

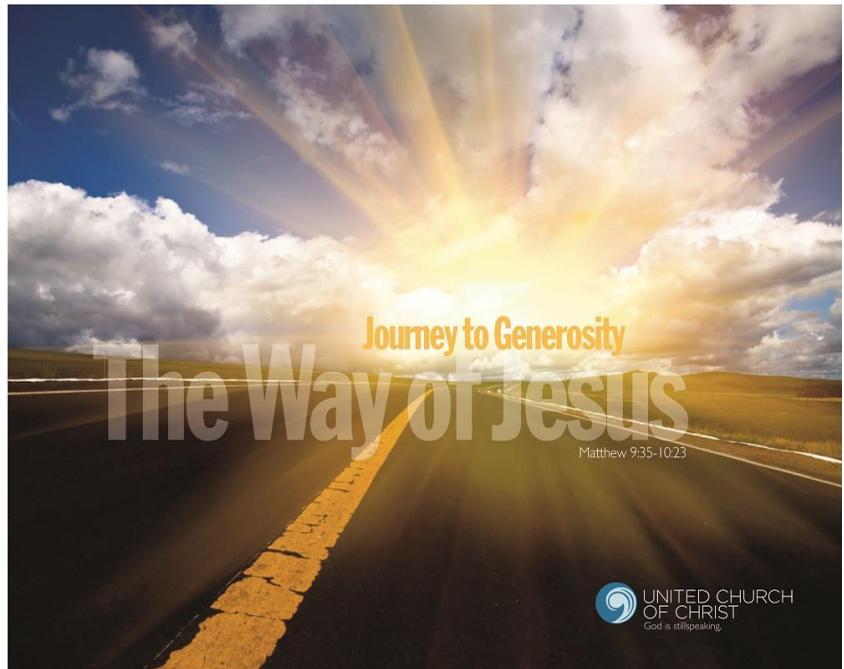
BRECKSVILLE

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*

Gracious Holy One, thank you for your amazing work in our lives, for your goodness and for your blessings. Help us to respond to your kindness and generosity, by being kind and generous to others. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy, and help us to continue to walk in your loving ways. Amen.



***Freely You Have Received, Freely Give.”
Matthew 10:8***

**Sunday November 12, 2017 • 10:00 AM
Stewardship Sunday**

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, 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

November 12, 2017 – Stewardship Sunday

Meditation Music

Divine Source of Life and Love, teach us how to be grateful and joyful for the wonderful blessing of Life which enrich us each day. And from that joy and gratitude, help us to be gracious and generous to others - those both near and far. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

As Saints of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

Sateren

"In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way."
Frank von Christierson, 1960

Introit

We Lift Our Voices

Liles

Bearing the Light of Peace

Bearing the Light of Christ

* Call to Worship

Leader: The world unfolds before us from our One Divine Source,

People: Who asks that we care for it with love.

L: Jesus Christ invites us to be part of his One Family,

P: And asks that we welcome all others to join us.

L: The Holy Spirit fills us with power and compassion,

P: Then calls us to transform the world with justice and peace.

L: The Holy One blesses us in so many different ways,

P: So that we, in turn, may be a blessing to others.

L: Let us joyfully raise our voices together,

All: And let our praise and thanks to God resound!

*Hymn of Praise

Sing Praise to God

#22

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Holy Creator, Giver of all good things: we praise you for the beauty of nature and for the bounty of the earth. We give thanks for Life's seasons and cycles: for day and night, summer and winter, seedtime and harvest. We thank you for Life's comforts and joys: for our homes, our friends, our families and our Church Family. In grateful response for all these blessings, may we strive to be more kind and compassionate, gracious and generous. 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

Deuteronomy 8:11-18

Pew Bible, page 165

The New Testament

Matthew 9:35-10:4

Pew Bible, page 9

The Continuing Testament from *Freely You Are to Give*

by Sherry Antonetti

Anthem

A Common Love

Brown

Sermon

A Round-Trip Ticket to Generosity

Pastor Dave Shackle

Hymn of Reflection

O God in Whom All Life Begins

#401

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

Multiplied

William "Bear" Rinehart

"God of mercy, sweet love of mine,
I have surrendered to Your design.
May this offering stretch across the skies,
And these hallelujas be multiplied."
Nathaniel "Bo" Rinehart, b. 1981

* 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

Gracious Holy One, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions - signs of your goodness and love. Receive them for the sake of the One who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Presenting Our Pledges for 2018

[Please come forward and place your pledges in the basket]

Hymn of Dedication

We Praise You, O God

#420

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

With voices united our praises we offer,
And gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.
Our faith now confessing, we pray for your blessing;
To you, our Great Redeemer, forever be praise!

*Prayer of Commitment

Pastor: With joy and thanksgiving, let us dedicate our pledges of commitment and support for the work of Christ's Church in this place and in our world.

All: Gracious Holy One, may these pledges serve as a sign of our gratitude for all your Life-giving gifts to us, and as a symbol of our renewed commitment to serving you in this place and throughout our world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shows us how to freely and generously live, love, and give. Amen.

Going with God's Love

* Hymn of Departure For the Fruit of All Creation #425

*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.

*Benediction

Postlude Fugue in C Major Buxtehude

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 November 5, 2017 – Adults: 81 Kids: 12 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.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given In Loving Memory of Bill Harris. Dedicated by his family, who misses him – Lenore, Becky, Mindy, Billy, Alli, Travis, Travis, Jesse and Joshua.

