



# BRECKSVILLE

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# 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*

*“Sometimes  
the dreams  
that come true  
are the dreams  
you never  
even knew you  
had.”*

*–Alice Sebold,  
The Lovely  
Bones*



# EPIPHANY

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**Sunday January 5, 2020 • 10:00 AM**

**Epiphany Sunday**

*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)**

## January 5, 2020 – Epiphany Sunday

### **Meditation Music**

“Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, a human in God, God in a human, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. They look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die.”  
Peter Chrysologus, Bishop of Ravenna, d. ± A.D. 450

### ***Gathering in God’s Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

### **Prelude**

How Beautifully Shines the Morning Star

Melody Nicolai, setting Buxtehude

### **Bearing the Light of Peace**

### **Bearing the Light of Christ**

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

Leader: The wise men came from the East to seek the baby born to be king.

**People: The wise still come to seek him, for he is the one who brings eternal life.**

L: The Savior was revealed by a star in the sky to learned astrologers looking diligently for a sign, after a long journey of discovery.

**P: The Savior may still be revealed by signs of the Spirit to those who are looking for him diligently, after a long journey of discovery.**

L: The Magi gaped in wonder at the newborn Savior, bowing before the King of kings.

**P: We also stand in wonder at God’s salvation, God in human flesh, lying in the animals’ hay. Jesus is our past, our present, and our future! Let us worship God!**

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

The First Nowell

#139

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

**With your birth, O Christ, you came into the world, but you were still unknown, not much more than a rumor, a report, a star that disappeared; you were just a story told by shepherds, and a tale shared by travelers who went home by another way. When you grew up, you gathered disciples and you taught and you healed, you lived with them and you died for them. And they told your story. And people believed, because you had changed them. Change us, your disciples today, so that our testimony is believable. Teach us and heal us; share your life with us and forgive us when we fall short. We ask it in your name, O Jesus, which we seek to make better known. Amen**

**\* The Assurance of Pardon**

L: When no sinless accuser was found to throw the first stone at the woman caught in adultery, Jesus said to her: "Is there no one left to condemn you? Then neither do I condemn you! Go in peace and sin no more."

**All: By the word of Jesus our sins are forgiven, and we can go forth in peace. Thanks be to God!**

**\* Passing the Peace**

L: As forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

**P: And also with you!**

**\* The Song of Praise**

**Glory to God**

Pablo Sosa, 1988

Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
And on earth be peace to all peo - ple with whom God is pleased.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**The Old Testament**

Isaiah 63:7-9

Pew Bible page 693

**The Gospel**

Matthew 2:1-23

Pew Bible Page 2

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Anthem**

The Magi Who to Bethlehem Did Go  
*[Dave Debick, baritone]*

Trad. Puerto Rican carol

**Sermon**

*After the Magi*

Pastor Allan Lane

**Hymn of Reflection**

As with Gladness Those of Old

#159

***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**                     How Beautifully Shines the Morning Star (Part 2)  
Nicolai/Buxtehude

**\* 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]**

**The Magi brought their gifts to you, O Infant Jesus, and we bring our gifts in the  
same way, O Risen One. May we honor you with our gifts and our lives. Amen**

## ***Holy Communion***

**Communion Hymn**                     Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence                     #345  
*[verses 1 & 2]*

**The Thanksgiving**

Leader: May Jesus enter your heart as he entered the world so long ago.

**People: May he enter your heart also.**

L: Lift up your spirits!

**P: We lift them up to the manger-born child!**

L: Let us give thanks to God who comes to dwell among us.

**P: It is good to offer our thanks and praise!**

L: We join with the church of all ages and all places, with the angels and archangels, and

we say together:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of Hope, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O Holy One Most High!**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**The Invitation**

**Receiving the Bread and Cup**

**Communion Music**      How Beautifully Shines the Morning Star (Part 3)

Nicolai/Buxtehude

**Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]**

**On this day when Christ first appeared to the outside world, we give you praise and thanks, O God. We thank you that you have reminded us once again of Christ's continued presence in the world, through the bread and the wine of this table. Send us forth strengthened by the sacrament to make the love of Christ known to all people. Amen.**

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

\* Hymn of Departure                      Arise, Your Light Is Come                      #164

\*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*

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the vocal line, and the second is for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below each staff. The piano accompaniment includes chord markings: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, and A.

