



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*

Holy Spirit
of Life,
sometimes
you take our
breath away
- not so
much out of
wonder, but
shock. We
find you with
ones we did
not expect.
You do what
we would not
have chosen.
Move our
lives to join
you on the
edge, where
Holy Love
stretches out
with grace.
Amen.



“God’s Love Makes Us One”

Sunday January 31, 2016 • 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Pastor

• Rev David Shackle

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, or bisexual,

You Are Welcome Here!

If you are fully abled, disabled, 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!

WELCOME TO VISITING PARENTS

We offer several child care 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 for children are also available from ushers.

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, or becoming a member, please speak to our pastor.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for one. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Williams Sound Personal PA receiver available for your use in the sanctuary. Pillows for your back support are also available.

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 9:00 - 12:00

Church Phone: 440-526-4364

e-mail: buccoh@sbcglobal.net – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

JANUARY 31, 2016 –FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, we pray that we may see beyond the comfort of our own place and kind, and be ready to go where and when there is need. May we witness to your all-encompassing love with acts of compassion and justice. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Andantino and Praeludium

Surzyński

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: With the dawning of this new day, the Divine Gift of Life is renewed in you and me.

People: We give thanks for the Creative Spirit around us and within us!

L: Today we come to pray and reflect and to hear the Good News!

P: We rejoice that the Holy One is with us! We welcome in the Spirit!

L: Let us listen and respond to the Holy One, who encounters us in many ways.

P: Let us praise the Sacred One, who meets us throughout Life's journey.

L: May the Holy One inspire us, and guide our lives today;

All: That we might be empowered to be God's faithful people, each and every day!

*** Hymn of Praise**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

#12

*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Eternal Holy One, in all our restless activity and our attempts to control and secure our lives, help us to recognize our need for you. Come to us in Christ and show us the way to truly meaningful life. Empower us by your Holy Spirit, that we might work together to bring renewed hope and light to those places and people which are hurting. Enlighten us and all your children, to be beacons of peace, welcome and hope. Amen.

*** 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

Ecclesiastes 7:11-21

Pew Bible, page 618

The New Testament

I Corinthians 3:1-9

Pew Bible, page 167

The Continuing Testament

from *A Healthy Diet*

by Peter Lockhart

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

All to Us

Tomlin/Reeves/Maher/Redman,
arr. McDonald

Sermon

O, Grow Up!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

We Love Your Realm, O God

#312

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

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Nägeli, adapt. Mason

“Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.”
John Fawcett, 1782

*** 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**

Eternal Holy One, you have created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing. We thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of Life itself. Accept now these gifts and offerings, that they may help others in need and advance the work of your Realm. We pray in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Going with God’s Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

In Christ There Is No East or West

#394

***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*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chords are indicated above and below the notes. The first staff has chords A, E, A, D, Bm, and E. The second staff has chords A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, and A. The lyrics are: "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 score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

***Benediction**

Postlude

It Is Good to Sing Your Praises *Christian Lyre, 1830/31*

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

John King, Ann Toneff, Jill Black, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary D'Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, 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 24, 2016, – Adults: 75 Kids: 14 Total: 89

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshipping 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 child care 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 Tina Ortiz in Honor of her oldest Granddaughter, Stephanie Hough (1/8), and her Great-Granddaughter, Lyndsey Hough (2/13).

TODAY WE USE DIFFERENT OFFERTORY WORDS - These were written by Max Roha, to remind us of the importance of helping those for whom the Winter months are particularly difficult. We thank all of you for your financial gifts that enhance our outreach to people in need!

OUR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to approve our finalized 1216 Budget and Slate of Officers will be held today, immediately following worship.

"IT'S TIME TO KICK OFF OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION and we're having a "PASS THE HAT" Fundraiser to get the show on the road! First and foremost, dig out your favorite hat, whether it's elegant, sporty or just plain crazy. Then wear it to church on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th. We'll also be passing a hat that day to raise funds in support of the Bicentennial Banquet in fall. This is the EASIEST fundraiser we have. You don't need to buy anything, you don't need to volunteer your time, and 100% of your donation will support the Bicentennial Banquet. Please follow your heart and give generously to support a celebration 200 years in the making!"

MARDI GRAS SERVICE AND POTLUCK NEXT SUNDAY: Next Sunday we kick off our congregation's bicentennial celebrations with a swinging Mardi Gras service at 10 a.m. followed by a potluck in Pilgrim Hall. A five-piece jazz ensemble will provide toe-tapping accompaniment for worship; then on Feb. 10 (Ash Wednesday) we begin the more reflective season of Lent. We hope you'll join us next Sunday to help usher in our 200th anniversary festivities.

SEASONAL CHOIR will begin rehearsing for Holy Week on Thursday Feb. 11 from 7-8 p.m. If you enjoy singing in a group setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, which are scheduled for March 20-27 this year. Listening CDs are provided for each vocal part to help with the learning process.

