



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*

We find so many reasons to give up, O Holy Source of Life. Help us to not do that. Help us to know that in the midst of the hopelessness and despair that we encounter, you are indeed present in our lives. May your Living Presence inspire us to continue faithfully forward, and turn our darkness into light. Amen.

Fifth Sunday In

LENT

Sunday April 2, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Fifth 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

April 2, 2017 – Fifth Sunday In Lent

Meditation Music

Our Gracious and Loving Source, we pray that your peace and justice may spread and prevail throughout the earth. We also pray that you would use us as your willing instruments to help make it so! Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude God Is My Welfare, My Help and Comfort Bach

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Divine Source of Mercy, Strength, and Peace,

People: We bring ourselves to you this day.

L: We bring all that we value;

P: We bring all that we love.

L: We bring our hopes and our fears;

P: We bring our faith and our prayers.

L: Gather us together in your grace,

All: And guide us in your loving ways!

*** Hymn of Praise** O My Soul, Bless Your Creator #13

*** Prayer of Confession [Unison]**

Eternal Holy One, we look to your saving power and grace. Enter those parts of ourselves that disturb us and heal them. Use our broken places as the places where you bring us together in community. Transform our own weakness into compassion for the weakness of others. Give us that graceful combination of humility and self-esteem that we may see ourselves and others as you see us - your restored and loved people. Amen.

*** The Assurance of Pardon**

L: One fact remains and does not change: God has loved us, loves us now, and will love us always. This is the Good News that brings us new life.

All: Thanks be to God!

*** Passing the Peace**

L: As God's forgiven and renewed people, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ.

The Peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

***Song of Praise**

Gathered Here - sung twice

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first two measures of the melody, with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The second staff contains the next two measures, with a '3' above the first measure and a '4' above the second measure. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Gath-ered here in the mys-tery 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 130

Pew Bible, page 573

The New Testament

From John Chapter 11

Pew Bible, page 104

The Continuing Testament

from *Lazarus Is Us!*

by Alyce McKenzie

Time with Young Worshipers

Musical Offering

I Am the Bread of Life

Toolan, arr. Debick

Sermon

Waking The Walking Dead

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

As Moses Raised the Serpent Up

#605

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

I Am Available to You

Cáceres

"I am available to you...
Take me just as I am.
Change me as only you can!
Make me a part of your plan!
I am available...I am available to you, O God."
Abraham Cáceres, 2007

* 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, help us to see and to trust the signs of your love which surround us every day, particularly in our times of trouble. Open our hearts to find new ways to serve you and to support others, particularly in their times of trouble. Renew our compassion and inspire our giving, through Jesus Christ, our Hope and our Joy. Amen

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Eat This Bread Together
[sung twice]

#788

The Thanksgiving

Leader: The Holy One be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts!

P: Our hearts rejoice in our Creator's Presence!

L: Let us give thanks for the Spirit's abundant love!

P: It is good to raise our thanks and praise!

L: Because you show us your perfect Love in the person of Jesus Christ, who endured the Cross for the sake of us all, it is right that we should give you thanks and praise, saying,

All: Holy, holy, holy, Source of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O Holy One Most High!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Communion

F. de La Tombelle

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

Divine Source of all blessings, we give you thanks and praise for Jesus, the Light of the World - the Light that no darkness can overcome. We thank you that you have called us to walk in your light and have nourished us for our journey with this Bread of Life. Fill us with your Spirit and guide us in your way of peace. Amen.

Going with God's Love

*** Hymn of Departure**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
[verse 1]

#77

***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



***Benediction**

Postlude

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Hampton

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, George Snider, "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 26, 2017 – Adult: 78 Kids: 13 Total: 91

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.

FOR OUR COMMUNION SERVICE, grape juice is used instead of wine for the purpose of showing solidarity with those among us who may be in recovery from addiction.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Bettina Ortiz in Memory of her Mother, Betty June Ortiz, 4/11/1920-10/9/2011

TODAY'S FLOWERS are also given by Max Roha in Memory of Mary C. Roha and Lois L. Wallin.

Last Week's ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Offering totaled \$637.00. Thank you for your generous giving.

TUESDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY - This Tuesday April 4th at 7:15 pm, we will have our final session on "How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with...." Each week, we 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. This week's topic is "How Our Faith Helps Us Deal with...Disagreements and Divisions in Church and Society." Please plan to join us, and bring a friend!

