



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*

Divine Source
of all wisdom
and learning,
send us your
Spirit this day.
Renew and
inspire our
faith, so that
we may hear
and respond
to your call
for justice,
compassion
and peace.
Help us to
work with you
to protect
and refresh
the gifts
of Creation,
especially the
precious gift of
Life itself.
Amen.



Sunday October 11, 2015 • 10:00 AM

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

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, 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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

October 11, 2015 – Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, Creator of Life and Love, fill us with the power of your Spirit. Where there is fear, bring us hope. Where there is despair, give us the desire and means to uplift. Where our ability to communicate is frustrated, open us to new ways of listening, speaking, and acting - so that the Good News of your grace may spread throughout the earth and deepen. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Here Is the Place Irish traditional; arr. Weaving

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

"Here is the place, now is the time:

an inner voice has bid me come –

here in the company where Christ is known

he claims my life, he speaks my name."

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Life of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us praise the Holy One for this glorious day!

People: It is a day to learn and grow, and to share our Faith!

L: Let us rejoice that the Spirit is with us - and within us -

P: Inspiring our hearts and guiding our steps!

L: The Holy Spirit gathers us into Community,

P: Then moves us outward to lives of service!

L: May our ears be open to the voice of our Still-Speaking God,

ALL: And may we graciously respond to Christ's Good News!

*** Hymn of Praise**

God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

#531

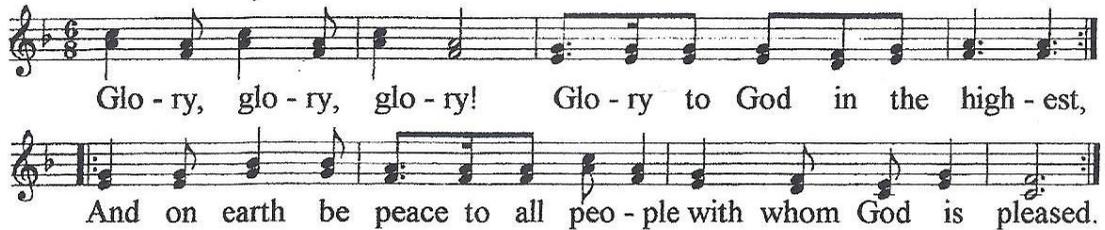
*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Gracious Holy One, we ask that you would enter the lives of each of us here today, to refresh and renew us with the power of your love. May your Spirit inspire us to live with renewed purpose, enthusiasm, and courage. Helps us this day and every day, to faithfully follow the compassionate example of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. 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

from *Psalm 19*

Pew Bible, page 498

The New Testament

Luke 4:14-22

Pew Bible, page 61

The Continuing Testament

from *Non-Virtual Faith*

by Alan Brehm

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Certainly Lord

African-American spiritual

Sermon

God Is Still Speaking...

...through our Confirmands

Hymn of Reflection

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

#351

Hymn of Reflection

Confirmation: An Affirmation of Our Baptism

Pastor: Friends in Christ, we are all welcomed into the Church through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. These young people have found nurture and support in this family of faith. Through prayer and study, they have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of Christ's Church.

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me, and I in them bear much fruit. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Pastor to the Confirmands: Do you desire to affirm your Baptism into the Faith and Family of Jesus Christ? If so, answer "Yes, with the help of God."

Pastor: I invite our BUCC Members and friends to join with our Confirmands in confessing our Faith together.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

All: I believe in God, the Creator and Source of all Life.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, the One who comes to show us God's saving and redemptive love and grace.

Pastor : Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit - the Ever-Present Source who continues to fill our lives with Divine Light and Love.

Laying on of Hands and Blessing

Pastor: _____, do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this Community of Faith, to share regularly in the worship of God, and to join in the work of this Church as it serves this community and the world? If so, answer "I promise, with the help of God."

