

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*

*"We shall not
cease from
exploration/
And the end of
all our
exploring/
Will be to
arrive where
we started/
And know the
place for the
first time."
–T.S. Eliot,
Four Quartets*



Sunday March 15, 2020 • 10:00 AM
Third Sunday of Lent

Pastor
• Allan Lane

Director of Music *Financial Secretary* *Ministers*
• David Debick • Joy Garapic 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 – web address: www.BrecksvilleUCC.org

March 15, 2020 – Third Sunday of Lent

Meditation Music

“So, I guess we are who we are for a lot of reasons. And maybe we’ll never know most of them. But even if we don’t have the power to choose where we come from, we can still choose where we go from here.” –Steven Chbosky

Gathering in God’s Presence

** Please Stand as you are able.*

Prelude

Send Us Your Spirit
[Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar Ensemble]

English melody

"A woman thirsted at the well,
Still strong, yet worn by care.
Then Jesus came with living springs,
New life and love to share."
Ruth Duck (b. 1947)

Bearing the Light of Peace Bearing the Light of Christ

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Lent is a time, not just for discovering who Jesus is, though it is that, but also for discovering who we are in Jesus.

People: What does it mean to be the ones who once were lost, but now are found, who were blind, but now who see?

L: It means to look around at all the world and see in each person one whom God loves enough to come, and live, and die, and rise again for.

P: It means to share ourselves with others as Christ shared himself with us, being fully present in each moment with each person.

L: Lent is a time for forging our identity, for shaping our unity amidst our differences, for living in the valley of the shadow of death with the light of resurrection peaking over the mountaintop. Let us worship God!

*** Hymn of Praise**

God Is Truly with Us

#68

*** Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

O heavenly Parent, with an eternal love you have loved us, from the first stirrings of creation in your imagination until today. ►

We are who we are because you are who you are. We call on you to be present with us in the midst of the chaos of our lives, to pick us up when we fall, to carry us when we can walk no further, to lay us down to rest when our bodies and souls are worn down. Hold us, help us, hear us when we call on you in our worship. Amen

* The Song of Praise Gathered Here - #742 [sung 2 times]

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 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 two 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 John 4:4-30, 39 Pew Bible, page 94

The New Testament John 7:53-8:11 Pew Bible, page 100

Contemporary Reading Henri Nouwen: *On Self-Rejection*

Time with Young Worshipers

Anthem Fill My Cup, Lord Blanchard, arr. Clark

Sermon *A Series of Identity Crises* Pastor Allan Lane

Hymn of Reflection There Is a Balm in Gilead #553

The Church at Prayer

Silent Meditation

Prayers of the Church

Our Lord's Prayer *[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

This Is the Joyful Feast

Nelson

"This is the joyful feast of the people of God.
Men and women, youth and children,
come from the east and the west,
from the north and the south,
and gather about Christ's table."

Book of Worship, United Church of Christ, 1986

*** 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]**

From the richness of life and breath, health and happiness, we bring these offerings to you, O Divine Source of All, and we ask you to share our richness with others through thee.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

The Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

The Invitation

Receiving the Bread and Cup

"Just as I am you will receive,
will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because your promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come."
Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Prayer of Thanksgiving [Unison]

The grains are many, the loaf is one. The grapes are many, the cup is one. We are many, with you we are one. With gratitude we thank you for sharing yourself with us in the bread and in the wine. Live in us, so that we can share you with others through our lives. Amen

Going with God's Love

- * Hymn of Departure Be Still, My Soul #488
- * 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*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God; in -
cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

Benediction

Postlude

Praise Our God Who Reigns

Manastireanu

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Max Roha, Nancy Stella, Betty Kaul, Don Seager, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (Niece of Kathy Smith), Jill Black, Stan McCain, Phyllis Molnar, Lenore Harris, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassie Matsuoka, Lee Sanderson, Kathleen Stewart, 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 Sunday, March 8, 2020 – Adults: 50 Kids: 3 Total: 53

BUCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME all our guests who are worshiping 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 childcare 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 Joy Garapic to officially welcome Spring this coming Thursday.

