

## **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](mailto:buccoh@sbcglobal.net) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2013 – TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Meditation Music**

God of infinite possibilities, it is easy for us to look at our world and see only the clouds of hunger, pain, and injustice. Help us to also recognize the many ways in which you seek our participation in creating a better world, a world of compassion, justice, and love. Amen.

***Gathering in God's Presence***

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**      Medley: What a Covenant/Take My Gifts      Showalter/Gibson  
[Recorder/Dulcimer Ensemble, assisted by Percussion Group]

“Now because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply!”

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

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

**\*Call to Worship** - from *Psalms* 127 and 128

L: Unless God builds the house,

**P: Those who build it labor in vain.**

L: Unless God protects the city,

**P: The guard keeps watch for nothing.**

L: It is futile to loose sleep over anxious concerns,

**P: For God gives peaceful rest to God's beloved.**

L: Happy are those who trust in God,

**All: Who follow in God's Holy path!**

**\*Hymn of Praise**

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

#55

**\*Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

**Gracious Holy One, giver of all good things: we praise you for the order and beauty of nature; for the richness and bounty of the earth; for day and night, summer and winter, seed time and harvest; for the gifts which every season brings. We thank you for all the comforts and joys of life, for our homes, for our friends, and for all the love and kindness we receive. As you have so graciously given to us, may we also be inspired to give to others. 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,**                      Psalm 100                      Pew Bible, page 552  
**The New Testament**                      Thessalonians 2:1-3; 13-17                      Pew Bible, page 206  
**The Continuing Testament** from *Inspiring Generosity*                      by William Green

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**                      With Gladsome Heart                      Patterson

**Sermon**                      *Life's Many Surprising Gifts*                      Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**                      God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak  
#531

***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**

Prayer

Beethoven

#### **\*The 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**

**Gracious Holy One, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions - signs of your goodness and love. Receive them for the sake of the One who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### ***Holy Communion***

#### **Words of Institution**

#### **Prayer of Consecration**

#### **The Invitation**

#### **Communion Music**

God of All the World Trad. melody, Papua New Guinea  
*[Assisted by Percussion Group]*

“God of all the world,  
we have come to give you thanks  
and become more like you.  
In worship we long to be one  
with each other and you.”

Transcr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, Eng. trans. Fred Kaan, UK

## Receiving the Bread and Cup

### The Blessing

#### Presenting Our Pledges for 2014

[Please come forward and place your pledges in the basket]

### Hymn of Dedication

We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

With voices united our praises we offer,  
And gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.  
Our faith now confessing, we pray for your blessing;  
To you, our Great Redeemer, forever be praise!

### \*Prayer of Commitment

L: With joy and thanksgiving, let us dedicate our pledges of commitment and support for the work of Christ's Church in this place and in our world.

**All: Gracious Holy One, the treasure we hold in our hearts, is the gift of the Good News of your love for us all. The treasure we offer before this Communion Table, is the gift of our lives, dedicated to sharing that Good News with others. May these pledges serve as a sign of our gratitude for all your Life-giving gifts to us, and as a symbol of our renewed commitment to serving you in this place and throughout our world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shows us how to freely and generously live, love, and give.**

## *Going with God's Love*

### \* Hymn of Departure

For the Fruit of All Creation

#425

### Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Acolyte

### Circle of Fellowship

*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*

through once more. Our circle is open near the door as a symbol of our welcome to new people to our community of faith.

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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja.' The first staff has lyrics under the notes, and the second staff has lyrics under the notes. Chord symbols are written 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.

### \*Commission and Benediction

Postlude

Psalm Nineteen

Marcello

“The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.”

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Doug Lightbody, The Family of Nancy Foose, Bill & Ann Toneff, Kathleen Stewart, Tina Ortiz, Frank Ditzig, Mary D’Agostino, Shirley Duncan, Donn Whyte, Cindy Burton, Effie Pappas, Betty Batsch, people who are unemployed and under employed.

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

Attendance Sunday, November 10, 2013 –Adults: 89 Kids: 14 Total: 103

### ***BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**TODAYS FLOWERS** are given by Nancy Stella and Family in Memory of Husband, Father, and Son, Frank S. Stella.

**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 Stewardship/Thanksgiving Banquet.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!** Please join us directly after worship on Sunday, December 8 for our congregational meeting, in which we will present the proposed budget and review the slate of ministry members for 2014. This should take 15 minutes

and your attendance is appreciated. If you have any additional items to discuss, please contact  
Pastor Dave or Diane Gressley.

**NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED AT BUCC** on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> at our morning worship service. If you are interested in joining, learning more about membership - or about our congregation or denomination - please talk with Pastor Dave

**A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR NANCY FOOSE** will be held at BUCC on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:30 pm. A reception will follow in Pilgrim Hall, giving family and friends the opportunity to continue sharing their memories and stories of Nancy's life.

**HELP IS NEEDED** to decorate the Sanctuary after Worship on Sunday 11/24/13. Please see Caroline Chandler, or Jan Renovetz if you have any questions.

