



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*

*"A guilty
suffering spirit
is more open
to grace than
an apathetic or
smug soul."
—Edna Hong,
Bread & Wine
(day 5)*



The First Sunday of Lent

Sunday February 23, 2020 • 10:00 AM

First Sunday of Lent

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

March 1, 2020 – First Sunday of Lent

Meditation Music

“Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because God wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things God now has in store.” –N.T. Wright

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude and Procession

Be Still and Know that I Am God

Bell

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus has set his face to go to Jerusalem and the cross. We have set our faces to go with him.

People: Lent is the time for stretching our devotion, for expanding our service, for renewing our faithfulness.

L: Like fish we swim in the river of temptation. At Lent, we turn around and swim upstream, and only then do we notice how powerful the current is.

P: With God's sight to see what's right, with God's help to do what's right, let Lent begin to change our lives.

L: This is the moment; now is the time; let us enter into worship before God!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Forty Days and Forty Nights

#205

*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

We're out of our heads, we're out of our minds, you are so out of our league, O God, and yet you have chosen us, you have called us to this place, you have found your way to us. We call on you to make your presence felt as we strike out on the journey of Lent. It's not a journey to find you, for you have already found us. Instead, it's a journey of learning what it means to be found by you. Help us to learn to love you all over again as we head once more towards Good Friday and Easter. Amen.

***Words of Pardon**

Leader: The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 6, “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of

God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Though we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, in Christ Jesus our sins are forgiven.

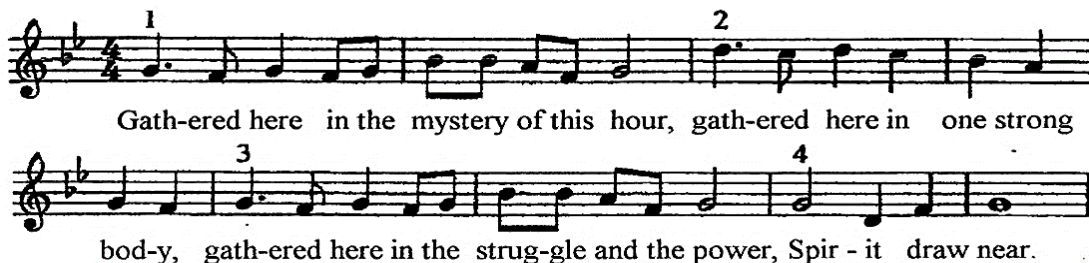
People: Thanks be to God! Amen

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” Let us pass on the peace of Christ to each other. The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

*** The Song of Praise Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]**



The Old Testament

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Pew Bible, page 2

The New Testament

Matthew 4:1-11

Pew Bible, page 3

Contemporary Reading

A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent

Walter Brueggemann

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Hosea

Norbet, arr. Debick

[Becky Anderson, flute]

Sermon

The Trials of Temptation....

Pastor Allan

Hymn of Reflection

All My Hope on God Is Founded

#408

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Meditation

Moussourgsky

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Your gift, O God, is eternal life in Jesus Christ. Through the sharing of the bread and the wine, we participate in Christ's death so that we may also share in Christ's life. We give you thanks through the Holy Spirit for your gift of yourself to us. May it empower us to go forth and share ourselves with others. Amen

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

#459

*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

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)
[With Youth Percussion]

Monteiro (Brazil)

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 23, 2020 – Adults: 83 Kids: 22 Total: 105

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.

A LONG-STANDING LENTEN TRADITION in the Church is to "put away" hymns or verses that contain "Alleluia", in order to set a more solemn tone with our musical selections. The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday our "Alleluias" can ring-out with renewed power and glory, as we hail the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different "Song of Praise" and concluding Benediction hymn today.

TODAY WE INTRODUCE MORE NEW OFFERTORY WORDS! These were written by Bill Toneff, specifically for Lent. We could still use ***your*** contributions for additional options! You don't need to be a trained musician nor an accomplished poet. Just put your feelings into wording that reflects your own expressions of our Sunday morning offering. They could be suitable for any time of year, or they might be seasonal [Christmas, Easter, Spring, Fall, etc.] Please submit your ideas [or questions] to Pastor Allan or Dave Debick, who will share them with our Spiritual Life Ministry members.

