

BRECKSVILLE

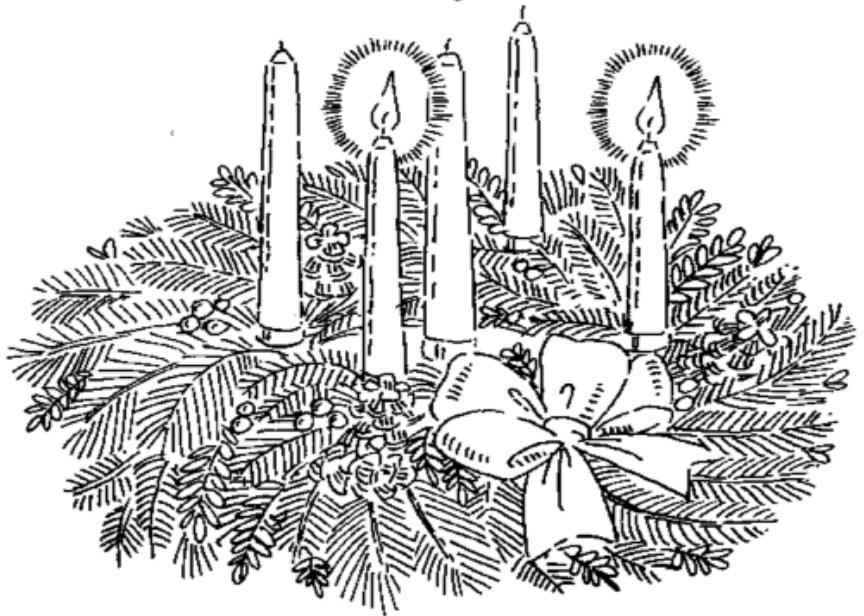
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 44141 • 440-526-4364

*Loving, Serving and Accepting All People
with God's Life-Changing Power*

Compassionate Holy One, in this Advent Season of preparation you challenge us to focus less on ourselves and more on those around us. Inspire and empower us to extend our help and care to others, especially to those who are searching for hope and peace in this Holy Season. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent



Sunday December 10, 2017 • 10:00 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

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

December 10, 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent

Meditation Music

Divine Source of Peace, we pray that your true and lasting peace might be felt throughout this world today. Help us to do our part, by being at peace with ourselves, our families, our neighbors, our friends, and - most importantly - with those we see as our enemies and adversaries. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

From heaven above to earth I come

Pachelbel

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Advent is a season of expectation and celebration.

People: It is a time of anticipation and joy!

L: As we prepare for the coming of that New Day, and await the celebration of Jesus' birth,

P: We also claim Christ's presence with us now, and gladly proclaim the joyous Good News:

L: Christ has come, Christ is here, Christ shall come again!

ALL: Watching and waiting, let us witness and serve - seeing the Christ in others, and revealing Christ's love in ourselves!

*** Hymn of Praise**

Comfort, Comfort O My People
[verse 1]

#101

*** Prayer of Invocation [unison]**

Gracious Holy One, in today's often chaotic and confusing world it is sometimes hard for us to see the signs of your goodness and love. Open our minds and hearts, so that we might recognize where you speak and act. Sharpen our senses to hear the traces of peace, the whispers of hope, and the echos of joy breaking-forth in our world. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the True Sign of your loving presence. 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 image shows two staves of musical notation in 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lighting the Advent Candle

The Candle of Peace

As the Second Advent Candle is lighted, we will sing the second verse of the hymn, *One Candle Is Lit*

Come quickly, Shalom, teach us how to prepare
for a gift that compels us with justice to care.
Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease,
One candle is lit for the Reign of God's Peace.

Leader: Our second Advent Candle is the Candle of Peace.

People: May the Peace of Christ come to our hearts today!

L: Our world is clouded by violence, war and strife;

P: May the light of Christ's peace shine upon our world!

L: Jesus says, "You are the light of the world!"

**P: May the light of Christ shine in us and through us, that we might be living,
radiant signs of Divine Peace!**

The Old Testament

Psalms 85:8-13

Pew Bible, page 543

The New Testament

Luke 1:46-55

Pew Bible, page 57

The Continuing Testament from *Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl*

The Cantata

(*see insert*)

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

Light One Candle to Wait for Messiah

Based on Tif in Veldele (Yiddish love song)

Translation of opening lyrics:
"Deep in the forest stands a tree
and its branches are blooming

*** Offertory Hymn**

**We praise the Babe this time of year,
Sing carols to him whom we hold dear.
Our love, His power, we now proclaim;
We send our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen**

*** Prayer of Dedication [Unison]**

**Gracious Holy One, may these gifts help bring light to those who walk in darkness,
hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are oppressed. Grant to
each of us a sense of participation in the most important work of all: to share your
love with the world. To this end, we dedicate our offerings and ourselves, through
Jesus Christ our Light, Hope, and Peace. Amen.**

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 by Dan & Jan Renovetz, in Celebration of our 59 years of marriage.

