



# Brecksville

## United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

### *Affirmation of Welcome*

*We are an Open and Affirming  
Congregation, welcoming ALL  
of God's children.*

*Whether you are single, married,  
divorced, separated, or  
partnered,*

*Whatever your race, ethnicity,  
or age,*

*Whatever your gender identity  
or sexual orientation,  
Whatever your religious  
background, creed, or  
spirituality,*

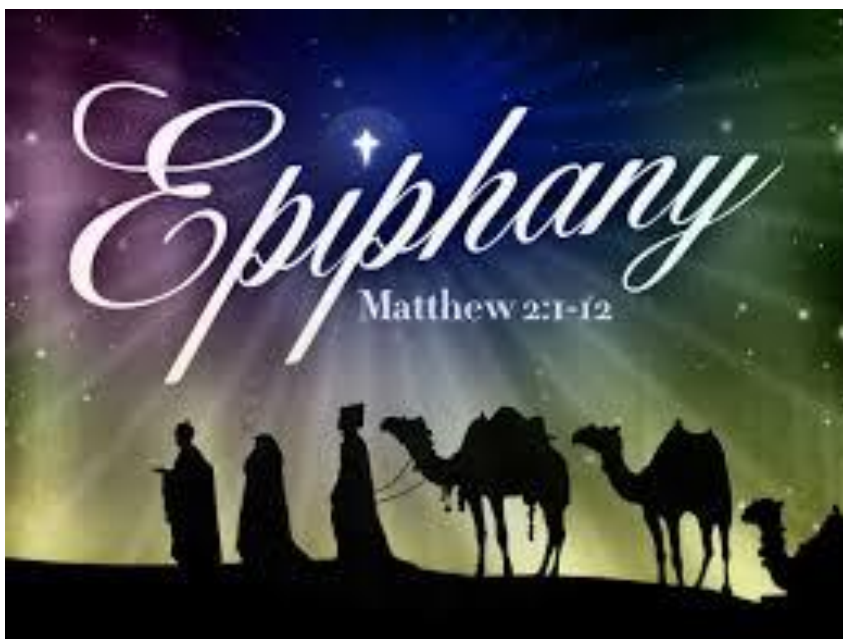
*Whatever your social or  
economic circumstances,*

*Whatever your health  
conditions, impairments, or  
mobility needs,*

*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!*



*Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm*

*Church Phone: 440-526-4364*

*e-mail: [buccoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:buccoffice23@gmail.com) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)*

### **Pastor**

• Jeff Jackson

### **Financial Secretary**

• Wes Novak

### **Office Manager**

• Miranda Lacefield

### **Music Director**

• Bret Tassone

**\*\*LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST\*\***

- Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave - if you are interested in learning more about our church, please feel free to speak to our pastor.
- Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use.

## **Announcements:**

***Please submit the announcements you would like to have printed in the bulletin by noon on Wednesday – Thank You!***

**Colony Cupboard-** We are continuing to support the Colony Cupboard! This is a resource for students at Brecksville Broadview Hts High School who need essentials and school supplies. We donated a trunk full of supplies this summer and plan to make another donation over the holidays. Based on student needs for the new school year, below is the updated list of supplies they are requesting:  
Markers, highlighters, binders, graph paper, & headphones  
Donations are collected in the back of the church.

**Mitten Tree-** The annual mitten tree is in the narthex. Last year we filled the tree over 4 times and the items were delivered to the shelters. Note that scarfs, mittens, gloves and even unopened packages of socks are always needed this time of year.

## **Welcome to Bret Tassone our New Music Director!**

Attendance last Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Adults: 35; Kids: 2; Online: 15;  
Additional Views: 11; Total: 63



**To Donate Electronically** – If you would like to make a donation to Brecksville United Church of Christ with your phone, please scan this QR code. If you need assistance, ask an usher - or a grandchild.  
Thank you!

**THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR includes the following**

Today	Unhanging of the Greens
Mon. Jan 5	5:00 pm – Fellowship Meeting 7:00 pm – Facilities Meeting
Tue. Jan 6	2:00 pm – Spiritual Life 6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall) 6:30 pm – Social Justice Meeting
Wed. Jan 7	11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation 4:00 pm – Stewardship/Leadership
Thu. Jan 8	10:30 am—Called to Care 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

**Volunteers:**

	<u><b>January 4, 2026</b></u>	<u><b>January 11, 2026</b></u>
Early Usher:	Jill Zedan	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Late Usher:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Reader:	Jim Duffy	Diane Gressley
Flowers:	Christmas Poinsettias	Carole Snider
Counters:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b> <b>Volunteers Needed</b>
A/V:	Fred Pedersen	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Snack:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Set up:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Clean Up:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A
Snow Herder:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>

# Epiphany Sunday Sunday January 4, 2026

## Prelude

Morning Star

## Welcome & Announcements

## Silent Meditation

*Word made flesh, fill me with grace.*

## \*Call to Prayer

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

**People: God's glory has dawned, guiding us with hope.**

Leader: Like the Magi, we follow the light that leads to Christ.

**People: We come with our questions, our gifts, and our longing for joy.**

Leader: God's presence meets us on every road we travel.

**People: Let us worship the One who reveals love in every new beginning.**

Leader: With grateful hearts, we welcome the Light of the World.

## \*Hymn of Praise

*O Come all You Faithful*

**#135**

## \*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

**Radiant God,**

**you shine upon us with guidance and grace.**

**Open our hearts this morning to your revealing light—**

**a light that brings wisdom, peace, and renewed purpose.**

**Lead us, as you led the Magi,**

**to seek Christ with joy**

**and to follow where your love draws us.**

**Amen.**

## \*Assurance of Grace

### **\*Gathering Song**

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, for God loves us all.

### **First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth  
and thick darkness the peoples,  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

### **Second Reading: Matthew 2:1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to

pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### **Time with young worshippers**

#### **Sermon**

*When Outsiders See What We Miss- Rev. Jeff Jackson*

#### **Anthem**

*Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

### **Prayers of the Church**

#### **In our Prayers**

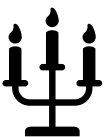
Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Tony Cuninghame, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy,

"Edna House", people who are unemployed and under employed.

***(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)***

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **Silent Meditation**



**The Savior's Prayer: [Unison]**

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.



**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offering Music**

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

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

Giving God,  
for the light that guides us and the hope that strengthens us,  
we give you thanks. Receive the gifts we offer today, and use them to shine  
your compassion  
into the lives of your people. Make us bearers of your light in all we say and  
do. Amen.

**Communion Invitation**

*ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.*

**Communion Hymn**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**#133**

*During the hymn, please come forward up the center aisle to gather a piece of  
bread and a cup and return to your seats via the outer aisles.*

*We will partake each together as directed. A gluten-free loaf is being used for  
communion today.*

**Invitation to Share the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion [Unison]**

Gracious God,  
we thank you for this meal of remembrance and promise. In bread and cup,  
you reveal your steadfast love and nourish us for the journey ahead. As the  
Magi were guided by your light, guide us now in the ways of peace,  
generosity, and joy. May this holy feast strengthen our spirits and deepen our  
commitment to Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

**\*Hymn of Departure**

*Come Now, Almighty God*

**#275**

**\*Circle of Community** Please join us in a circle around the sanctuary and lift  
your voices together and again after the benediction.

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.

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Go, and let the light of grace reveal God's glory.*

BUCC Mission Loving Serving and Accepting All People with God's Life Changing Power

**BUCC Core Values**

Inclusiveness in all things

Community of acceptance love and forgiveness

Unleashing people's gift of ministry to grow through serving others

Environment of learning and spiritual growth

Creative and dynamic worship

Reaching out and welcoming the community