

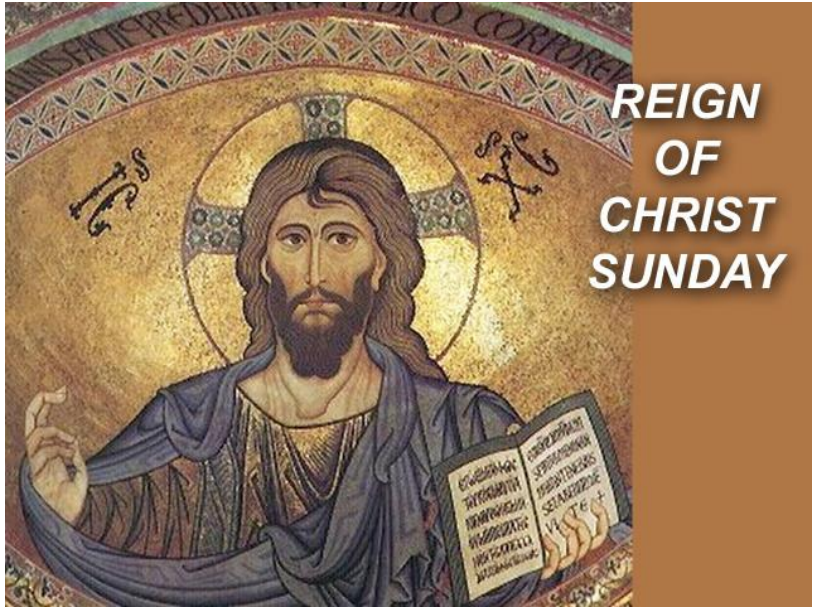
BRECKSVILLE

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*

Gracious Holy One, may your Spirit of Compassion flow through us, as we speak-out and stand-up for the poor, the hungry, the sick, and victims of intolerance and injustice. And may our kind words and loving actions be a sure sign of your everlasting Realm. Amen.



Sunday, November 25, 2018 • 10:00 AM

Reign Of Christ Sunday

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, 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

November 25, 2018 – Reign of Christ Sunday

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, your Reign combines justice and love, kindness and truth, wisdom and compassion. Help us to listen for your voice that calls us to fully participate within your Realm. And inspire us to bear witness to your loving grace with our whole lives. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Fanfare

Purcell

**Bearing the Light of Peace
Bearing the Light of Christ**

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Draw near to us now, O Holy One,

People: As we seek to draw near to you.

L: Be with us in our compassion for those in need,

P: In our care for those who are vulnerable.

L: Walk with us as we walk with your children who are lonely and hurting,

P: Guide our steps as we seek to help and encourage those who are lost and struggling.

L: Inspire us with your gracious love,

All: That it might flow from our lives into the lives of others!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Lift High the Cross

#198

*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, you call us to be your Family, daughters and sons to care for the world and all within it. Teach us how to work with you to feed the hungry, heal the hurting, and bring renewed hope and life where there is sorrow and despair. Inspire us with your Holy Spirit, so that we might joyfully welcome-in and work-toward your coming Realm of Love, Justice and Peace. 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 Old Testament

Jeremiah 23:1-5

Pew Bible, page 725

The New Testament

John 18:33-37

Pew Bible, page 113

The Continuing Testament

from *Not of This World*

by David Lose

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Wood

Sermon

Don't Smack Me with Your Ruler!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

We Love Your Realm, O God

#312

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

Fairest Lord Jesus

Silesian melody

"Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and Man the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown."

17th century German,

trans. Lilian Stevenson (1870-1960) and others

*** 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]**

Holy Source of Life, accept these offerings that we present to you, and grant that the causes to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance and bring glory to your name. Help us also to give ourselves fully and freely to the work of your Present and Coming Realm, that the love of Christ might shine through us and throughout the world. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Now Is the Time Approaching

#609

*** 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. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line and below the piano line. The lyrics are: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The chord symbols are: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Jesus Is the Name We Honour

Lawson-Johnston

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Suzanne Patrick, Niece of Kathy Smith, Pat Bailey, Fred Pesek, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, 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 November 18, 2018 – Adults: 68 Kids:12 Total: 80

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.

MITTEN TREE the Mitten Tree is back in the narthex ready for your decorations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, etc. These items will be sent to hunger centers for distribution.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA - On Sunday December 16 at our 10 AM service, BUCC's choir will present the Christmas musical, *Christmas Seekers*, by John Purifoy. The dynamic work features both traditional and contemporary sacred music. The choir will be accompanied by flutes, trumpets, trombone, violin, percussion, and narrators. Plan to join us for this BUCC holiday tradition. Bring a friend!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION The Christmas Pageant this year will be *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and will be presented on Sunday, December 9th during the service. Every year the children and CE volunteers get us in the Christmas spirit! We hope you will be able to join us for this very special, meaningful, and fun tradition!

