidarity with each other, and stands in the way of our being compassionate.” Nouwen, McNeill and Morrison, *Compassion*

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

Neighbor

Carter

"When I needed a neighbor, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbor, were you there?  
And the creed and the color and the name won't matter, were you there?"  
Sydney Bertram Carter (1915-2004)

**Bearing the Light of Peace**

**Bearing the Light of Christ**

### **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: God calls to rich and poor alike:

**People: Come into worship, for you are welcome here!**

L: From the high and the mighty to the lowly and the weak:

**P: God is your God, who loves you with an everlasting love.**

L: Do not put your trust in riches, nor despair in your poverty;

**P: Instead, put your trust in God who is from everlasting to everlasting!**

L: Come, let us worship God!

### **\* Hymn of Praise**

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

#55

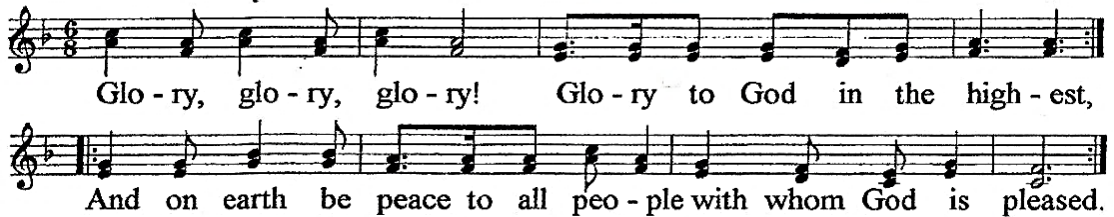
### **\* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**O Invisible One, who nevertheless are more real than anything we can see, come into our worship and open our eyes to those who are invisible around us: let us see those who are hurting; let us embrace those who are lonely; let us help the invisible poor who bundle in our streets as summer turns to fall. Give us eyes to see those whom we normally do not see, so that we may see you in our midst this day. Amen**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988



**Epistle Lesson**

Psalm 146 Trust in God, not earthly things

Pew Bible, page 581

**Contemporary Reading**

*Poverty and Compassion*, from *Compassion*:

A Reflection on the Christian Life, Donald McNeill, Douglas Morrison,  
Henri Nouwen, p. 68

**The Gospel**

Luke 16: 19-31 Lazarus and the Rich Man

Pew Bible, page 79

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Anthem**

Christ Has No Body Now but Yours  
*[Becky Anderson, flute]*

Warner

**Sermon**

*The Poor At The Gate*

Pastor Allan Lane

**Hymn of Reflection**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

#543

***The Church at Prayer***

**Silent Meditation**

**Prayers of the Church**

**Our Lord's Prayer**

*[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**

Jesus, I Come Trusting Your Kindness

Knight

"All that I am, Jesus, I offer,  
all I achieve, all I may suffer,  
all whom I love for your compassion,  
all I hold dear for your possession."  
Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

#### **\*Offertory Hymn**

**We bring our gifts because we care,  
They are a part of what we share.  
Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts.  
With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen.**

#### **\* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

**There is an immense and overwhelming gap, O God, between rich and poor, but all are joined together in your world through a web of interconnection. All are made in your image, and all share in a single journey before you. May these gifts from our hearts ease the burden and lighten the load of another's journey. Amen**

### ***Going with God's Love***

#### **\* Hymn of Departure**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

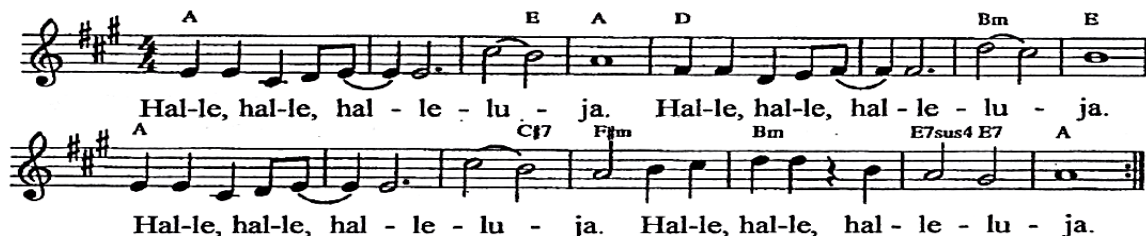
#476

#### **\*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

Worship Our God      Sri Lankan traditional melody  
*[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]*

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty Kaul, Don Seager, Kate Klonowski, The Corpa Family, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Richard Sacher, brother of Jan Renovetz, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Pat Bailey, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, 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 Sunday, September 22, 2019 – Adults: 75 Kids: 11 Total: 86**

## ***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 childcare 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.

**NEIGHBORS IN NEED** The next dedicated offering will be received next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> to benefit Neighbors in Need. Ministries of justice and compassion will be supported by funds raised in this offering. Look for more interpretive information in that Sundays Bulletin.



**FREE CONCERT** - On Sunday November 3 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring cellist Adam Willson, and pianist Charlotte Hill. These musicians hail from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Their repertoire will be announced in November's Pillar. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the program.

