



## **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)**

## JANUARY 11, 2015 – FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

### **Meditation Music**

Culture, society, myths, and misunderstandings – all may lead to hurtful relationships. May we see beyond the narrow, the rigid, the exclusionary; and move into acceptance, understanding, and tolerance in our relationships. Amen.

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

*\* Please Stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Rigaudon from Water Music Suite No. 3

Handel

#### **Bearing the Light of Peace**

#### **Bearing the Life of Christ**

#### **\* Call to Worship**

L: A new day has dawned! The Divine Gift of Life is renewed in you and me!

**P: Let us give thanks for the Creative Spirit in our midst!**

L: Let us rejoice, and welcome-in the Spirit!

**P: We come to reflect and rejoice and bask in in the Divine Word!**

L: Let us listen and respond to the Holy One, who meets us in new ways:

**P: The Holy One who is with us today as we worship, and every day of our lives!**

L: Inspire us, Gracious Creator, and guide us;

**All: Empower us all to be your faithful people!**

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

#12

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

**Gracious Holy One, at his baptism Jesus heard you say, “You are my beloved Child, with whom I am well pleased.” As you breathe your Spirit into us today, you also remind us that we are your beloved children. We thank you for this good news! By your Spirit, inspire us to reach out to all people with that same good news. Help us to uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all your children, and to affirm that they also are loved and precious in your sight. This we pray in the name of the One who embraced and welcomed all - Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**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**

Genesis 1:1-10; 31

Pew Bible, page 1

**The New Testament**

Mark 1:4-11

Pew Bible, page 34

**The Continuing Testament** from *You'll Know It When It Happens*

by Caspar Green

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Musical Offering**

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

Horman

**Sermon**

*This Might Get Messy!*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

In a Lowly Manger Born  
[to the tune *Spanish Hymn*]

#16

***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**

Waltz Op. 39, No. 7

Brahms

#### **\*Offertory Hymn**

**Winter has come, its taken hold.**

**The days are short, the nights are cold.**

**The poor need food and light and heat.**

**We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen**

#### **\* Prayer of Dedication**

**Divine Creator of Life, Maker of all things: through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them, we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made. May our giving truly help advance your Reign of Compassion and Peace. This we pray this in the name and Spirit of Jesus Christ, who freely gave himself for us all. Amen.**

### ***Going with God's Love***

#### **\* Hymn of Departure**

Jesus Loves Me

#327

#### **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.*

A musical score for the hymn "Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja". It consists of two staves of music in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The guitar 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.

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Give Us Vision

Olmsted

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Nancy Allenson, Cheryl Speith, Rudy Lorenzo, Dan Renovetz, Addy Baldwin, G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, Don & Eleanor Kusa, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Doug Lightbody, Kathleen Stewart, 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 4, 2015 – Adults: 79 Kids: 14 Total: 93

***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.

**BUCC MUSIC MINISTRY:** Our Percussion Group's first practice of 2015 will be Sunday Jan. 11 at 5:30 before Youth Ministry from 6-7:30. Piano lessons start up again this Wed. & Thursday afternoons. Recorder/dulcimer ensemble takes a break during Jan. because of vacationing members.

**MORE NEW OFFERTORY WORDS!** Our Spiritual Life Ministry Team realized that the words we had been singing as we present our offerings, said little about our giving. Max Roha, who came up with the idea, gave us our first set of words. Bill Toneff then rose to the challenge and penned the words we used in Advent through Christmas. Today, we're introducing another one that Max wrote for the Winter months. Now we would like your contributions for additional options! You don't need to be a trained musician nor an accomplished poet. Just put your feelings into wording that reflects your own expressions of our Sunday morning offering. They could be suitable for any time of year, or they might be seasonal [Christmas, Easter, Spring, Fall, etc.] Please submit your ideas [or questions] to Pastor Dave or Dave Debick, who will share them with our Spiritual Life Ministry members. And, voila, you will have found new words of praise that will add depth to our BUCC worship experience!

**A BIG "THANK YOU"** to my BUCC Family and Friends for all the lovely Christmas cards, gifts, and goodies that I received throughout the holidays. Your on-going expressions of care and support for me and my ministry among you is truly amazing and touching. Thank you all  
- Pastor Dave

**FINANCE** "Be sure to date your checks 2015. If you have not already, also pick up your 2015 pledge envelopes. If you would like envelopes, please see Joy Garapic."