THERE WILL BE AN OFFERING for The ONA Coalition at this Sunday's Service. With all the special music at The Mardi Gras Service, I forgot to make verbal announcement about collection for Coalition. Those who are interested in contributing can submit a check made out to The ONA Coalition, or place cash in envelope that's clearly marked for The ONA Coalition. Dave Debick & Spiritual Life.

EASTER FLOWERS There are order forms on the Bookcase in the Commons area. The Deadline for ordering your beautiful Flowers is April 3. The order form will be published in next week's Bulletin as well.

SEASONAL CHOIR - It's not too late to join seasonal choir, which is now preparing for Holy Week (April 5-12.) Rehearsals are Thursdays during Lent from 7-8 PM. If you enjoy singing in a group setting, but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir offers an excellent opportunity for music, fellowship, and spiritual preparation for the events of Holy Week. High school students are welcome to participate.

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH MINISTRY: We are in the process of conducting a survey to learn more about our members. The survey will be sent out via e-mail as well as posted on our Facebook group page for you to access. (As of bulletin print time, it may have been sent already) We'd like to start featuring the members of our Church on our public Facebook page in member spotlights to show our diversity and personality with the rest of the community as well as allow our members to get to know each other better. This form can be filled out as an individual, a couple, or even as entire family. Please be on the lookout for this survey and fill it out if you are willing. We hope that many of you can participate so we can show off how wonderful you all are!

BOWLING OUTING IS TODAY! Please join us 1:30 pm at Northwoods Lanes in Macedonia. \$6 per bowler includes 2 games and shoe rental. Contact David Pastor to signup 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.

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.

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

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***.

Readings

The Old Testament - Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

15-17 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.

3:1-7 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The New Testament - Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Contemporary Reading - *A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent*
Walter Brueggemann**

"I imagine Lent for you and for me as a great departure from the greedy, anxious antineighborliness of our economy, a great departure from our exclusionary politics that fears the other, a great departure from self-indulgent consumerism that devours creation. And then an arrival in a new neighborhood, because it is a gift to be simple, it is a gift to be free; it is a gift to come down where we ought to be."

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 1	10:00 am	Worship Service/First Sunday of Lent
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	*New Member Class
	11:15 am	Staff/Congregation Relations
	11:20 am	Spiritual Life
	1:30 pm	Bowling – Northwood Lanes – Macedonia
Monday, March 2	1:00 pm	Book Discussion
	7:00 pm	Facilities
Tuesday, March 3	7:15 pm	Council Book Discussion
Thursday, March 5	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Friday, March 6		*Office Closed*
Sunday, March 8	10:00 am	Worship Service/Second Sunday of Lent
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	*New Member Class

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 1, 2020

Lay Reader:	Evie Novak
Head Usher:	Sue Maier
Ushers:	Cliff Cribbs, Jon Thompson Heidi Spangler, Kim Wallis
Acolyte:	Adam Lane
Peace Candle:	Cameron Ward
Sound:	Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr:	Fred Pesek
Flowers:	Julie Bernard
Nursery:	Erin Tomlinson
C.E Teacher:	Beth Rehling
Counters:	Nancy Stella, Jan Renovetz
Servers:	Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Snacks:	Bridget Sproul, Marla Corrado
Clean-up:	Jim & Peg Duffy
Snow Herder:	Joe Wilson

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 8, 2020

Lay Reader:	Diane Gressley
Head Usher:	Jill Zedan
Ushers:	David & Kathy Pastor Dan & Kathleen Stewart
Acolyte:	Ian Stewart
Peace Candle:	Peter Kucmins
Sound:	Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr:	Marge Culver
Flowers:	Jan Renovetz
Nursery:	Courtnei Began
C.E Teacher:	Pat Rehm
Counters:	Sue Stenzel & Kathy Pastor
Servers:	Linda Kriynovich, Julie Bernard
Snacks:	Maureen Stanley & Miriam Rosewicz
Clean-Up:	Bob & Caroline Chandler
Snow Herder:	Matt Wolbert