



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, your loving embrace sustains our lives and renews our hope. Receive us when we drift-off into recklessness and despair. Receive us when we drift-off into self-righteousness and resentment. We thank you for your grace, which embraces us all with love. Amen



Sunday, March 31, 2019 • 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

March 31, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Meditation Music

Divine Source of family, relationships, and community: we each try to find ways to experiment and express our unique individuality. Help us to balance our freedom to express ourselves, with the way our actions affect our relationships with others. In all that we do and say, help us to walk in your way. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Forgiven DeGraide/Elliott/Kauflin
[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

"We have judged Your sons and daughters
For the sin that is our own
May we now forgive each other
And lay down our stones"

Kate DeGraide, Rebecca Elliott, Brittany Kauflin, 2017

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

* **Call to Worship** - from *Psalms* 89

Leader: I will sing forever of your steadfast love, O Holy One;

People: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

L: I will declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

P: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

L: The heavens are yours, and the earth as well;

P: The world and all that is in it, for you have founded all things.

L: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;

P: Steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

L: Happy are those who shout your praises;

All: Who walk in the light of your presence!

* **Hymn of Praise**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#23

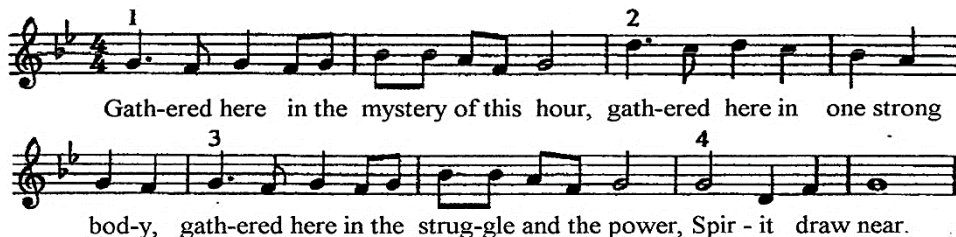
* **Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Draw near to us, O Holy One, as we seek to draw near to you today. May we know your loving presence in our care for those who are vulnerable, in our compassion for those in need, and in our love shown to those who are lost and lonely. ►

Draw near to us, O Holy One, as we seek to draw near to others, that together we may all experience your grace and hope flowing through our lives. Amen.

* The Song of Praise

Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]



Gath-ered here in the mystery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod-y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.

The Old Testament

Psalm 32

Pew Bible, page 506

The New Testament

Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

Pew Bible, page 78

The Continuing Testament

from *Table Manners*

by Barbara Brown Taylor

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Prodigal

Frey/McDonald/Mosley

Sermon

All in the Family

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

O God, How We Have Wandered

#202

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

Offertory

Tchaikovsky

*** Offertory Hymn**

**We now are in the time of Lent,
To learn again what Jesus meant.
His life and message are so great,
We send these gifts to celebrate. Amen.**

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

Accept, O Holy One, these offerings that we your people make 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 Realm, that the love of Christ might shine in our lives and throughout our world. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Surely No One Can Be Safer

#487

*** 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*



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace."

***Benediction**

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR

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, 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 March 24, 2019– Adults:69 Kids: 13 Total: 82

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 refreshments and conversation.

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 Sherrill & Bill Witt for the Joy of Springtime!

HUNGER MEAL TODAY a hunger meal will be prepared and served at Pearl Road United Methodist Church in partnership with the Independence United Methodist Church. The menu will consist of mostaccioli, meatballs, salad (provided by IUMC) and cookies. The sign-up board is in the narthex for BUCC members and friends to indicate their interest in participating. The first shift will arrive at 2:30 PM to set up and prepare, and the second shift will arrive at 4 PM to serve and clean up. About 70 meals are anticipated.

A LONG-STANDING LENTEN TRADITION within the Christian Church is to "put away" hymns or verses which contain "Alleluias", and to set a more reflective tone with our musical selections. The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday, our "Alleluias" and praise can ring-out with renewed freshness and vigor, as we hail the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different Song of Praise and concluding hymn for the benediction today.

