



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*

Our Loving Source of Strength and Hope, sometimes we are afraid to trust. We know we should, and we want to, but our world's obsession with certainty and appearing to be in control can get in the way. Open us to be vulnerable with one another and with you. Teach us to not be afraid, but rather to rely upon your ever-present goodness and grace. Amen.

Second Sunday In

LENT

Sunday March 12, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Second Sunday in 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, 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.

Summer 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 12, 2017 – Second Sunday In Lent

Meditation Music

Holy Spirit of Life, we know that we are in need of rebirth and conversion in so many parts of our lives, so much of the time. We pray today for openness and humility, that we may always be ready to change our thinking and our behavior, as we continue to grow in your love and grace. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

O Breath of Life

Stocks

“O Breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart:
come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your Church in every part.”
George Gilbert Stocks (1877-1960)

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: This is the season of Lent, a season to remember the love and life and self-giving sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

People: It's a time to remember that, in order to follow Christ, we too must die.

L: Through Christ, we die to the fears that keep us from loving.

P: Through Christ, we die to the stubbornness that keeps us from sharing.

L: Through Christ, we die to the desire to seek our own success, in disregard for the good of others.

P: Caring for one another, we find out what it means to truly live.

L: This is the promise of the Holy One: that if we die with Christ, we will also rise with Christ to newness of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

* Hymn of Praise

Lift High the Cross

#198

* Prayer of Invocation [Unison]

Compassionate Holy One, deliver us from complacency about our lives and our world. Warm our hearts with your love, so that we might truly care for the people of our community and beyond. Transform our caring into food for the hungry, healing for the sick, and hope for those who hunger and thirst for justice. May your loving Spirit be our guide and inspiration, today and every day; this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, Example, and Friend. Amen.

***Song of Praise**

Gathered Here - sung twice

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

Genesis 12:1-6

Pew Bible, page 10

The New Testament

John 3:1-12

Pew Bible, page 93

Continuing Testament from *The World You May Be Missing*

by John Killinger

Youth Anthem

Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

Bell

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

Born Again

Third Day

[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]

Sermon

Let's See Your Birth Certificate!

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

Come to Tend God's Garden

#586

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.**

Response

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema



Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spir - it in this place.



Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.---

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation

Offertory

Glory to God

Vasile

“Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
Traditional liturgical text, adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008

* 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]

Gracious Holy One, Source of our lives and Giver of every good gift: accept these offerings that we present here today. May they serve as symbols of our love and commitment to you and to your saving work in this world. May they also be a sign of our willingness to give our whole hearts and lives in dedicated service to you and to your message of love and peace. We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, the One who willing laid down his life for us all. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name [Verse 1]

#80

***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*

Musical notation for the hymn "Hear our prayer, O God". The notation is on two staves, both in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. 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**

Postlude

Tocatta and Fugue in A minor

Eberlin

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

"Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Jim Pay, Ann Toneff, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Doris Schmid, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, 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, March 5, 2017 – Adult: 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 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.

HEADS UP! CHANGES IN OUR LITURGY - A longstanding Lenten tradition in the Christian Church is to “put away” hymns or verses which contain “Alleluia.” The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday our “Alleluias” can ring-forth with a new freshness and vigor, as we welcome the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different **Song of Praise**, and concluding hymn for the benediction today.

For our **Offertory Hymn** we will be using words that Bill Toneff wrote to fit the tune of the Doxology, reflective of the Lenten Season

OUR HYMN OF THE MONTH for March is *Come to Tend God’s Garden*, written by John A. Dalles, and set to Ralph Vaughan Williams’ hymn tune *King’s Weston*. The contemplative words and melody of this hymn seem fitting for Lent, as we watch the world once again begin to green and grow, and consider our role in the care and nurture of both the earth, and of our Faith.

If you find a particular hymn with words that move you, or a melody that intrigues you, please let Pastor Dave or Dave Debick know, and we will try to use it as a future Hymn of the Month.

TUESDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY - This Tuesday March 14th at 7:15 pm, we will continue our study on “How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with....” Each week, we will share some of our personal experiences and insights concerning the different ways our Faith informs and inspires us as we face specific issues and concerns. BUCC member Leroy Ford will share with me in leading these sessions, drawing on his 40+ years of experience as a Presbyterian minister. As always, the real heart of our time together will be the sharing and support of all those who gather and participate each week. This week’s topic is “How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with... Unfairness, and Injustice, Anger and Despair.” I hope you’ll be able to join us, and that you’ll bring a friend! Pastor Dave

FYI - The UCC Ohio Conference Board of Directors voted at its February meeting to sell our Pilgrim Hills Camp in Brinkhaven, Ohio. Temple Hills Camp in Belleville, Ohio, will be retained with a plan to renew its physical plant so it can more effectively serve the faith formation ministries of the churches of our Ohio Conference. This decision does not affect the 2017 summer camp programs at Pilgrim Hills.

