

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***

***"You are the
salt of the
earth. But
remember that
salt is useful
when in
association,
but useless in
isolation."***

***—Israelmore
Ayivor***



***"You Are the Salt Of The Earth and The Light of
the World"
(Matthew 5:13-20)***

Sunday February 9, 2020 • 10:00 AM

Fifth 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

February 9, 2020 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Meditation Music

"It's not necessary to blow out your neighbor's light to let your own shine."

– M.R. DeHaan

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Let All Creation Bless the Lord

Parker

"O men and women everywhere
lift up a hymn of glory;
all you who know God's steadfast care,
tell out salvation's story.
No tongue be mute: but sing your part,
with humble soul and thankful heart:
exalt the God who made you."
Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: Sometimes you feel like drawing close to God...

People: ...and sometimes you don't.

L: Sometimes you feel like hearing a word from God...

P: ...and sometimes you just want to stop your ears!

L: O God, if we will not draw close to you, draw close to us. If our ears are stopped, open them to your voice.

All: We are your people, O God, and we are here: be with us in our worship!

* Hymn of Praise

Renew Your Church
[verses 1, 2 & 4]

#311

* Prayer of Confession [Unison]

O Jesus, you have called us to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and a city on a hill, a model community for those around us. In some ways we are that, but in other ways we fall short. Sometimes our attempts at a good and holy life turn out to be an epic fail. Encourage us so that we don't give up. ►

Strengthen us so that we can have greater success. Forgive us so that we can walk with our heads high and our hearts full of grace for others. We ask this in your name, O Jesus our Savior.

*** The Assurance of Pardon**

L: The Apostle Paul wrote: "This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Know that Jesus came into the world for you, and lives still to intercede for you. In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

*** Passing the Peace**

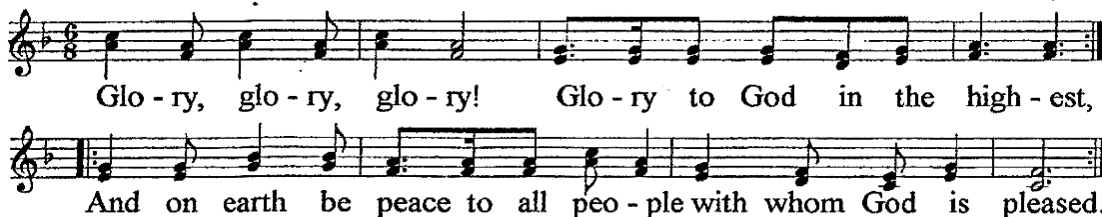
L: In a world of chaos, ever clamoring for our attention, let us take a deep breath and greet one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!

*** The Song of Praise**

Glory to God

Pablo Sosa, 1988



The Old Testament

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Pew Bible, page 688

The New Testament

Matthew 5: 13-20

Pew Bible, page 4

The Continuing Testament

from *Strength To Love*

by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

You Are the Light of the World
[Betsey Wilson, flute]

Tate

Sermon

The Salt of the Earth

Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection

God Our Author and Creator

#530

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

Interlude

Gigout

*** 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]**

**You have called us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, O God.
Accept these gifts and offerings, and send them out to be salt and light in a hurting
and desperate world. Amen.**

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

#537

***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

Be the Change
[With Youth Percussion]

Egan/Fieldes

"We'll be the change upon this earth,
we'll be the change, we'll be the change...
we'll be God's hands and be God's feet...
from now until eternity..."
Jon Egan and Mia Fieldes (b. 1983)

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Marge Culver, Max Roha, 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, February 2, 2020 – Adults :60 Kids: 7 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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Bettina Ortiz.

MARDI GRAS SERVICE - On Sunday February 23 at our 10 AM service, we will celebrate Mardi Gras with traditional New Orleans-style music, colorful hats, beads, etc! Our Southern-style jazz band will include the following musicians: Bob Gref, clarinet; Steve Ostrow, trumpet; Bruce Lehtinen, trombone; Gary Adams, tuba; and Steve Kraus, banjo. The service will be followed by a Mardi Gras potluck downstairs in Pilgrim Hall. Plan on joining us on Feb. 23 for this festive celebration before Ash Wednesday ushers in the start of Lent on Feb. 26. Bring a friend! Please contact David Pastor for Potluck sign up. ridave@hotmail.com or 440.552.4403

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be on Sunday, February 16 at 11:15 am or immediately following Worship Service. We will discuss and approve final 2020 budgets.

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!

NEXT SUNDAY A HUNGER MEAL will be served at the Pearl Road UMC. The date will be February 16th, instead of the date erroneously stated in last week's bulletin. Everything else is the same – two shifts, menu, etc. Directions to the church will be posted on the sign-up board in the narthex. Come along and see BUCC outreach in action.

BOWLING OUTING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED! Please join us Sunday March 1, at 1:30 pm at Northwoods Lanes in Macedonia. \$6 per bowler includes 2 games and shoe rental. Contact David Pastor to signup ridave@hotmail.com or 440.552.4403.

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.

CHURCH KEYS – If you are no longer involved in a Church Ministry, or no longer have a need for Church keys, please turn them back into the Office. Thank you.

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 58: 1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the
ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The New Testament - Matthew 5: 13-20

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Continuing Testament - from *Strength To Love* by Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction. So, when Jesus says, “Love your enemies,” he is setting forth a profound and ultimately inescapable admonition. Have we not come to such an impasse in the modern world that we must love our enemies—or else? The chain reaction of evil—hate begging hate, wars producing wars—must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation.”

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 9	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour/CE Meeting
	11:00 am	Ushers, Acolytes & Peace
		Candle training – Narthex
	11:00 am	Leadership Development To meet with Ministry Chairpersons
Tuesday, Feb. 11	7:00 pm	Leadership Development Meets with Ministry Chairpersons.
Wednesday, Feb. 12	7:15 pm	Council - Parlor
Thursday, Feb. 13	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
Friday, Jan. 14	*Office Closed*/Happy Valentine's Day!	
Sunday, Feb. 16	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour
	11:10 am	Leadership Development To meet with Ministry Chairpersons
		HUNGER MEAL PRUMC

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Nora Gagliano, Heidi Spangler
Acolyte: Emily Lane
Peace Candle: Gabriella Gagliano
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comms Grtr: Dave Bernard
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Marge Culver, Jon Thompson
Servers: Joy Garapic, Julie Bernard
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Pat Rehm
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Snow Herder: Dan Stewart

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Ben Davis, Michelina Fawcett, Carrie Coyer-
Westerberg, Jill Zedan
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comms Grtr: Valerie Tyler
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: David Pastor, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Diane Gressley, Ben Rehling
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snow Herder: James Tyler