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS - Today is the deadline to order Easter Flowers for the Sanctuary. If you are interested, please fill out the order form on the back cover of the Bulletin, and return it with payment to Joy Garapic.

HUNGER MEAL – Today we are serving a hunger meal at Bethany UCC. The menu and opportunity to sign up to help are on the sign-up board in the narthex, as well as directions to the church.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP meets at 1 p.m., Monday, April 3rd in the Parlor to discuss Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver. Peg Duffy will lead the group. If you haven't read the book come anyway to see if you would like to read it in the future.

SPRING CLEAN UP - The Annual Spring clean-up will be taking place on Saturday, April 8th starting at 9:00 am weather permitting. We need volunteers to help. Please feel free to bring rakes, leaf blowers or any other yard tool. A member of the facilities committee will be available during coffee hour with a sign-up sheet. Thank You.

The Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Holy One, hear my prayers! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O God, should mark iniquities, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the Holy One, my soul waits, and in God's word I hope. My soul waits for the Holy One more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the dawn. O Israel, hope in the Holy One! For with the Holy One there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem. It is the Holy One who will redeem Israel from all iniquities.

The New Testament - from John Chapter 11

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha....So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Rabbi, he whom you love is ill."....Though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jewish authorities were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world...."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary stayed at home. Martha said to him, "Jesus, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Chosen One of God, the One coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him....When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Jesus, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and those who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Come and see." Jesus wept. So they said, "See how much he loved him!" But others said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha said to him, "there is already a stench, because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "My Heavenly Parent, I thank you for having heard me. I know that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Continuing Testament - from *Lazarus Is Us!* - by Alyce McKenzie [edited]

The Fourth Gospel repeatedly uses the physical realm as a metaphorical pointer to the spiritual realm. Water is a metaphor for the quenching of our spiritual thirst through Jesus' presence; Jesus is the Living Water. The bread Jesus multiplies to feed the crowd is a metaphor for the satisfaction of our spiritual hunger that Jesus brings; Jesus is the Bread from Heaven. Sight is a metaphor for the spiritual vision and clarity that Jesus brings; Jesus is the Light of the World. The restoration of physical life to Lazarus is a metaphor for breaking-free from the bonds of spiritual death, leading into the gift of eternal life that Jesus brings. Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life.

Lazarus is the "one Jesus loves". He represents *all* those whom Jesus loves, which includes you and me and all of humankind. This story, then, is the story of our coming to life from death in this present moment, not just in a future event. The epiphany is that we are to see ourselves in Lazarus and see the miracle of his restoration of physical life as the beginning of our entry into eternal life, which begins the moment we accept Jesus' offer of a life-giving relationship with us.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, April 2	10:00 am	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour *Hunger Meal – Bethany*
Monday, April 3	1:00 pm 7:30 pm	Book Review Facilities	
Tuesday, April 4	7:15 pm	Lenten Study	
Wed., April 5	6:00 am 4:30 pm	Early Birds Recorder/Dulcimer	
Thurs., April 6	1:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Bible Study Joyful Noise Seasonal Choir Choir	
Saturday, April 8	9:00 am	Spring clean-up	
Sunday, April 9	10:00 am 11:00 am 5:30 pm 6:00 pm	Worship Service Coffee Hour Youth Percussion Youth Ministry	

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 2, 2017

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk
Head Usher Jon Thompson
Ushers: Diane Gressley, Sam Koch,
Linda Kriynovich, Fred Pesek
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comms Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Bettina Ortiz
Nursery: Marla Corrado
Counters: Nancy Stella, Carole Snider
Servers: Marge Culver, Caroline Chandler
Clean Up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Jim Pay, Susan Snyder
Snow Herder: Cliff Cribbs

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

APRIL 9, 2017 PALM SUNDAY

Lay Reader: Darlene Kelly
Head Usher: Caroline Chandler
Ushers: Tim & Kim Wallis
Chad & Bridget Sproul
Acolyte: Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Peace Candle: Amy Coyer-Westerberg
Sound: David Pastor
Comms Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: Palms
Nursery: Gina Cook
Counters: Donn Whyte, Sue Stenzel
Servers: Joanne Cook, Carole Snider
Clean-Up: Peg & Jim Duffy
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Heidi Spangler
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

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 – TODAY! 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 _____