TODAY IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY. 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. You should have received a letter from our moderator that included a pledge card. If you forgot your pledge card today, there are extras available, please let an usher know. If you wish to return your card that was mailed to you, please return it as soon as possible as it is used in the budget planning for 2018. Thank you so much, for loving God and loving neighbor. We have an opportunity to make commitments — both material and symbolic — to help this congregation and our neighbors in the days, weeks, months, and year ahead.

OUR “HYMN OF THE MONTH” for November is ***O God in Whom All Life Begins*** by Carl P. Daw, Jr., who has authored many contemporary hymns. Daw, an Episcopal priest, served as the Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada from 1996 to 2009. In this hymn, Daw expresses the idea that the Holy One, who is the Source of us all, also calls us all to join together in using our various gifts and talents to serve and love the world.

MITTEN TREE – The mitten tree is in place in the narthex. The weather is turning colder, and there are people who need warm hats, mittens, and scarves. Please respond to their need by placing these items on the mitten tree. This tree is magic, because it fills up two or three times over the cold months. The items are taken to a hunger center, and people can get these items when they pick up food items.

ADVENT BOOK Today is the Deadline for the 2017/2018 Advent Book. Please email your entries to Jeannette at buccoh@sbcglobal.net.

WOMEN UNITED There will be no set meetings for November and December, however, on Tuesday December 5th at 7:00PM Christ The Redeemer Lutheran Church will be presenting their Annual Advent Tea. Several of our women have attended this service in the last few years and found it truly meaningful and welcoming. If you would like to attend this year please meet in the lobby of CRLC and we will sit together. After an eventful service Tea and TRAYS of cookies are served in the Community Room. We highly recommend this opportunity to begin the Advent Season! Please Come!

THE CHANDLERS HAVE MOVED! Here is their new address, phone number, and email address:

**Caroline & Robert Chandler
4913 Nettleton Rd. Apt. 1003
Medina, OH 44256
330-721-3103
rchandler@zoominternet.net**

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 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.

HAVING TROUBLE HEARING PARTS OF THE SERVICE? Please talk to any usher about the Williams Sound - Personal PA Receiver, available for your use. These simple-to-use units can help improve your worship experience, by amplify those parts of the Service that may be more difficult to hear.

DID YOU MISS last Sunday's service or do you just want to have a chance to rehear Pastor Dave's sermon. The Sunday services are recorded in their entirety on audio CDs each week. You can borrow a CD in the church office and listen to it at your convenience at home or in your car. Several recent weeks' recordings are always available. Check them out and check them out.

Readings

The Old Testament - Deuteronomy 8:11-18

Moses said to the people of Israel, "Take care that you do not forget the Holy One, by failing to keep God's commandments, ordinances, and statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Holy One who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. God made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.

Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' But remember the Holy One, for it is God who gives you power to get wealth, so that God may confirm the covenant sworn to your ancestors, as God is doing today.

The New Testament - Matthew 9:35-10:1; 5- 8

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the Divine Realm, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the ruler of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest."

.....These twelve Jesus sent out, and commanded them, saying, "Do not go among the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, preach, saying, 'The Realm of the Holy One is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

The Continuing Testament - from *Freely You Are to Give*

by Sherry Antonetti
[edited]

Christian charity demands we recognize Life is more than the barest of needs....If we want to know how we are to give, we look at Jesus. He made five loaves and two fish feed five thousand people. He made six giant jars of wine for a wedding feast. Divine Love is lavish; ours should be too. Caring for the poor is something we're all called to do, whether through direct ministry or charitable donations. It's a necessary manifestation of our Faith. We are reminded over and over again, 'whatever we do to the least of these, our sisters and brothers, we do unto Christ.' Therefore, we must not simply know *about* the poor, but *know* the poor; not merely care about poverty, but seek to alleviate suffering by being a source of generosity and hope, compassion and friendship.

None of us merit Divine kindness, therefore all of us can freely share with others the Divine kindness that we ourselves have freely received. And we have been given the greatest kindness possible, gifted to us through Jesus Christ. Any generosity we offer, is a pale imitation of Christ's love. And we should remember that we're not only helping others by our generosity, but also ourselves. Because the more we give, the more Christ-like we become. In this regard, service to the poor is not charity. All we have, is a gift. We are merely "giving it forward". Real charity is simply an invitation for you and me to be more Christ-like.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, November 12	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Service/Stewardship Thanksgiving Dinner *Advent Book Submissions Due Today*
Tuesday, November 14	7:00 pm	Welcome & Growth Task Force Parlor
Wednesday, November 15	6:00 am 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Early Birds Recorder/Dulcimer Leadership Development
Thursday, November 16	1:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00pm 8:00 pm	Bible Study Joyful Noise Seasonal Choir Choir
Saturday, November 18	9:00 am	Alternate Fall clean-up
Sunday, November 19	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

NOVEMBER 12, 2017

Lay Reader: Betsey Wilson
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Joe Wilson, Drew Wilson
Linda Kriynovich, Sam Koch
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Jill Zedan
Flowers: Lenore Harris
Nursery: Jonathan Cook
Counters: Donn Whyte, Carole Snider
Servers: Membership Ministry
Clean-Up: Stewardship Ministry
Snacks: Thanksgiving Dinner

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 19, 2017

Lay Reader: Matt Wolbert
Head Usher: Anne Melfo
Ushers: Ed Lusk, Dave & Kathy Pastor,
Jim Pay
Acolyte: Grace Hunt
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt
Sound: Kevin Smith
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: HARVEST
Nursery: Erin Tomlinson
Counters: Kathy Pastor, Jim Duffy
Servers: Sue Stenzel, Marge Culver
Clean-Up: David & Kathy Pastor
Snacks: Gina Cook, Dorie Gabor