**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.

**SHARE IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT OF GIVING!** Our annual Christmas Adopt-a-Family project will have a new name this year: Adopt-an-Individual. We hope the whole congregation will reach out generously as they always have. Some of the items that would be appreciated are: queen-sized sheet sets (flannel or regular), bath towel sets, kitchen towels and dishcloths, gift cards for stores such as T J Maxx, Kohl's, Target, etc, and of course the always welcome checks to BUCC [noted "Adopt-an-Individual"], or cash with the same notation on the envelope. More info and suggestions will follow in the December Pillar.

## ***THE READINGS***

### **The Old Testament - Psalm 100**

Make a joyful noise to the Holy One, all the earth.  
Worship God with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.  
Know that the Holy One is God, the One who creates us and keeps us safe.  
We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.  
Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.  
Give thanks to the Holy One, bless God's name!

For the Holy One is good; with steadfast love that endures forever, and faithfulness that lasts throughout all generations.

**The New Testament** - II Thessalonians 2:1-3; 13-17

[Edited - from *The Message* - a paraphrased interpretation of the Bible]

Now, friends, read these words carefully. Slow down and don't go jumping to conclusions regarding the day when our Lord Jesus Christ, will come and we gather to welcome him. Don't let anyone shake you up or get you excited over some breathless report or rumored letter from me that the day of the Lord's arrival has come and gone. Don't fall for any line like that....

While we await that day, we are glad to use our time thanking God for you, our good friends - so loved by God! God chose you from the very start. Think of it: you are included in God's plan of redemption, by the bond of faith in the living truth. You are invited to live in the Spirit, through the message we delivered, to the glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

So, friends, take a firm stand, feet on the ground and head held high. Keep a tight grip on what you were taught, whether in personal conversation or by our letter. May Jesus himself and God our Creator, who reached out in love and surprised you with gifts of unending help and confidence, put a fresh heart in you, invigorate your work, and enliven your speech.

**Continuing Testament** - from *Inspiring Generosity* - by William Green [edited]

Stewardship presumes blessing and abundance. It is not about overcoming scarcity, or guarding against it. It is not about giving to people in need. It is about recognizing all that we already have, helping both ourselves and others know and enjoy the abundance in which all can share. Jesus sums up the purpose of his ministry this way: that we "may have life, and have it abundantly." [John 10:10] He came to reveal all that is ours by the grace of God. This abundant life that he reveals and shares, is the Realm of God. Living in that Realm, we are free to share the sheer joy of being alive; free from the grip of fear and anxiety....

Abundance is a fact of life, not just an article of faith. But it must be discerned to be learned, seen to be believed, experienced to be credible. Conditioned as most of us are by some sense of scarcity and not having enough, it is not immediately natural to shift our point of view. But generosity can take root and grow. The ground in which it grows, is the solid ground of Divine abundance.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday 11/17/2013</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Stewardship Sunday Banquet
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry
<b>Wednesday 11/20/2013</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	5 pm	NO RECORDER/DULCIMER THRU THE END OF 2013
<b>Thursday 11/21/2013</b>	1 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	C4C
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
<b>Saturday 11/23/2013</b>	1:30 pm	Nancy Foose Memorial Service Reception following
<b>Sunday 11/24/2013</b>	10 am	Worship
	11 am	Coffee Hour

## PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE NOVEMBER 17, 2013

<b>LAY READER:</b>	<b>Jill Zedan</b>
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	<b>Max Roha</b>
<b>USHERS:</b>	<b>David Ritchey, Kathy Smith, Beth Rehling, Sue Maier</b>
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	<b>Ben Davis</b>
<b>PEACE CANDLE:</b>	<b>Grace Hunt</b>
<b>SOUND:</b>	<b>Chad Sproul</b>
<b>COMMONS GRTR:</b>	<b>Fred Pesek</b>
<b>NARTHEX GRTR:</b>	<b>Cliff Cribbs</b>
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	<b>Lenore Harris</b>
<b>NURSERY:</b>	<b>Robin Coyer-Westerberg</b>
<b>COUNTERS:</b>	<b>Donn Whyte, Bruce McCain</b>
<b>SERVERS:</b>	<b>Dottie &amp; Jim Farwell</b>
	<b>*STEWARDSHIP BANQUET*</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**  
**NOVEMBER 24, 2013**

<b>LAY READER:</b>	<b>Evie Novak</b>
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	<b>Bob Chandler</b>
<b>USHERS:</b>	<b>Dan Stewart, Sam Koch, Bridget &amp; Chad Sproul</b>
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	<b>Jillian Davis</b>
<b>PEACE CANDLE:</b>	<b>Olivia Klonowski</b>
<b>SOUND:</b>	<b>David Pastor</b>
<b>COMMONS GRTR:</b>	<b>Lee Sanderson</b>
<b>NARTHEX GRTR:</b>	<b>Pat Bailey</b>
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	<b>Lenore Harris</b>
<b>NURSERY:</b>	<b>Shauna Bigelow</b>
<b>COUNTERS:</b>	<b>Mac Hoppel, Carole Snider</b>
<b>SERVERS:</b>	<b>Caroline Chandler &amp; Dorie Gabor</b>
<b>CLEAN-UP:</b>	<b>Bob Chandler, Jill Zedan</b>
<b>SNACKS:</b>	<b>Melissa Lund &amp; Tia Began</b>