



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*

Compassionate Holy One, you graciously welcome and love each of us exactly as we are; and in Jesus Christ you show us how we can become even better than we are. Be patient with us and help us, as we seek to understand what your genuine love and grace can fully mean in our lives, and in the lives of those we welcome in Christ's name. Amen.



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Sunday May 28, 2017 • 10:00 AM
Seventh Sunday of Easter

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, 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.

Summer 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

May 28, 2017 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Meditation Music

Gracious Source of us all, we know that Jesus welcomed all people with open arms and an open heart, inviting them to be part of a larger, more compassionate community. Help us to faithfully do the same. Open our minds and our hearts to new ideas and creative ways to show Christ's welcoming love to all people. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

The Human Heart (from *Once on This Island*)

Flaherty

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

"You are part, part of the human heart."

Lynn Ahrens, b. 1948

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

Leader: Wherever we may be, the Divine Presence surrounds us. When we are alone or when we are together,

People: The Holy One is with us.

L: When we walk or when we fall,

P: The Holy One raises us up.

L: When we feel trapped or when we soar free,

P: Divine Love surrounds us.

L: When we are in shadow or in the light,

P: Divine Grace shines upon us.

L: In this time and place, and wherever we may go,

All: The Holy One is truly with us! Let us rejoice and give thanks!

*Hymn of Praise

Praise to the Living God

#8

* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Loving and gracious Holy One, you offer wholeness and restoration to all your children. Help us, as your faithful people, to extend to others the same love, grace, and welcome that you extend to us. May we, like Jesus, learn to overcome the social and religious prejudices of our day. Let the power of your Holy Spirit work in us and through us, that we may praise you with joy and serve you with ever-thankful hearts. 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 music is written in a simple, accessible style with block chords and single notes.

Youth Anthem

United

Loewen

[Joyful Noise Choir]

Time with Young Worshipers

Litany of Farewell

Pastor: Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go.

People: Babies are born, children grow up.

Pastor: Individuals move into our community and church life.

People: Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities.

Pastor: It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we say farewell to our dear friend, Vicki Szabo, who is moving to Florida.

A word from Vicki Szabo

Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: Gracious Holy One, we give thanks for the opportunities we have for sharing our lives and our faith in this community. We thank you for the moments and memories we have shared with Vicki, in our worship and praying, our learning, and serving. We thank you that you have been with us in the good times and the bad, in our sorrows and in our joys, and that you are with us right now and as we move forward into the future. We pray that Vicki will continue to be led and blessed by your Spirit as she moves from here, and that she may always feel the closeness and love of this family of faith. We ask that you keep her, and each of us, in your compassionate care. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

L: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism bears witness to the Divine Love and Grace that is extended to each of us at every stage of our lives.

P: Today we celebrate God's love for this child, and offer ourselves as instruments of that love in his life.

L: When parents brought their children to Jesus so that he might touch them, his disciples rebuked them; but when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them,

P: "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the Realm of God.

L: Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Realm of God like a little child, shall not enter it."

P: Then Jesus took the children into his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

L: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is an outward and visible sign of Divine Grace.

Because the promise of the Gospel is not only to us, but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's Church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith.

P: Out of the Water of Holy Baptism, we rise with new life, forgiveness and grace as members of the One Body of Christ.

Promises of the Parents

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Will you encourage him to resist the power of evil, and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach and nurture him that he may be inspired to know and follow Jesus Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise to grow with him in the Christian faith and to help him be a faithful member of the Church - by modeling Christ's Compassion in your lives, by furthering Christ's mission in the world, and by offering him the on-going nurture of the Church?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

The Congregational Promise

Pastor: Members and friends of Brecksville United Church of Christ: As witnesses of this Baptism, will you pray for Graham and his family, and encourage them as they grow together in faith?

People: We promise them our prayerful support, as they live-out Christ's love among us.

Baptismal Act and Presentation

The Old Testament

Psalm 82

Pew Bible, page 542

The New Testament

John 17:6-11

Pew Bible, page 111

The Continuing Testament

from *Freedom with Order*

by Robert Paul

Anthem

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

African-American spiritual, adapt. William Appling

[Dedicated to the brave men and women who have served in our country's armed forces, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives defending our freedoms].

Sermon

Get to the Point

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

In the Midst of New Dimensions

#391

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

The Prayer of Jesus

[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 Hymn

We bring our gifts because we care;
 They are a part of what we share.
 Our love is strong, it heals, uplifts;
 With hearts of joy we share our gifts. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication [Unison]

Accept these offerings, Gracious Holy One, Giver of every good and perfect gift.
 Grant that they may represent our love - and our lives - offered more fully to you.
 Use all these gifts and each one of us to help proclaim and advance your message
 of compassion and grace, welcome and peace. This we ask in the name of Jesus
 Christ, who brings new life to us all. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

#82

* 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 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah". It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. Above the first staff, the lyrics "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." are written. Above the second staff, the lyrics "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." are written. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A, E, A, D, Bm, E on the first staff; A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A on the second staff.