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: Gracious Holy One, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the Church, the Body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this place, especially for your servants Briana, Victor, Lindsey, and Ian, who affirm their faith this day. Confirm in them and in each of us the power of your love and grace, so that together may we live in the Spirit, lovingly build-up one another, share in the life and worship of the Church, and serve the world for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: I now ask the members and friends of Brecksville United Church of Christ who are able, to rise and join together in affirming our BUCC Covenant of Membership.

*** All: Believing in God as revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior, we dedicate ourselves and our church to the service of God's Realm. Depending as did our fathers and mothers upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us in truth, we covenant with God and with one another to worship, work, and serve together, that we may express through our church and our lives, the love and faith of Jesus Christ.**

*** Words of Welcome**

Pastor: Let us now express our welcome to these new Confirmands, and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

All: We welcome you with joy into the life of this Community of Faith. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and work of the Church.

By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in knowledge and compassion, and be faithful witnesses to the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

*** Passing the Peace**

L: Let us now greet our new Confirmands and one another with the peace of Christ. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you!

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

Fugue

Schumann

***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 love we share our gifts. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

Gracious Source of Life, bless us now and the gifts that we bring. May your redeeming word of hope be spoken through us and through our gifts, in this place and throughout our world.

Grant that the Fire of your Spirit may warm our hearts and radiate out from us as deeds of love and service. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, Example, and Friend. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure You Are Called to Tell the Story #357

* 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

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 two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. 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. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Benediction

Postlude Fantasia in C major J. S. Bach

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Jill Black, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Bill Harris, Doris Schmid, 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, October 4, 2015 – Adults: 80 Kids: 20 Total: 100

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS -Briana Brown, Victor Fawcett [Melfo], Lindsey Maier, and Ian Stewart. We are proud of their dedicated work in this past year to learn more about the Church and the Christian faith. We are truly blessed to have them, and many other wonderful young people, among us!

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Gina & Jonathan Cook in Appreciation for our Mothers, Judy Gill, and Kathy Cook.

WOW! LAST SUNDAY'S NEIGHBORS-IN-NEED OFFERING was **\$760.25!** Your generous gifts will truly make a positive difference in the lives of our neighbors - those both near and far-away. Thank you for putting your faith into action!

OUR ANNUAL CHURCH RETREAT is coming-up, Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. This year we will be at a new [and closer] location - Furnace Run Metro Park .Our theme this year is "Evangelism: Not Nearly as Scary as Halloween!" Our Retreat provides a great opportunity to gather in a beautiful setting to relax, refresh and get to know ourselves and one another better - so sign up today! Anyone interested in helping coordinate games, music, or other activities for this event - or would like to know more about it - please talk with Pastor

SEASONAL CHOIR – It's not too late to join seasonal choir as we prepare for BUCC's 2015 Christmas cantata, which is scheduled for Sunday Dec. 13. Seasonal choir meets Thurs. evenings from 7-8:00 pm. If you enjoy singing choral music, but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Listening CDs are provided for each vocal part to help with the learning process. High school students are welcome to participate.

QUARTERLY STATEMENTS are available in the Commons Area. Please pick them up to save the cost of "mailing"

COMMITTEE EXPENSES from October 2014 through September, 2015 will be available in the Commons area on Sunday. Please have a committee member pick them up in order to prepare the 2016 budget.

WOMEN UNITED Hi Ladies of the Church. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 10/21/2015 at 11:30AM. Bring a lunch and Friends are always welcome. Our Culinary Bee, Bettina Ortiz will lead us in some great baking/decorating ideas. As always Coffee and Tea will be provided.

Please note the slightly used items and antique sale announced previously for the month of October has been cancelled and another project will be taking its place. More on that later.

"CALLING FOR ALL RECIPES!! Please get your recipes in as soon as you can so that they can be typed. Also, it would be wonderful if you could include personal information about the recipe. For example, "this was my grandmother's favorite recipe for chocolate cake and she passed it on to me!" If it is more convenient you can email your recipe to me at: culinarybee@gmail.com. Thank you for your help in making this the best cookbook ever!

