

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, help us to trust in your goodness and care, even in our times of uncertainty and doubt. Help us to faithfully follow you, especially when our society and culture moves in a different direction. Help us to express your kindness and grace, particularly when the world around us seems cold and ungracious. This we pray in Christ's name. Amen.



Fifth
SUNDAY
IN
LENT

Sunday March 18, 2018 • 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, 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.

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 18, 2018 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, forgive us when we give-up on others and fail to spend our energy and resources to reach-out and help them. Help us remember how deeply your love has touched and transformed us, so that we in turn might renew our efforts to extend that same love and graciousness to others. Amen.

Gathering in God's Presence

** Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Johnson

"Almighty God, your word is cast
like seed upon the ground,
now let the dew of heaven descend
and righteous fruits abound."
John Cawood (1775-1852), alt.

* **Call to Worship** - from *Psalm 105*

Leader: O give thanks to the Holy One, call upon the Holy One's name;

People: Make known Sovereign One's deeds among the all the nations.

L: Sing to the Holy One, sing praises to our Creator;

P: Proclaim aloud all the Holy One's wonderful works!

L: Glory in the name of the Holy One!

P: Let the hearts of those who seek the Righteous One rejoice!

L: Seek the strength of the Eternal One;

P: Seek the Holy One's Presence continually!

L: Remember all the wonderful works that the Holy One has done,

All: That all people may rejoice in their Creator's wondrous love!

* **Hymn of Praise**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

* **Prayer of Invocation** [Unison]

Gracious Holy One, we give thanks that your compassionate care is for all people and all Creation. Help us to trust in your deep concern for us and for our entire world. Bring your wisdom and power into our lives, that we may join you in bringing help and healing to those in need; that your Reign of justice and peace might be known among all people. Amen.

*** The Song of Praise**

Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]

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 four 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 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Pew Bible, page 735

The New Testament

John 12:20-33

Pew Bible, page 106

The Continuing Testament

from *Solomon's Success*

by Kenneth Samuel

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem

Never the Blade Shall Rise
[Becky Anderson, flute]

Powell

Sermon

They're All Greek to Me

Pastor Dave Shackle

*** Hymn of Reflection**

In Christ There Is No East or West

#394

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

The Prayer of Jesus

[we use "Mother" to reflect our theological understanding of the Inclusive Nature of The Holy One]

...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

The Cross of Jesus

O'Brien

"Strengthen us in our communion,
One in Word and cup and bread.
Here within the cross of Jesus
All who hunger will be fed."
Francis Patrick O'Brien, b. 1958

*** 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]**

Divine Giver of all good gifts, receive and bless the gifts that we bring. Bless us as we offer ourselves to be partners in your redeeming and healing work in the world. Give to us all your Spirit of kindness and generosity, forgiveness and love. This we ask in the Name and Spirit of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

O Lamb of God, Pure, Spotless

J. S. Bach

The Blessing

Going with God's Love

- * Hymn of Departure Help Us Accept Each Other #388
- * 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 Sovereign, Eternal Ruler G. T. Shaw

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Stan McCain, Lou Borzy, Donn Whyte, 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, 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 11, 2018 – Adults: 61 Kids: 15 Total: 76

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 Peg & Jim Duffy in Thanksgiving for our Anniversary. Celebrating a long, faith filled happy marriage.

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE for your Easter Flower Dedications. Please see the order form at the back of the Bulletin if you would like to make a dedication.

A LONG-STANDING LENTEN TRADITION within the Christian Church is to “put away” hymns or verses which contain “Alleluias”, and to set a more reflective tone with our musical selections. The purpose of this is so that on Easter Sunday, our “Alleluias” and praise can ring-out with renewed freshness and vigor, as we hail the Risen Christ. This is why we are using a different Song of Praise and concluding hymn for the benediction today.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – Let us be good stewards of the blessings we hold. Today, we will take up our **One Great Hour of Sharing** collection. This Offering goes towards funding health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, and refugee ministries. Please give as you would want to receive.

THIS TUESDAY OUR FINAL LENTEN STUDY will be held from 7:00-8:15 pm in Pilgrim Hall. For this session we will look at the last [and perhaps oddest] of Jesus' Beatitudes: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake.” We will consider some fascinating insights on this topic, from Franciscan priest Richard Rohr. Plus, we will share the questions, thoughts and ideas that each of you bring to the table. Please join us!