**Benediction**

## Postlude

How Beautifully Shines the Morning Star (Part 4)

Nicolai/Buxtehude

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

Max Roha, The Family of Pat Bailey, Leroy Ford, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Don Seager, The Corpora Family, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Richard Sacher, brother of Jan Renovetz, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, 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, December 22, 2019 – Adults: 101 Kids: 14 Total: 115**

**December 29, 2019 – Adults: 43 Kids: 3 Total: 46**

### ***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 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.

**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 Carol Miller and Pat Rehm for Bonnie Dunn.

**NOTE FOR ALL SERVICES, MEETINGS, OR ANY GET TOGETHER** All of our Thermostats are set to conserve our energy usage. Please feel free to raise or lower them to a more comfortable temperature, ***please always remember*** to turn them back to the temperature they were in & help us to keep our energy usages low. Thank you.

**2020 BUCC MUSIC MINISTRY** - Here are the starting dates and times of Brecksville UCC's music ensembles:

**Joyful Noise Choir (K-5th grade):** Thursday January 9 from 5:30-6:15 PM

**Adult Choir (high school students welcome):** Thurs. Jan. 9 from 7:00-8:30 PM

**Recorder/dulcimer/guitar ensemble** will be on break during month of Jan.

**Youth Percussion Group** will meet on an as-needed basis.

**Piano lessons** will begin on Thurs. Jan. 9.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave D.

**THE MITTEN TREE** has sprouted in the narthex again, just waiting to be “decorated” with hats, mittens, scarves, etc. to be delivered to those who will need them in the cold weather. They are delivered to hunger centers when the donated food items are delivered to hunger centers.

**FOOD PANTRY/JANUARY** Canned Fruit & Vegetables.

**PFLAG** - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This is a local and national organization that has been in the Cleveland Area for 35 years. One of the services provided is a Monthly Support Group Meeting. The group is led by a licensed Psychologist and Social Workers. The purpose is to provide support and education to family and friends of people coming out Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bisexual or Questioning. The group is free and meets at Trinity Cathedral on the second Tuesday of the month 6:45p-8:30p. For more information, call Mark Lehman, LISW at 330.631.4415



## Readings

### The Old Testament - Isaiah 63:7-9 (made inclusive)

<sup>7</sup> I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord,  
the deeds for which God is to be praised,  
according to all the Lord has done for us—  
yes, the many good things  
God has done for Israel,  
according to God's own compassion and many kindnesses.  
<sup>8</sup> God said, "Surely they are my people,  
children who will be true to me";  
and so God became their Savior.  
<sup>9</sup> In all their distress God too was distressed,  
and the angel of God's presence saved them.<sup>[a]</sup>  
In God's love and mercy God redeemed them;  
God lifted them up and carried them  
all the days of old.

### The Gospel - Matthew 2:1-23

<sup>2</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.<sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the chief priests of the people and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

<sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

<sup>13</sup> When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,<sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>16</sup> When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.<sup>17</sup> Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup> "A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more."<sup>[a]</sup>

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday, Jan. 5</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
	<b>11:20 am</b>	<b>Spiritual Life</b>
<b>Monday, Jan. 6</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Book Discussion</b>
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 7</b>	<b>7:15 pm</b>	<b>Council Book Discussion Parlor</b>
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 8</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>CE at Panera - Brecksville</b>
<b>Thursday, Jan. 9</b>		<b>*Piano Lessons Begin*</b>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Joyful Noise</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Friday, Jan. 10</b>		<b>*Office Closed*</b>
<b>Sunday, Jan. 12</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**JANUARY 5, 2020**

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul  
Head Usher: Sue Maier  
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler  
Dave & Kathy Pastor  
Acolyte: Olivia Klonowski  
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado  
Sound: Kevin Smith  
Comns Grtr: Fred Pesek  
Flowers: Dorie Gabor  
Nursery: Marla Corrado  
C.E Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg  
Counters: Dave Bernard, Jim Duffy  
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel  
Snacks: Maureen Stanley & Marla  
Corrado  
Clean-up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel  
Snow Herder: Joe Wilson

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**JANUARY 12, 2020**

Lay Reader: Kathleen Stewart  
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz  
Ushers: Kathy & Dave Pastor  
Kim Wallis, Dan Stewart  
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart  
Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler  
Sound: Tim Wallis  
Comns Grtr: Valerie Tyler  
Flowers: Sue Stenzel  
Nursery: Courtni Began  
C.E Teacher: Anne Melfo  
Counters: Matt Wolbert, Marge  
Culver  
Servers: Linda Kriynovich, Julie  
Bernard  
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Ben  
Rehling  
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler  
Snow Herder: Matt Wolbert