FREE CONCERT AT BUCC – On Sunday March 26 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring the **Mosa String Quartet** from the Cleveland Institute of Music. The ensemble will perform works by Schubert, Beethoven and Ravel. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the concert. Plan on joining us on March 26 for an outstanding program of chamber music.

WOMEN UNITED We will be meeting on Wed., March 15 at 11:30 am. We are making adult bibs for a local nursing home. All materials will be provided.

Feel free to bring sharp scissors, and extra pins. Come and help! It will be a busy and fun time. Bring your lunch, coffee & tea provided. Questions - call Dorie 440-552-4029.

PICTORAL DIRECTORY IS COMPLETE AND READY FOR PICK-UP! For those of you that have a picture in the Directory please find your copy on the counter in the Office, and please sign your name that you have received your copy. It is really beautiful – enjoy!

CHRISTIAN ED is planning a field trip to Hale Farm and Village on April 8th for their program A Fugitive's Path: Escape on the Underground Railroad. This is an evening program recommended for children and adults ages 10 and up. Tickets are \$12 for children and \$18 for adults. Please let Heidi Spangler know if you wish to attend by March 12th. The program is filling up quickly so we need to make a reservation in advance.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Genesis 12:1-6

Now the Holy One said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Holy One had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

The New Testament - John 3:1-12

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Truly, I tell you, no one can see the Realm of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, I tell you, no one can enter the Realm of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

Continuing Testament - from *The World You May Be Missing* - by John Killinger [edited]

I have discovered that my ideas of reality are what I have been programmed to think of as reality, but that there are hundreds, thousands of ways of thinking of reality that are out there beyond my consciousness, my limited way of seeing the world. And if I am tolerant today of viewpoints different from my own - those of Muslims and Hindus, gays and lesbians, minorities and immigrants, vegetarians and vegans - it's because I realize how completely I am at the mercy of my restricted vision of Life, how wrong I may be about things; not because of what I know but because of what I don't know. There are whole worlds out there that I am missing.

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "You can't see the things I am trying to teach you from where you've been standing. You must be born again, this time from above." He said to the woman at the well, "If you only knew who is asking you for some water, you would be asking him for a drink, and he would give you *living* water of such fine essence that your soul would never thirst again."

"If you only knew." That's the defining phrase, isn't it? If you could only see the other worlds, the other possibilities, you would enter another dimension and your life would be twice or three times or a hundred times as rich as it is now. "If you only knew." It is arrogant to refuse other worlds just because we don't already know them or haven't already seen them. It is arrogant and foolish, limiting and sad.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 12	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Tuesday, March 14	7:15 pm	Lenten Study
Wed., March 15	6:00 am	Early Birds
	11:30 am	Women United
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer
Thurs., March 16	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Saturday, March 18	9:00 am	Potluck set-up
Sunday, March 19	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Corned Beef Potluck
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 12, 2017

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: Kate Klonowski, Beth Rehling
Ian Stewart, Cliff Cribbs

Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lilly Hunt
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: Betty Gifford
Nursery: Robin Coyer-Westerberg
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Joanne Cook, Vicki Szabo
Clean-Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks: Kathleen Stewart, Marilyn Wrights
Snow Herder: Matt Wolbert

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 19, 2017

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Bridget Sproul
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Dave & Julie Bernard

Acolyte: Ryan Stewart
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Chad Sproul
Flowers: Kathy Pastor
Nursery: Marla Corrado
Counters: David Pastor, Dave Bernard
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Marge Culver
Clean-Up: CORNED BEEF POTLUCK
Snacks: MEMBERSHIP
Snow Herder: Wes Novak

CELEBRATE EASTER WITH FLOWERS IN OUR SANTUARY



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 2, 2017

I Enclose \$12.00 _____ or other _____ for Easter Plants

***In Memory of _____
In Honor of _____ Other _____***

Your Name

I will keep the Flowers _____

I will NOT keep Flowers _____

I will help Deliver Plants to shut-ins after Easter _____