DIRECTORY UPDATES We are planning on putting an updated copy of our Church Directory together in February.

If you have had a change, or we currently do not have your address, phone number, or email address, please let us know.

If we are missing your Birthday, also please let us know. Please email your updates to buccoh@sbcglobal.net.

ALTAR FLOWERS are a good way to celebrate an event or person or to remember a loved one. Our flower chart in the narthex has many open slots awaiting your name. Please select the date you wish to reserve now. Please fill out the dedication sheet from the pocket and drop it into the collection plate or leave it in the office.

PLEASE BE SURE to enter your meeting and event schedule in the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the ***Weekly Bulletin*** and in the ***Monthly Pillar***.

MONTHLY CALENDAR ONLINE the Church Calendar is also printed on our website: www.brecksvilleucc.org. It is filled with up to date events, and times, even last minute changes. Please check it out.

NAME TAGS are available for you to wear in the church and at coffee hour. These are helpful to visitors and new members to get to know our people. If you are missing a name tag, please let the Office know.

THE BLESSINGS JAR is for your use to drop in a note and/or money in response to a special blessing you have received during the week. We would like to recognize your blessing in the Pillar if you wish.

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.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Ecclesiastes 7:11-21

The Words of the Preacher... Wisdom is as good as an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of riches, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to the one who possesses it. Consider the work of your Creator; who can make straight what God has made crooked? In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider this: your Creator has made the one as well as the other, so that mortals may not find out anything that will come after them.

In my vain life I have seen everything; there are righteous people who perish in their righteousness, and there are wicked people who prolong their life in their evil-doing. Do not be considered too righteous, and do not act too wise; why should you destroy yourself? Do not be too wicked, and do not be a fool; why should you die before your time? It is good that you should take hold of the one, without letting go of the other; for the one who fears the Holy One shall succeed with both. Wisdom gives strength to the wise more than ten rulers that are in a city. Surely there is no one on earth so righteous as to do good without ever sinning. Do not give heed to everything that people say!

The New Testament - I Corinthians 3:1-11

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not showing spiritual immaturity?

Who then is Apollos? Who is Paul? Merely servants through whom you came to believe, as the Holy One assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.

The Continuing Testament - from *A Healthy Diet* - by Peter Lockhart [edited]

The process of maturing in the Faith can be a messy business, just like the process of introducing solid food to an infant's life can be fraught with problems. A child can mistake pureed vegetables for paint, or can misunderstand that nostrils are not the appropriate orifice through which to ingest food. Our expanding explorations of God's message of love, expressed to us in Jesus Christ, can create similar chaos. The reality is, that spiritual growth involves inquisitive behavior and risk taking, as well as family and community support.

One thing Saint Paul continually emphasizes in this journey of growth and discovery, is that at the heart of our Faith, the diet is grounded in God's message of Jesus Christ. Christ is the core ingredient! In I Corinthians 3, Paul says, "No one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid: that foundation is Jesus Christ." We share a taste of that center of our faith each week in the bread and the wine - signs of Jesus' presence with us and in us.

As we chew the bread and swallow the wine, we are drawn to remember Jesus and to be changed by him who is the staple of our diet and source of our growth.

Little children will often express their distaste over particular foods. I remember a personal dislike for bruessel sprouts. Yet we know that over the years our taste buds mature as we get exposed to different flavors. In a similar way, we can become overly attracted to expressions of worship that water-down the central message: that we are called to follow Jesus and sent into world to share the Good News. The discipline of coming to worship and sharing at the Table feeds us in ways that sometimes we are not aware of. It is important to be here, to not skip meals, to be nourished by God and share in each other's company, and to encourage others to join us - for all are welcome in at this feast!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 31	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour
Tues., Feb. 2	10:00am	CWRU
Wed., Feb. 3	6:00 am	Early Birds
	7:00 pm	Spiritual Life
Thurs., Feb 4	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
Saturday, Feb. 6	9:00 am	Facilities
Sunday, Feb. 7	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Mardi Gras Potluck
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

JANUARY 31, 2016

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Darlene Kelly, David Ritchey
Sue Stenzel, Vicki Szabo
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Garrett Demko
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Joanne Cook
Narthex Grtr: Kathy Pastor
Flowers: Tina Ortiz
Nursery: Courtni Began
Counters: David Pastor, Jon Thompson
Servers: Julie Bernard, Jill Zedan
Clean Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks: Vicki Szabo, Jon Thompson
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 7, 2016

Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Jon Thompson
Ushers: Matt Wolbert, George Snider
Vicki Szabo, Diane Gressley
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Ann Kelley
Narthex Grtr: Lenore Harris
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Gina Cook
Counters: Nancy Stella, Carole Snider
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Marge Culver
Clean Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Marla Corrado, Annie Demko
Snow Herder: Joe Wilson