



# 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*

Loving and Gracious Holy One, as we prepare to worship you today, we acknowledge that there are still things in our lives that separate us from one another. Whether they be personal, cultural, or religious, we ask that you would remove these barriers from us, so that we might know your forgiving and healing peace. Amen.



***“Go Into The Streets, And Invite Everyone You Find To The Wedding Banquet.”***

***Matthew 22:9***

**Sunday October 15, 2017 • 10:00 AM**

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

*Pastor*

• Rev David Shackley

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

## October 15, 2017 – Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

### Meditation Music

Divine Source of compassion and grace, unite us in your circle of love. Help us to remember that you invite us all to be part of your Family of Faith. May we respond to your invitation by joyfully joining our hearts and our hands with all your children, wherever we might encounter them. Amen.

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

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

**Prelude** Epithalamium (Wedding Hymn) Woodman

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

### **Bearing the Light of Christ**

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

Leader: Come, let us gather in the awareness of Divine Love.

**People: The Love which gives us life and brings us to this time and place.**

L: Let us gather in the confidence and hope that the Holy One's Presence brings us,

**P: Knowing that we are forgiven and accepted by a power greater than ourselves.**

L: Because we are forgiven, we too can forgive.

**P: Because we are welcomed, we too can welcome others.**

L: Let us rejoice in the Holy One's marvelous grace!

**All: Let us offer the Holy One our worship and praise!**

**\* Hymn of Praise** Enter, Rejoice, and Come In #73

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

**Loving and Gracious Holy One, in your mercy you offer wholeness and restoration to all your children. Help us, as your faithful people, to extend to others the same love, grace, and welcome that you extend to us. May we, like Jesus, learn to overcome the social stigmas and prejudices of our day. Let the power of your Holy Spirit work in us and through us, that we may praise you with joy and serve you with ever-thankful hearts. 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

Psalm 106:1-5, 48

Pew Bible, page 557

The New Testament

Matthew 22:1-14

Pew Bible, page 24

The Continuing Testament from *Inclusive Christianity*

by Paula Coppe

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Anthem**

Gather 'Round This Table  
*[Assisted by Youth Percussion Group]*

Haugen

**Sermon**

*If Only They had Eloped...*

Pastor Dave Shackle

**Hymn of Reflection**

Shadow and Substance  
[Hymn of the Month]

#398

***The Church at Prayer***

**Silent Meditation**

**Prayers of the Church**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

*[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**

My Gratitude Now Accept, O God

Montalvo

"From all your bounty I give to you;  
for all the blessings you impart.  
Receive this offering I bring.  
Receive my joyful heart."

Rafael Montalvo, b. 1957; trans. Raquel M. Martinez, b. 1940

#### **\* 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 joy we share our gifts. Amen.**

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

**Divine Source of all Life and Giver of every good gift: accept these offerings that we present today. May they serve as symbols of our commitment to you, and to your saving work in this place and in this world. May they also be a sign of our willingness to devote our lives to carry-forward your message of welcome and love. This we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, who graciously welcomes us all. Amen.**

## ***Holy Communion***

### **Words of Institution**

### **Prayer of Consecration**

### **The Invitation**

### **Receiving the Bread and Cup**

### **Communion Music**

Adagio from Sonata No. 8, Op. 13

Beethoven

### **The Blessing**

## Going with God's Love

\* Hymn of Departure                      Lead On, Eternal Sovereign                      #573

\*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*

Musical notation for the hymn "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah". The score is written for two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is on the top staff, and the accompaniment is on the bottom staff. The lyrics are: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The accompaniment includes chords: A, E7, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A.

### \*Benediction

Postlude                      Take the Path of the Disciple                      Pratt

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

Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Bill Simpson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Jan & G. Wardlaw, Doris Schmid, Kirk & Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, 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 October 8, 2017 – Adults: 68 Kids: 10 Total: 78**

## **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 Dorothy Faust, in Memory of her parents, Clinton & Caroline Tallant.

**OUR "HYMN OF THE MONTH"** for October is *Shadow and Substance* by Daniel Damon. Damon is an internationally published writer of hymn texts and tunes, and a jazz pianist in the San Francisco Bay area. He has a Master of Divinity Degree from Pacific School of Religion, and is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church. According to Damon, what he seeks to do with today's hymn, and with each hymn he composes is "To keep things simple and singable, while at the same time exploring the edges of our spoken and sung faith."

**DON'T MISS EDIE O'DONNELL NEXT SUNDAY!** Former BUCC Pastor Edie O'Donnell will be with us for worship next Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Those of you who knew her, certainly won't want to miss her. Those who didn't know her, will certainly want to meet her! Please plan to stay after worship for a special Coffee hour as well!