HOLY WEEK/EASTER OPPORTUNITIES AT BUCC:

March 25th - 10 am - Palm Sunday Procession of Palms and reading of the Passion Story

March 29th - Maunday Thursday Soup Supper at 6:30; 7:00 Celebration of Christ's Last Supper and reenacting Christ's example washing his disciple's feet.

March 30th - 7:00 pm. Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary, with the Community of Saint Bridget

March 31st - Holy Saturday - Saint Bridget Easter Vigil at 8:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary [The Community of Saint Bridget is the group that holds Mass here on Saturdays, led by Ann Klonowski and Mary Collingwood.]

April 1st - Easter morning Sunrise Service at 7:00 in Highland Cemetery, and our Easter Celebration Service at 10:00.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! "Pat Bailey's birthday is Wednesday, March 28th and she will be 75 years young. Please help her celebrate by sending a card. Address is: Vista Springs, 8400 S Bedford Road, #108, Macedonia, Ohio 44056."

MONTHLY CALENDAR ONLINE the Church Calendar is also printed on our website: www.brecksvilleucc.org. It is filled with up to date events, and times, even last minute changes. Please check it out.

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.

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*.

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 - Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Holy One, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt - a covenant that they broke, though I was like a spouse to them. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Holy One: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Holy One," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The New Testament - John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the Passover festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified! Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Holy One will honor."

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say, 'God, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Holy One, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Continuing Testament - from *Solomon's Success* - by Kenneth Samuel [edited]

I believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal personification and embodiment of universal love, and I believe that Jesus was crucified at Calvary precisely because he refused to limit God's love to any one class, nation, or religious persuasion. It is precisely because Jesus manifested the love of God to persons outside his religious tradition that he was killed by the traditionalists of his own religion.

In his resurrection, however, Jesus demonstrated that he would not be constrained by religious convention, nor confined by cultural exclusivism. He arose from the dead as Savior, Redeemer, and Reconciler of the whole wide world. Absolutely no one lives outside the purview of Christ's grace, love, and mercy. No religion can contain him; no cultural expression can exhaust him; no nation can confine him; and no grave can keep him from advancing the all inclusive love of Almighty God for all humankind.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 18	10:00 am	Worship Service/OGHS Offering
	11:00 am	St. Patrick Day Potluck
Tuesday, March 20	7:00 pm	Lenten Study
Wednesday, March 21	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/ Guitar
	7-9 pm	Shine A Light Huddle
Thursday, March 22	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Friday, March 23		*Office Closed*
Sunday, March 25	10:00 am	Worship Service/Palm Sunday
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Youth Percussion
	6:00 pm	Youth Ministry

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 18, 2018

Lay Reader: Sam Koch
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz
Ushers: David Ritchey, Ben Tomlinson, Matt Wolbert, Jess Barnes
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett
Peace Candle: Drew Demko
Sound: Max Roha
Comns Grtr: Betty Kaul
Flowers: Jan Renovetz
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Beth Rehling
Counters: David Pastor, Jim Duffy
Servers: Cliff & Sue Stenzel
Clean-Up: CORNED BEEF &
Snacks: CABBAGE POTLUCK
Snow Herder: Chad Sproul

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

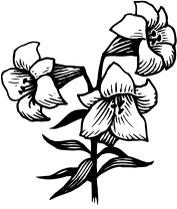
MARCH 25, 2018

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel
Ushers: Dave & Julie Bernard
Carole & George Snider
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Ben Davis
Sound: Ben Tomlinson
Comns Grtr: Marge Culver
Flowers: PALMS
Nursery: Courtni Began
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Bruce McCain, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Leroy & Kathy Ford
Clean Up: Cliff & Jane Cribbs
Snacks: Gina Cook & Chad Sproul
Snow Herder: Wes Novak

MARCH 29, 2018

Snow Herder: Cliff Cribbs

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, MARCH 18, 2017

I Enclose \$12.00_____ for an Easter Plant

In Memory of _____

In Honor/Or Other of _____

Your Name

I will keep the Flowers _____

I will NOT keep Flowers _____

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