LAST-MINUTE MART! On Sunday, December 16th (during coffee hour after the Cantata), we invite those who have crafts or gifts to sell to bring them to BUCC! For a suggested donation of only \$25, you can set up a table in Pilgrim Hall to offer items to sell to support your small business, crafty habit, baking, or charity efforts. The rest of us can then enjoy shopping for Christmas presents with the knowledge we are supporting each other and also a great cause! To sign up for table space, please contact Kate Klonowski at (216) 534-3498 keightykay@gmail.com or during coffee hour. All proceeds will benefit the Pastor's Fund!

NORTHEAST OHIO ROCKS! is a Facebook group with more than 200,000 members that began in 2016 with the intent of spreading kindness one rock at a time. Members paint rocks with positive and uplifting messages and hide them where children and adults will find them and experience a random act of kindness. The back of the rock has a message requesting the finder to post a photo on Facebook and then re-hide it to pass on the kindness. If the rock painter has added a hashtag the finder adds this to the Facebook post and the person who hid it can track its whereabouts. Some rocks are tracked over several months and across the country when finders carry them to distant places. Northeast Ohio Rocks are appearing in all 50 states and in 100 foreign lands. You don't have to post on Facebook, but you are asked to hide #BUCCrocks and keep spreading the kindness!

THE BUCC PASTOR'S FUND is primarily used for food gift cards, help with rent or utilities, uncovered medical/medication bills, or emergency aid to travelers passing through town. We are asking that those who can, consider making a contribution to help replenish this fund. Checks can be made out to BUCC, or cash may be placed in a pew envelope, with the notation "Pastor's Fund" written on the check or envelope. Thank you for your continuing support!

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.

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***.

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.

OUR COMPLETE WORSHIP SERVICE, including anthems, hymns, etc., is fed by our sound system to our new audio-CD recorder (CDs are available in the church office for borrowing) and to the narthex speakers (for the benefit of anyone who must leave the sanctuary because of a restless child or for any other reason). If you should use one of the portable microphones during the service, please do not turn it off but return it to its location so that its continuing feed is not eliminated from the system.

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 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.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Jeremiah 23:1-5

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Holy One. Therefore, says the Holy One, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings! says the Holy One. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing. The days are surely coming, declares the Holy One, when I will raise up for David a righteous offshoot, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety.

The New Testament - John 18:33-37

Then Pontius Pilate entered the courtyard again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own people and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My realm is not from this world. If my realm were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the authorities. But as it is, my realm is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

The Continuing Testament - from *Not of This World* - by David Lose [edited]

Jesus has come to witness to the truth, the truth that God is love, and that because we have not seen God and have such a hard time imagining God, all too often our imaginations are dominated by our experience. So rather than imagining that God is love, we imagine God to be violent because we live in a world of violence. Rather than recognize the cross as a symbol of sacrificial love, we assume it's the legal mechanism of punishing Jesus in our stead because we have way too much experience with punitive relationships. Rather than believe that God's grace and acceptance are absolutely unconditional, we assume God offers love, power, and status only on the condition that we fear, obey, and praise God - and despise those who don't - because so much of our life is quid pro quo. ►

But Jesus' Realm is not of this world. And therefore, his followers will not fight for him because to bring the Realm about by violence is to violate the very principles of this Realm and cause its destruction. We live in a world dominated by the view that the only answer to violence is more violence. And the end result of that view is death. As Martin Luther King, Jr., another champion for non-violence, wrote:

"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate. And so it goes. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, 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."

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Nov. 25	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	<i>*Decorating the Sanctuary For Advent & Christmas*</i>
Thurs., Nov. 29	4:30 pm	Rec/Dul/Gtr
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Friday, Nov. 30	*Office Closed*	
Sunday, Dec. 2	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Lay Reader: David Ritchey
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Kate Klonowski, Matt Wolbert
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E. Teacher: TBD (Pageant Practice)
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean-Up: Chad & Bridget Sproul
Snacks: Susan Snyder, Pat Rehm
Snow Hrdr: Chad Sproul

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

DECEMBER 2, 2018

Lay Reader: Kathleen Stewart
Head Usher: Jill Zedan
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler,
Dan & Ian Stewart
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Gina Cook (pageant Practice)
Counters: Nancy Stella, Dave Bernard
Servers: Carole Snider, Julie Bernard
Clean-up: Jan Renovetz, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Betty Kaul, Dot Bailey
Snow Hrdr: Cliff Cribbs

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POINSETTIAS IN OUR SANCTUARY



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Christmas with those who are ill or shut-in or have recently lost a loved one. Please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, and turn it in to the Church Office

DEADLINE – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9



I Enclose \$12.00 _____ or other _____ for Poinsettias

In Memory _____ or Honor _____ or _____

Of _____

Your Name

I WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS _____

****PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOUR POINSETTIA OR LEAVE IT HERE FOR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS****

WILL KEEP _____

WILL NOT KEEP _____