*Benediction

Postlude

Canzon Francese a quattro voci

A. Gabrieli

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Bill Toneff, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, 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, May 21, 2017 – Adult: 73 Kids: 11 Total: 84

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 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 WE WELCOME *Graham William Esser*, son of Danyel and Brian Esser, into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. A special welcome also to his family and friends visiting with us on this special day!

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Tia Began in Encouragement for individuals who feel that they are facing something alone. May prayers from strangers lift you.

OUR HYMN OF THE MONTH for May is *In the Midst of New Dimensions*, written by Julian Rush. Rush integrates Native American spiritual imagery with Hebrew imagery in this 1985 text. He composed the tune, *New Dimensions*, along with the words. An ordained minister of the United Methodist Church, Julian Rush was the founding director of the Colorado AIDS Project in 1983.

If you find a particular hymn with words that move you, or a melody that intrigues you, please let Pastor Dave or Dave Debick know, and we will try to use it as a future Hymn of the Month.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS are beginning this week. The Office will be closed on Fridays through Labor Day.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER - Saturday, June 3rd from 5:00-6:45 pm, the Brecksville Interfaith Fellowship will be hosting a light meal and conversation, sharing our vision of a world without hunger and how you can be involved. Please join us at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church, 8111 Brecksville Rd. and enjoy a light, high protein meal with family, friends and neighbors. Donations will be collected toward funding these same meals for children throughout the world.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL Sunday, June 11 after Service. Please get on sign-up sheet so we can know what is needed.

CHURCH PICNIC Sunday, July 9 at 2:00pm. Swim, fish, games, fun! Hamburgers & Hotdogs provided. Watch for Sign-up sheet for side dishes!

CHRISTIAN ED will be organizing a group to march in the Cleveland Pride Parade on June 24th. This is a great opportunity for the whole congregation to participate in welcoming all people in the community to BUCC. Please see Anne Melfo or Heidi Spangler to sign up to participate in the parade.

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM - We are now recruiting volunteer singers and instrumentalists to share their musical gifts with the congregation over the summer months while the choir is on break (June 11 through September 3.) Dave Debick is happy to help you choose music and rehearse with you before your scheduled Sunday. High school students and youth are welcome to participate. If you've never volunteered before but are interested, please let Dave know so he can put you on the schedule.

SUMMER MONTHS are busy. This is a fact. If you know when you will not be available to be included in the schedule please email me at stenzelsj@sbcglobal.net with the details. Sue Stenzel

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.

DID YOU MISS last Sunday's service or do you just want to have a chance to rehear Pastor Dave's sermon. The Sunday services are recorded in their entirety on audio CDs each week. You can borrow a CD in the church office and listen to it at your convenience at home or in your car. Several recent weeks' recordings are always available. Check them out and check them out.

Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 82

The Holy One sits in the divine council; in the midst of the all that is good the Righteous One holds judgment: "How long will you mortal ones judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

Those to whom I have given authority have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I remind them, "You are to be like gods, children of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any worldly ruler."

Rise up, O Holy One and judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

The New Testament - John 17:6-11

[On the night before his death, Jesus looked up to heaven and said....] Holy One, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy One, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be One, as we are One.

The Continuing Testament - from *Freedom with Order* - by Robert Paul [edited]

The church does not have a divine call simply because Christians claim it - at least, if that is the only reason we can give for that claim, then we must expect the world to remain unconvinced. There is no *earthly* reason why anyone should take the church's claims seriously, unless we can either produce independent testimony or provide a good reason why our own testimony should be taken with special seriousness. The testimony of the church itself is important, but it will not mean much unless, side by side with its claim, there is also evidence that in a realistic sense it *is* the Body of Christ, and that it does in fact give evidence of the fruits of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." [Galatians 5:21]

Obviously crusades, inquisitions and persecutions do not help that testimony; neither do the things that accompany competitive denominationalism, or our indifference to the world's needs, or our practical unbelief in the very things we are supposed to be proclaiming. It is no use proclaiming God's universal love if we do not live it in relation to others.... It is no use preaching reconciliation if we have not yet been reconciled ourselves.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 28	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

Monday, May 29	*MEMORIAL DAY – OFFICE CLOSED*	
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Wed., May 31	6:00 am	Early Birds
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Thurs., June 1	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir

Sunday, June 4	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MAY 28 2017

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Stu & Dot Bailey,
 Betty Kaul, Diane Gressley
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Chad Sproul
Flowers: Tia Began
Nursery: Marla Corrado
Counters: Jim Duffy, Dave Bernard
Servers: Joanne Cook, Carole Snider
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Peg Duffy, Jane Cribbs

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

JUNE 4, 2017

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Darlene Kelly, Kate
 Klonowski, Sam Koch,
 Beth Rehling
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Valerie Tyler
Counters: Nancy Stella
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean Up: Lynne Struck, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Jim Pay, Susan Snyder