**FOOD PANTRY/OCTOBER** - Canned Soup, Baked Beans, Chili, etc.

**DID YOU MISS** last Sunday's service or do you just want to have a chance to rehear Pastor Allan'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.

**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.

**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.

**PAPER RECYCLING BIN** – You may have noticed that we now have a Paper Recycling Bin in the Parking lot. Please bring your paper recyclables and help us fill it up!

**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.

**PLEASE BE SURE** to enter your meeting and event schedule on the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the ***Weekly Bulletin*** and in the ***Monthly Pillar***.

**BUCC HAS THE LATEST**, up-to-date version of the Williams personal sound system. It may just be your answer if you are concerned (1) that the quality of sound deteriorates between the speakers and your pew in the sanctuary, or (2) that your hearing is getting poorer but not yet bad enough to buy hearing aids, or (3) that you have hearing aids and you want to hear even better or (4) that you are bothered by the route 82 traffic noises or any noise generated by your pew mates during worship.

Receivers are available in the narthex for you to borrow which pick up ALL PARTS of the worship service - sermon, readings, choir and organ music, etc. Just plug in one of our headphones, your favorite Walkman headphones or any other unit with a 3.5mm plug and you are ready for a new hearing experience. Don't know if you want to do this? Then try it out; borrow one of the church's head phones and "test drive" a Williams receiver during a worship service.

And if you already have digital hearing aids, an even better experience awaits you. Simply have your audiologist activate the teleloop option of you hearing aids, borrow a receiver with a teleloop plugged in and experience sound quality you never would have expected. The sound remains electronic all the way from the speaker's mic to your ear drum.

One of our ushers and members of the Spiritual Life Ministry are ready to help you get started. Check with them before the service next Sunday. Your questions are gladly answered.



## ***Readings***

### **Epistle Lesson Psalm 146 Trust in God, not earthly things**

- <sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present<sup>[a]</sup> help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
- <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah*
- <sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- <sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city;<sup>[b]</sup> it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.
- <sup>6</sup> The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.<sup>[c]</sup> *Selah*
- <sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup> “Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.”
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### **Contemporary Reading:**

In 1209, St. Francis of Assisi, the son of a wealthy merchant, tore his clothes from his body and walked away from his family and friends to live a life of abject poverty. By moving naked out of the fortified city with its power and security and by living in caves and in the open fields, Francis called attention to the basic poverty of humanity. He revealed not only his own nakedness but also the nakedness of all people before God. From this displaced position,

Francis could live a compassionate life; he was no longer blinded by apparent differences between people and could recognize them all as brothers and sisters who needed God's grace as much as he did. G.K. Chesterton writes: "What gave [Francis] extraordinary personal power was this: that from the Pope to the beggar, from the Sultan of Syria in his pavilion to the ragged robbers crawling out of the wood, there was never a man who looked into those brown burning eyes without being certain that Francis Bernardone was really interested in him, in his own inner life from the cradle to the grave; that he himself was being valued and taken seriously, and not merely added to the spoils of some social policy or the names in some clerical document. ... he treated the whole mob of men as a mob of Kings."

### **The Gospel Luke 16: 19-31 Lazarus and the Rich Man**

<sup>19</sup> "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.<sup>[a]</sup> The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>24</sup> He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup> He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup> He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup> He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, Sept. 29**

**10:00 am    Worship Service**

**11:00 am    Coffee Hour**

**11:00 am    Spiritual Life**

**Tuesday, Oct. 1**

**7:00-8:30 pm    Art Class with Liz**

**Thurs., Oct. 3**

**1:00 pm    Bible Study**

**4:30-5 pm    NO REC/DUL/GUITAR**

**5:30-6:15pm    Joyful Noise**

**7-8:30 pm    Adult Choir**

**Sunday, Oct. 6**

**10:00 am    Worship Service/**

**\*NIN Offering\***

**11:00 am    Coffee Hour**

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2019**

Lay Reader:	Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher:	Sue Maier
Ushers:	David & Kathy Pastor Evelyn Seager, Kathy Smith
Acolyte:	Olivia Klonowski
Peace Candle:	Natalie Corrado
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Sue Stenzel
Nursery:	Marla Corrado
C.E. Teacher:	Anne Melfo
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Dave Bernard
Servers:	Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks:	Anne Melfo Erin Tomlinson
Clean-Up:	Peg & Jim Duffy

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**OCTOBER 6, 2019**

Lay Reader:	Dot Bailey
Head Usher:	Kathy Smith
Ushers:	Bob & Caroline Chandler, Carrie Coyer-Westerberg, Dan Stewart
Acolyte:	Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle:	Peter Kucmins
Sound:	Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr:	Betty Kaul
Flowers:	Carole Snider
Nursery:	Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher:	Kate Klonowski
Counters:	Kathy Pastor, Matt Wolbert
Servers:	Carole Snider, Julie Bernard
Snacks:	Dorie Gabor, Kathleen Stewart
Clean-up:	Jill Zedan, Jan Renovetz