Readings

The Old Testament - from *Psalm 19*

The heavens are telling the glory of the Holy One, and the firmament proclaims the Creator's handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. Though there is no actual speech or words, nor is their voice audibly heard - nonetheless their message goes-out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world!

The proclamations of the Holy One are perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Righteous One are sure, making wise the simple. The precepts of Divine Wisdom are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Compassionate One is clear, enlightening the eyes.

There is an everlasting purity that comes from regarding the Holy One with reverence - for the ordinances of our Holy Source are altogether true and righteous.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be irreproachable, and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Holy One, my Rock and my Redeemer. the life of faith.

The New Testament - Luke 4:14-22

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Holy One is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. The Righteous One has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Holy One’s favor.”

Then Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.

The Continuing Testament - from *Non-Virtual Faith* - by Alan Brehm [edited]

It seems that more and more of our lives are focused on what can only be called “virtual reality.” Most of us spend a great deal of time staring at some kind of screen or another - and the younger we are the more this is true for us. Whether it’s composing a document or reading a text, what we’re looking at is not the “real” thing, but pixels meant to represent reality on our screen. And then there’s the internet - the greatest encyclopedic collection of information in the history of the world. But all of it is virtual as well. When we look at pictures of places or people, we’re not looking at the real thing. Even our televisions don’t show us what’s real, but tiny bits of color transmitted over the network to represent people, places and events.

The attraction of Facebook is easy to understand - we spend so much time on our electronic devices anyway, that it's nice to check-in on what our friends are up to. But it's still a virtual connection. There's no human touch in the interchange. However, when it comes to living-out our Faith, and experiencing the life and love that God seeks to bring to us, our fascination with virtual reality will simply not do. The Scriptures are incredibly down-to-earth and practical when it comes to what it looks like to experience a relationship with God, to follow Jesus Christ, or to live-out a life of faith.

The directions for living we find in Jesus' teachings, are intended to be put into practice in *real* life! And they are given to make that life more whole, more peaceful, more joyful. When we live this way, we allow the life and love of God to flow through us - healing the broken and wounded world around us. Living-out the faith that Jesus calls us to embrace, translates into compassion and justice, understanding and kindness - in our actual, real-life relationships with the people around us.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|--|
| Sunday, Oct. 11 | 10:00 am | Worship Service *Confirmation* |
| | 11:00 am | Coffee Hour |
| Tuesday, Oct. 13 | 10:30 am | CWRU Parlor |
| Wed, Oct. 14 | 6:00 am | Early Birds |
| | 4:30 pm | Recorder/Dulcimer |
| | 7:00 pm | Council |
| Thurs, Oct 15 | 1:00 pm | Bible Study |
| | 5:30 pm | Joyful Noise |
| | 7:00 pm | Seasonal Choir |
| | 8:00 pm | Choir |
| Sunday, Oct. 18 | 10:00 am | Worship Service |
| | 11:00 am | Coffee Hour |
| | 5:30 pm | Youth Percussion |
| | 6:00 pm | Youth Ministry |

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

OCTOBER 11, 2015

Lay Reader: Kathy Smith
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Jim Duffy, Linda Kriynovich
Tim Wallis, Kim Dessoffy
Acolyte: Naomi Klonowski
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Narthex Grtr: Lenore Harris
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
Counters: Carole Snider, Stu Bailey
Servers: Dorie Gabor, Joanne Cook
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snacks: Christian Ed.

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

OCTOBER 18, 2015

Lay Reader: Cliff Cribbs
Head Usher: Kathy Smith
Ushers: Fred Pesek, Beth Rehling
David Ritchey, Heidi Spangler
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Max Roha, Tim Wallis
Comns Grtr: Carole Snider
Narthex Grtr: Dorie Gabor
Flowers: Sue Stenzel
Nursery: Gina Cook
Counters: Jan Renovetz, Bruce McCain
Servers: Dottie & Jim Farwell
Clean-Up: Jon Thompson, Jill Zedan
Snacks: Kate Klonowski, Marge Culver