

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***

***“Serpentis
sapientia
decepti
sumus; Dei
stultitia
liberamur.”***

**–St.
Augustine, d.
430**

***“We are
ensnared by
the wisdom of
the serpent;
we are set free
by the
foolishness of
God.”***



Sunday January 26, 2020 • 10:00 AM

Third Sunday after Epiphany

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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

January 26, 2020 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Meditation Music

“You will do foolish things, but do them with enthusiasm.”

–Colette, French author, nominated for Nobel Prize in Literature in 1948; d. 1954

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

You Show Your Friends the Path of Life

Fitzpatrick

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: God's voice calls in the wilderness. Are there any who will listen?

People: We are here because we have heard God's call.

Leader: God's voice calls in the wilderness. Are there any who will follow?

People: We have heard God's voice and we will follow wherever God leads.

Leader: God's voice calls in the hubbub of daily life. Are there any who have time for God?

People: We will make time for God in the midst of our busy lives, for God is the author and goal of every life.

Leader: Then let us worship God!

*** Hymn of Praise**

God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

#531

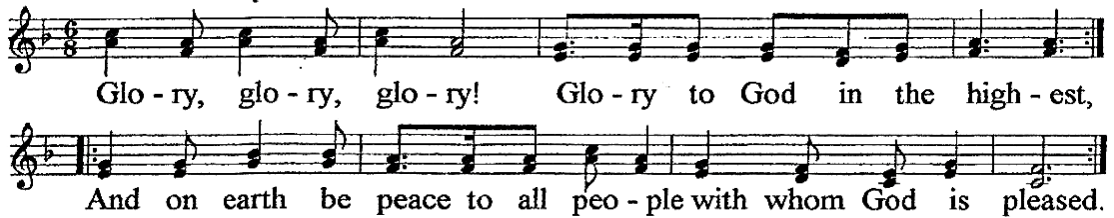
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

O God of the wise, and God of the foolish, hear us when we call upon you. Hear us because both wisdom and foolishness dwell within us. Hear us because we desire to follow you, and get lost along the way. Hear us because we repent of sin, yet sin again. The contradictions of wisdom and foolishness fight within us. We long to live well before you, and we choose instead to live comfortably in the world. We hope to share eternal life with you, but we are slow to spend time with you in this life. We ask that you will forgive our foolishness and fill us with your wisdom so that we may go forth from this place forgiven, restored, and renewed, for Jesus' sake. Amen

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Epistle

Corinthians 1: 17-31 The Foolishness of the Cross

Pew Bible page 166

The Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23 Calling the First Disciples

Pew Bible Page 38

Contemporary Reading

Michael Andrew Screech, *Laughter at the Foot of the Cross* (1998), p. 73

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

I'll Be Somewhere Listening for My Name

Lango, adapt. Sykes

Sermon

Feeling Foolish

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

#448

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

Offertoire

Tournemire

*** 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]**

**O God, you are the begetter of our beginnings, you are the steps along our way,
you are the home at the end of all our journeying. Receive these gifts from us as
drops of rain on a parched land, bringing life again. Amen**

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

You Are the Way

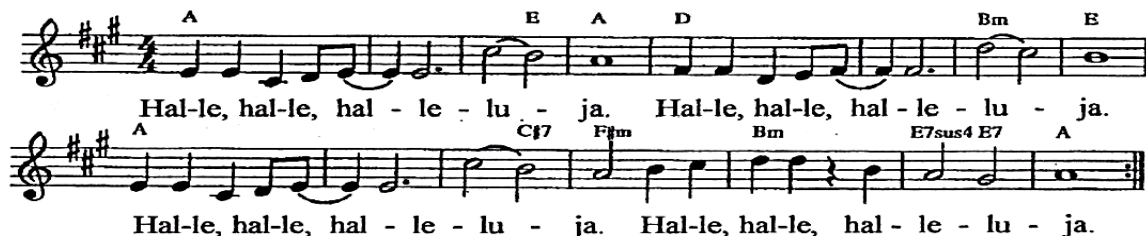
#40

***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

Glory to God Above

Bell

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Marge Culver, Max Roha, The Family of Pat Bailey, Leroy Ford, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Don Seager, Justin Brownlow, 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, January 19, 2020 – Adults: 57 Kids: 10 Total: 67

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.

YEAR-END STATEMENTS are ready to be picked up in the Commons area. Please take them to save the cost of mailing.

USHERS, ACOLYTES & PEACE CANDLE TRAINING - FOR NEWBIES AND A REFRESHER! Are you interested in being an Usher? Have you been an usher but aren't sure you're doing things 'right'?

Do you have a child who is interested in being an Acolyte or carrying the peace candle?

We will be having training/refresher sessions after service in the Narthex on the first two Sundays in February (2/2 and 2/9). We will be going over the usher duties, including communion in one group, while another group goes over the Acolyte and Peace Candle roles. This shouldn't take more than 15-20 minutes. Please come join us and get involved in church service!

BILL TONEFF HAS A NEW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER:

200 Laurel Lake Drive, #G102
Hudson, Ohio 44236
330-655-4144

PARTICIPANTS LIST If you know that you can not be at Service on a certain Sunday, or if you need to make a change in the Participants Schedule, please call Sue Stenzel at 440-526-4098 or her Cell at 216-695-1899. She handles all of the scheduling.

IT IS TIME FOR A NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY! We have had quite a few moves, and number changes recently, so to keep you updated, we are updating our Directory. Please email or call me with your information to buccoh@sbcglobal.net or 440-526-4364.

If you are not yet a Member, but would like to keep up with Church news, and Mailings, please feel free to send me your information as well.

****If you have a phone number, or email change that you would not like to have published, please let me know, I will keep it private, we would like to have a way to contact you. Thank you! Jeannette****

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 Epistle - Corinthians 1:17-31

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Gospel - Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Contemporary Reading

“[Greek] *Moria* and [Latin] *stultitia* are both rendered nowadays as ‘folly’, but both have far stronger senses than folly has now. They imply derangement of mind, madness, mania. Such are the defects attributed to Christians by the worldly-wise. And vice-versa. ... although the mutual laughter may seem six of one and half-a-dozen of the other, it is not. The Christian is profoundly mad merely by the standards of the world. To the world the wicked seem wise but are mad in the sight of God. The Christian is touched by the infinite and will not only have the last laugh at the end of time: even now s/he laughs more insanely than the worldlings.” Michael Andrew Screech, *Laughter at the Foot of the Cross* (1998), p. 73.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 26

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Coffee Hour

Thursday, Jan. 30

1:00 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm Joyful Noise

7:00 pm Seasonal Choir

Friday, Jan. 31

Office Closed

Sunday, Feb. 2

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**11:00 am Ushers, Acolytes & Peace
Candle training – Narthex**

11:20 pm Spiritual Life

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE
JANUARY 26, 2020

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Michelina Fawcett, Carrie
Coyer-Westerberg, Matt
Wolbert, Heidi Spangler
Acolyte: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Cameron Ward
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Kathy Pastor
Flowers: Julie Bernard
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
C.E. Teacher: Pat Rehm
Counters: Bruce McCain, Jan
Renovetz
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Pat Rehm, Heidi Spangler
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Caroline Candler
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard,
David Ritchey, Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Olivia Klonowski
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Fred Pesek
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Jim Duffy
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Dorie Gabor, Susan Snyder
Clean-up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel
Snow Herder: Wes Novak