TAKING THE BIBLE SERIOUSLY, NOT LITERALLY is the theme of our Lenten Study, which continues this Tuesday April 2nd in Pilgrim Hall. Each Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30, we will explore and discuss various aspects of how the Scriptures were written, different approaches to interpreting them, and how we ourselves - in light of Jesus's life and teachings - understand them. I hope to see you Tuesday - Pastor Dave

THE FACILITIES MINISTRY has determined that the sanctuary roof will need to be replaced this coming summer. The current roof is over 25 years old and has had minor repairs to prevent leaking and water damage. The Church Council has approved the roof project and a 'Fund the Roof Campaign' to help raise the necessary funds to pay for it. You should have received a letter about the roof, if not, please see a Facilities Member. Also, if you are not officially on our mailing list, we can give you a letter as well.

LAST-MINUTE MART: On Saturday, May 11th, 2019 from 10:00am - 3:00pm, BUCC is hosting our spring LAST-MINUTE MART in Pilgrim Hall, just in time for Mother's Day! This event is very special because Christian Education is joining forces with OCWM and the Communications & Outreach Ministry to raise funds for this year's Lenten Project to support refugee families in Cleveland. Our students will be selling handmade craft items to raise funds for these families. We are excited to welcome crafters, bakers, and vendors of all kinds (both parishioners and other community members) to join us! You may request a full 8' table for \$25, or half table/card table (~4') for \$15.

Please submit your request for a table to Heidi Spangler at heidi@heidihoonthego.com. We are also requesting that each vender supply one item to donate to our raffle. Concessions will be available! All table, concession profits and raffle proceeds will go to support our Lenten Project. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Klonowski at keightykay@gmail.com or 216-534-3498.

PASSOVER BRUNCH: On Sunday, April 7, Christian Education is sponsoring an exciting educational opportunity that will begin during worship and extend into brunch at 12:00 noon for the community! We will welcome Lisa Kollins, the Director of the Social Justice Institute at Case Western Reserve University, to share the Jewish tradition of Passover with us and enjoy a deliciously diverse brunch after coffee hour that is friendly for all ages and diets! We will discuss some ancient and new ideas for how we remember past injustices and work to prevent future ones. Please invite your friends and families for this unique experience!

COMMUNITY EDUCATION DINNER SERIES: On Tuesday, April 30th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm Christian Education and OCWM welcome you and our neighbors to join us for a FREE community dinner and a presentation by Camille R. Gill, Associate Director of Immigration Legal Services in the Migration and Refugee Services department of Catholic Charities. ►

She will present “Immigration 101: Defining Terms and Discussing Current Issues.” All are welcome! Childcare will be provided on-site. This topic has been scheduled to coincide with the continuation of our Lenten Project to support refugee families in Cleveland.

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 Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 32

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Holy One imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Holy One,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Holy One. Be glad in the Holy One and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

The New Testament - Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable.... “There was a man who had two sons.

The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them.

A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out a robe -the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Continuing Testament - from *Table Manners* - by Barbara Brown Taylor [edited]

Any way you look at it, the parable of the Prodigal is an alarming story. It is about hanging out with the wrong people. It is about throwing parties for losers and asking winners to foot the bill. It is about giving-up the idea that we can love God and despise each other. We simply cannot, no matter how wrong any of us has been. The only way to work out our relationship with God, is to work out our relationship with each other.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Mar. 31	10:00 am	Worship Service/ OGHS Offering
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:00 pm	*HUNGER MEAL* Pearl Road UMC
Monday, April 1	1:00 pm	Book Discussion
	7:00 pm	Facilities – Library
Tuesday, April 2	7:00 pm	Lenten Study PH
Thursday, April 4	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Rec/Dul/Guitar
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sunday, April 7	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Spiritual Life - Library
	12:00 pm	Passover Brunch

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE

MARCH 31, 2019

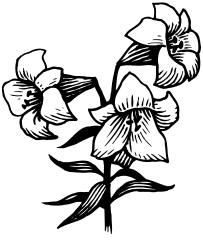
Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Betty Kaul, Darlene Kelly,
Kathy Smith, Kim Wallis
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Natalie Corrado
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E Teacher: Anne Melfo
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Marge Culver
Servers: Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Clean-up: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Diane Gressley
Snow Hrdr: Tim Wallis

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

APRIL 7, 2019

Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: David & Kathy Pastor
Cliff Cribbs, Sam Koch
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Cammie Ward
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Nancy Stella, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Marge Culver, Betty Kaul
Clean-up: Sue Stenzel, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Beth Rehling, Marla Corrado
Snow Hrdr: Wes Novak

CELEBRATE EASTER WITH FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Easter 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, APRIL 14, 2019

I Enclose \$12.00_____ for an Easter Plant

In Memory of_____

In Honor of_____

Other_____
