



# 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*

Divine Source of hopefulness, for all that has been done to create peace and security across the world, we are thankful. For all that must yet be done, we are hopeful. Give us courage and perseverance to faithfully live and work, so that we might help transform the world with your love. Amen.



### ***Let Everyone Rejoice!***

**Sunday, March 3, 2019 • 10:00 AM**

**Last Sunday After Epiphany**

*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, or pangender*  
**You Are Welcome Here!**

*If you are fully abled, 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!**



*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, please speak to our pastor.*

*Large Print Bulletins are available. Simply ask an usher. Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use. Pillows for back support are also available, if needed*

### **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)**

## March 3, 2019 – Last Sunday After Epiphany

### Meditation Music

Gracious Holy One, we are grateful that your love welcomes all people. As those who have heard and responded to your call, may we be willing instruments of your continuing outreach of hope and love, justice and peace. Amen.

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

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Prelude**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

American folk song

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

#### **Call to Worship**

Our BUCC Affirmation of Welcome

[see opposite page]

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

O When the Saints Go Marching In

1. O when the Saints go marching in,  
When the Saints go marching in.  
Lord, I want to be in that number  
When the Saints go marching in.

2. O when the sun begins to shine,  
When the sun begins to shine.  
Lord, I want to be in that numbers  
When the sun begins to shine.

3. O when the air is pure and clean...

4. O when our leaders work for  
peace...

5. O when we see the truth at last...

6. O when we join our hands as  
one...

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

**Loving and Gracious Holy One, in your goodness 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 image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 6/8 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, containing the bass line for the first line of lyrics. The lyrics are written below the staves.

**The Old Testament**

Psalm 106:1-5, 48

Pew Bible, page 557

**The New Testament**

Matthew 22:1-13

Pew Bible, page 24

**The Continuing Testament** from *Inclusive Christianity*

by Paula Coppe

**Time with Young Worshipers**

**Anthem**

Leave It There

Tindley, arr. Nix

**Sermon**

*On a Happier Note....*

Pastor Dave Shackles

**Hymn of Reflection**

This Little Light of Mine

African-American spiritual

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

2. Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

3. Won't let anyone (blow) it out, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

4. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

5. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

# ***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**

**\*Offertory Hymn**

**Winter has come, it's taken hold.  
The days are short, the nights are cold.  
The poor need food and help and heat.  
We send our gifts, their needs to meet. Amen.**

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

**Divine Source of 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 Hymn                      What a Friend We Have in Jesus                      #506

The Blessing

## Going with God's Love

\* Hymn of Departure                      Every Time I Feel the Spirit                      #282

\*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.

Chords: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A

\*Benediction

Postlude                      Down by the Riverside                      Traditional spiritual

## **PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR**

The Family of Ed Lusk, Suzanne Patrick, Niece of Kathy Smith, Pat Bailey, Fred Pesek, Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Justin Brownlow, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, Doug Lightbody, Mary Dagostino, 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 February 24, 2019– 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 refreshments and conversation.

**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 Diane Gressley in Memory of Pauline.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO THANK OUR MARDI GRAS BAND MEMBERS** during coffee hour/potluck after service. They are: Steve Ostrow, trombone; Mark Mazak, tuba; Bob Gref, clarinet; and Steve Kraus, banjo. Thanks, gentlemen, for sharing your outstanding musical gifts with us this morning!

**TODAY we will take a special offering** for the UCC Coalition for LGBTQ Concerns - and the ONA Program. The Open and Affirming [ONA] Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community within the UCC, and helps UCC congregations bear witnesses to Christ's extravagant welcome to *all* people.

**This year's Lenten Season begins March 6<sup>th</sup>**, with our Ash Wednesday Soup Supper at 6:30 in Pilgrim Hall, followed by our Service of Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00.

**SEASONAL CHOIR** - Seasonal choir will begin preparing for Holy Week on Thursday March 7 at 7:00 PM. If you enjoy singing in a group, but don't have time to commit to regular choir, seasonal choir provides a great opportunity for music, fellowship and spiritual preparation for Palm Sunday (April 14), Maundy Thursday (April 18), Good Friday (April 19), and Easter Sunday (April 21.) Listening CDs are provided to help make the learning process easier. High school students are welcome to participate

**THE FACILITIES MINISTRY** has determined that the sanctuary roof will need to be replaced this coming summer. The current roof is over 25 years old and has had minor repairs to prevent leaking and water damage. The Church Council has approved the roof project and a 'Fund the Roof Campaign' to help raise the necessary funds to pay for it. More information will be forthcoming over the next several months.

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

**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.

## ***The Readings***

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

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

Remember me, O Gracious 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 Ruler of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen! Praise the Holy One!"

### **The New Testament - Matthew 22:1-13**

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.'

**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, March 3</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mardi Gras Service/ ONA Offering</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Pot-Luck Lunch</b>
<b>Monday, March 4</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Book Discussion</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 5</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Facilities</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 6</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Soup Supper</b>
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Service of Ashes/ Holy Communion</b>
<b>Thursday, March 7</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar</b>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Joyful Noise</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Seasonal Choir</b>
<b>Sunday, Mar. 10</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Spiritual Life/Library</b>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Youth Percussion</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Youth Ministry</b>

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICE**

**MARCH 3, 2019**

Lay Reader: Jill Zedan  
Head Usher: Sue Stenzel  
Ushers: Bob & Caroline Chandler  
David Pastor, Cliff Cribbs  
Acolyte: Grace Hunt  
Peace Candle: Lily Hunt  
Sound: Kevin Smith  
Comms Grtr: Valerie Tyler  
Flowers: Sue Stenzel  
Nursery: Kathy Pastor  
C.E Teacher: Robin Coyer-Westerberg  
Counters: Nancy Stella, Jan Renovetz  
Servers: Mardi Gras Potluck  
Clean-up: Mardi Gras Potluck  
Snacks: Mardi Gras Potluck  
Snow Hrdr: Doug Fawcett

**PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE**

**MARCH 10, 2019**

Lay Reader: Bridget Sproul  
Head Usher: Jan Renovetz  
Ushers: Sam Koch, Ben Tomlinson  
David Ritchey, Sue Stenzel  
Acolyte: Michelina Fawcett  
Peace Candle: Amelia Tyler  
Sound: David Pastor  
Comms Grtr: Max Roha  
Flowers: Julie Bernard  
Nursery: Courtni Began  
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski  
Counters: Marge Culver, Jon Thompson  
Servers: Joanne Cook, Betty Kaul  
Clean-Up: Bob & Caroline Chandler  
Snacks: Heidi Spangler, Pat Rehm  
Snow Hrdr: Joe Began