**FINANCE** The amount collected for the Christmas Fund was \$1,271. This fund is used to supplement monthly pensions for lower-income retired UCC clergy and lay employees. Such needs as food, utilities, and living and medical expenses are included. Quarterly health premium supplementation, especially for prescription medication is also included. Emergency grants are provided when needed, and also "thank you" gift checks for these Veterans of the Cross are given as a special gift to remind them they have not been forgotten.

The check sent to the Western Reserve Association in 2013 amounted to \$763. Thank you for your generous support.

**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.

**OUR COMPLETE WORSHIP SERVICE**, including anthems, hymns, etc., is fed by our sound system to our 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.

**AFTER WORSHIP LUNCH BUNCH** - All are welcome to join this spirited group of BUCC worshipers after coffee hour for brunch and some great conversation. We meet at a restaurant most Sundays around Noon. If you are single, widowed, a couple, or a family – anyone that just doesn't want to cook or dine alone, please join us. You'll be glad you did! We usually call in reservations around 11:30, to give the restaurant fair warning. Jon Thompson, Susan Snyder, Dave Debick, Bridget & Chad Sproul, Kathy Smith, Pastor Dave, Justin Smith and I are regulars. Ask any of us how much fun we have! - Marge Culver

**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.

**JANUARY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS** Canned Fruit & Vegetables

**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***.

**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 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** - Genesis 1:1-10; 31

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while the Breath of God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness, Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together, Seas. And God saw that it was good....

God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was all very good!

## **The New Testament** - Mark 1:4-11

John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens open-up

and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came from heaven saying, "You are my Child, my Beloved; with you I am well pleased!"

**The Continuing Testament** - from *You'll Know It When It Happens* - by Caspar Green [Edited]

Baptism might just get you wet. Or it might just change your life. In itself, there's nothing magical about a dip in the water. Even if it's a religiously motivated one, with a formal liturgy, specially blessed water, godparents, and the whole works. What makes it special is what you do with it after you get out of the water.

Talk about baptism almost inevitably leads to arguments about what the proper way to do it is (immersion, sprinkling, pouring) and when is the proper time (infancy, childhood, teenagers, or full-grown adults), and whose name is invoked and how. But really, baptism doesn't have to follow any formula or time or semantics at all.

Whether or not there was any water involved at the moment it happened, your baptism is when you realize who you are at your very core, and you joyfully accept that realization. God says, "You are my beloved child, and that pleases me!" When you truly realize this, the pure joy and assurance that it brings will change the way you live-out the rest of your life.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday 1/11/2015</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Percussion
	6-7:30 pm	Youth Ministry
<b>Monday 1/12/2015</b>	7 pm	Spiritual Life
<b>Tuesday 1/13/2015</b>	10-11:30	CWRU
<b>Wed 1/14/2015</b>	6 am	Early Birds
	7 pm	Council
<b>Thurs 1/15/2015</b>	1 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:30 pm	Choir
<b>Sunday 1/18/2015</b>	10 am	Worship Service
	11 am	Coffee Hour

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**JANUARY 11, 2015**

**Lay Reader:** Tia Began  
**Head Usher:** Diane Gressley  
**Ushers:** Lindsey Maier, Sue Maier  
Wes & Eve Novak  
**Acolyte:** Courtni Began  
**Peace Cndl:** Carli Began  
**Sound:** Val Duffy  
**Comns Grtr:** Marge Culver  
**Narthex Grtr:** Jon Thompson  
**Flowers:** Kathy Pastor  
**Nursery:** Kathy Pastor  
**Counters:** Carole Snider, Donn Whyte  
**Servers:** Dottie Farwell, Vicki Szabo  
**Clean-Up:** Jan Renovetz, Pat Bailey  
**Snacks:** Tina Ortiz & Peg Duffy  
**Snow Hrdr:** Cliff Cribbs

## **PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**JANUARY 18, 2015**

**Lay Reader:** Sam Koch  
**Head Usher:** Jon Thompson  
**Ushers:** Darlene Kelly, Jim Duffy  
Chad & Bridget Sproul  
**Acolyte:** Ben Rehling  
**Peace Cndl:** Indira Bigelow  
**Sound:** David Pastor  
**Comns Grtr:** Ann Kelley  
**Narthex Grtr:** Fred Pesek  
**Flowers:** Sue Stenzel  
**Nursery:** Marla Corrado  
**Counters:** Bruce McCain, Sue Stenzel  
**Servers:** Caroline Chandler, Carole Snider  
**Clean-Up:** Jane & Cliff Cribbs  
**Snacks:** Sue Maier, Kate Klonowski  
**Snow Hrdr:** David Pastor