NOTE THE CHANGE IN OUR OFFERTORY WORDS! Today, we are using words for our Offertory Hymn that capture the Advent/Christ Season expression of our gratitude and our giving comes from Bill Toneff. Our thanks to him, and to all of you who help enhance our worship experience!

LET'S GO CAROLING! Next Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 pm, our youth, children, and adults will meet at the church to go caroling to our homebound members. This is a great opportunity to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols while bringing a special Christmas greeting to those members who cannot regularly join us for worship. We will return to the church around 4:00 to warm ourselves with some hot chocolate and other goodies!

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.

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*.

WATCH THIS SPACE for more information about the giving tree for the Prentiss Autism Center. This center serves about 97 students with a diagnosis of autism as well as significant cognitive delays and severe behavior. Over half of the students fall below the federal poverty level. The giving tree will appear in the narthex with labels identifying needed toys and clothes hanging on the tree, for BUCC members and friends to respond. In past years, families have been very grateful for support for children who are struggling. If there are questions, please contact Darlene Kelly at 440-856-3897 or at Darlene @pepcleve.org.

DID YOU NOTICE that the magic mitten tree looks comparatively bare? That is because it only took about two weeks to fill up with hats and mittens, etc., thanks to the magic. The magic is the expression of concern for others by BUCC members and friends. Thanks go to all the "magicians" who faithfully keep filling up the tree. ►

Incidentally, the hats and mittens were delivered to Brookside Hunger Center for distribution to families with children when they come to receive food items. The center was very glad to see hats and mittens for the children.

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.

Readings

The Old Testament - Psalm 85:8-13

Let me hear what the Holy One has to say, for the Holy One will speak peace to those who are faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts. Surely Divine salvation is at hand for those who reverence the Holy One, that Divine glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Holy One will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before the Holy One, and will prepare a just pathway.

The New Testament - Luke 1:46-55

Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Holy One, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on me, a lowly handmaiden. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Holy One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name. Divine mercy is for those who reverence the Holy One, from generation to generation. The Holy One has shown strength, and has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ►

The Compassionate One has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted-up the lowly; the Gracious One has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. The Sovereign One has helped Israel, in remembrance of Divine mercy, according to the promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

The Continuing Testament - from *Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl*

In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart. I simply can't build up my hopes on a foundation consisting of confusion, misery, and death. I see the world gradually being turned into a wilderness, I hear the ever approaching thunder, which will destroy us too, I can feel the sufferings of millions and yet, if I look up into the heavens, I think that it will all come right, that this cruelty too will end, and that peace and tranquility will return again.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 10	10:00 am	Worship Service/Cantata
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	12:00 1:00 pm	Pageant Rehearsal
Monday, December 11	7:00 pm	Welcome & Growth Task Force
Wednesday, December 13	7:00 pm	Council
Thursday, December 7	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30pm	Joyful Noise – Pageant Music
Friday, December 8		*Office Closed*
Saturday, December 9	10-2:00 pm	Final Rehearsal – Pageant
		*Lunch Provided
Sunday, December 10	10:00 am	Worship Service/Pageant
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	2:00 pm	Caroling

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE
DECEMBER 10, 2017

Lay Reader: Ed Lusk
Head Usher: Caroline Chandler
Ushers: Betty Kaul, Jim Pay
Dave & Julie Bernard
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Max Roha
Comms Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Carole Snider
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
Counters: David Pastor, Dave Bernard
Servers: Julie Bernard, Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up: Jim & Peg Duffy
Snacks: Receptions
Snow Herder: Dan Stewart

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE
DECEMBER 17, 2017

Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler
Darlene Kelly, Drew Wilson
Acolyte: Michalina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Olivia Klonowski
Sound: Tim Wallis
Comms Grtr: Max Roha
Flowers: POINSETTIAS
Nursery: Marla Corrado
Counters: Marge Culver, Kate Klonowski
Servers: Kathy & Leroy Ford
Clean-Up: Jill Zedan, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Gina Cook, Anne Melfo
Snow Herder: Jim Farwell

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POINSETTIAS IN OUR
SANCTUARY**



Your Donation will buy plants which will be shared after Christmas 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, DECEMBER 10



I Enclose \$12.00 _____ or other _____ for Poinsettias

In Memory _____ or Honor _____ or _____

Of _____

Your Name _____

I WILL HELP DELIVER PLANTS TO SHUT-INS _____

****PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOUR POINSETTIA
OR LEAVE IT HERE FOR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS****

WILL KEEP _____

WILL NOT KEEP _____