**STEWARDSHIP** Our annual Stewardship 2018 is underway. Stewardship Sunday will be November 12. This year our theme is **Journey to Generosity: The Way of Jesus** and the scripture from Matthew 9:25 to 10:23 is the focus of reflection. Please take a few moments to read the insert included in this bulletin as well as reflect on what Stewardship means to you and to our broader church family. And note that by the end of October, you should receive a letter from our moderator that includes a pledge card. **What is stewardship?** Loving God and loving neighbor. We have an opportunity to make commitments — both material and symbolic — to help this congregation love God and love neighbor in the days, weeks, months, and year ahead.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The fall cleanup of the church grounds will be Saturday, November 4 at 9 am. The Facilities Ministry would appreciate assistance from the congregation in completing this task. In the event of inclement weather, the alternate date will be November 11.

**SEASONAL CHOIR:** It's not too late to join seasonal choir, which has begun preparing for this year's Christmas cantata. Practices are on Thursday evenings from 7-8 PM; the cantata is scheduled for Sunday Dec. 10. If you enjoy singing in a group setting but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir is a wonderful opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for Christmas. Listening CDs are provided to help make the learning process easier. High school students are welcome to participate. Contact Dave D. with any questions.

**FREE CONCERT:** On Sunday Oct. 29 at 4:00 PM, Brecksville UCC will host a free concert featuring the **Obertones** from Oberlin College. The Obertones are a men's *a cappella* choral ensemble that performs a broad range of current musical styles, including pop, alternative, R & B, and classic rock. A free-will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the performance. Plan on joining us on Oct. 29 to hear this highly recommended group.

**HURRICANE RELIEF** - Our UCC Disaster Ministries is already connecting with local congregations and agencies for long-term recovery work in the regions affected by the recent hurricanes. Your contributions help provide community support for holistic recovery for families and children, repairing houses and homes, and restoring dignity for the most vulnerable who have lost everything in the wake of these catastrophic events. Gifts may be made to BUCC, marked for "Hurricane Relief" and they will be sent through our Ohio Conference office. So far BUCC Members have contributed **\$2,426** to this effort. Thank You!

**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.

**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.

**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***.

## ***Readings***

### **The Old Testament - Psalm 106:1-5; 48**

Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God, who is good; whose steadfast love endures forever. Who can count the mighty deeds of our Gracious Creator, or declare all of wonderful works of the Holy One? Happy are those who follow God's way, who observe justice and do righteousness throughout their lives.

Remember me, O Holy One, when you bless your people; help me when you deliver them. That I may see the abundance of your grace, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your people, that I may glory in your life-long generosity....

Blessed be the Holy One, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen! Praise God!"

### **The New Testament - Matthew 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The Divine Realm may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited to the banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, mistreated them, and killed them.

The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' The man was silent and said nothing. So the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

**The Continuing Testament** - from *Inclusive Christianity* - by Paula Coppe  
[edited]

We know Jesus as loving and kind, but he was also a passionate advocate for change, and a bold reformer. He is perhaps best known for reaching out to the disenfranchised - women, the poor, the oppressed, the sick, lepers and tax collectors. Jesus made it clear that the Divine Realm was for everyone. Through his actions, he demonstrated that all people are welcome at the Table in that Realm - and *all* means *all*! Jesus was a champion of the oppressed - the living example of unconditional love - and he vehemently opposed exclusionary practices.

Although discrimination in his day may have centered around gender, health, social status and religious practices, it could just as easily have been discrimination based on nationality, ethnicity, race and sexual preference, as we see today. Yet Jesus puts no qualifiers on his admonition to “love one another”. Through his teaching and example, we see that to live with an open and inclusive heart is to know the meaning of heaven on earth. It is to know that truly, we are one.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday, October 15</b>	<b>10:00 am</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>
<b>Wednesday, October 18</b>	<b>6:00 am</b> <b>11:30 am</b> <b>4:30 pm</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Early Birds</b> <b>Women United</b> <b>Recorder/Dulcimer</b> <b>Leadership Development</b>
<b>Thursday, October 19</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b> <b>5:30 pm</b> <b>7:00pm</b> <b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> <b>Joyful Noise</b> <b>Seasonal Choir</b> <b>Choir</b>
<b>Sunday, October 22</b>	<b>10:00 am</b> <b>11:00 am</b> <b>5:30 pm</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship Service</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b> <b>Youth Percussion</b> <b>Youth Ministry</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE**

**OCTOBER 15, 2017**

Lay Reader: Darlene Kelly  
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel  
Ushers: Ed Lusk, Beth Rehling  
Jim Pay, Jess Barnes  
Acolyte: Jillian Davis  
Peace Candle: Ben Davis  
Sound: Doug Fawcett  
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul  
Flowers: Dottie Faust  
Nursery: Valerie Taylor  
Counters: Marge Culver, Stu Bailey  
Servers: Joanne Cook, Carole Snider  
Clean-Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs  
Snacks: Sue Stenzel, Marla Corrado

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE**

**OCTOBER 22, 2017**

Lay Reader: Sam Koch  
Head Usher: Jill Zedan  
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler  
Dave & Julie Bernard  
Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett  
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski  
Sound: Tim Wallis  
Comns Grtr: Carole Snider  
Flowers: Carole Snider  
Nursery: Gina Cook  
Counters: Donn Whyte, Kathy Pastor  
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel  
Clean Up: Jim & Peg Duffy  
Snacks: Bettina Ortiz, Gina Cook