THE BUCC PASTOR'S FUND is primarily used for food gift cards, help with rent or utilities, uncovered medical/medication bills, or emergency aid to travelers passing through town. We are asking that those who can, consider making a contribution to help replenish this fund. Checks can be made out to BUCC, or cash may be placed in a pew envelope, with the notation "Pastor's Fund" written on the check or envelope. Thank you for your continuing support!

THE MITTEN TREE has sprouted in the narthex again, just waiting to be "decorated" with hats, mittens, scarves, etc. to be delivered to those who will need them in the cold weather. They are delivered to hunger centers when the donated food items are delivered to hunger centers.

PFLAG - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This is a local and national organization that has been in the Cleveland Area for 35 years. One of the services provided is a Monthly Support Group Meeting. The group is led by a licensed Psychologist and Social Workers. The purpose is to provide support and education to family and friends of people coming out Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bisexual or Questioning. The group is free and meets at Trinity Cathedral on the second Tuesday of the month 6:45p-8:30p. For more information, call Mark Lehman, LISW at 330.631.4415

PLEASE BE SURE to enter your meeting and event schedule on the office calendar. This is used to list your times in both the *Weekly Bulletin* and in the *Monthly Pillar*.

Readings

The Old Testament - John 4:4-30

But he had to go through Samaria. So, he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, ►

but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him.

John 4:39

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”

The New Testament - John 7:53-8:11

[[Then each of them went home, while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”]]

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 15	10:00 am	Worship Service/Third Sunday of Lent
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Membership
Monday, March 16	7:15 pm	Communications & Outreach - Parlor
Thursday, March 19	1:00 pm	Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Recorder/Dulcimer/Guitar
	5:30 pm	Joyful Noise
	7:00 pm	Seasonal Choir
	8:00 pm	Choir
Friday, March 20		*Office Closed*
Sunday, March 22	10:00 am	Worship Service/Fourth Sunday of Lent – OGHS Offering
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 15, 2020

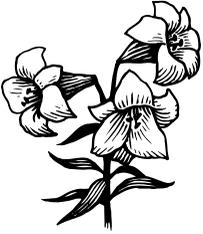
Lay Reader: Jim Duffy
Head Usher: Janet Renovetz
Ushers: Ben Davis, Michelina
Fawcett, Nora Gagliano
Carrie Coyer-Westerberg
Acolyte: Jillian Davis
Peace Candle: Gabriella Gagliano
Sound: Doug Fawcett
Comns Grtr: Kathy Smith
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Kathy Pastor
C.E Teacher: Kate Klonowski
Counters: Dave Bernard, Matt Wolbert
Servers: Kathy & Leroy Ford
Snacks: Marilyn Wrights, Heidi Spangler
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snow Herder: Joe Began

PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE

MARCH 22, 2020

Lay Reader: Ben Tomlinson
Head Usher: Bob Chandler
Ushers: Beth Rehling, Diane Gressley
David Ritchey, Jon Thompson
Acolyte: Arthur Cook
Peace Candle: Dorothy Cook
Sound: David Pastor
Comns Grtr: Caroline Chandler
Flowers: Dorie Gabor
Nursery: Marla Corrado
C.E. Teacher: Anne Melfo-Fawcett
Counters: Jim Duffy, Jon Thompson
Servers: Joy Garapic, Sue Stenzel
Snacks: Jane Cribbs, Kathleen
Stewart
Clean-Up: Jane & Cliff Cribbs
Snow Herder: Doug Fawcett

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 – SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

I Enclose \$12.00_____ for an Easter Plant

In Memory of_____

In Honor of _____ or Other_____

Your Name

I will keep the Flowers_____

I will NOT keep Flowers_____

I will help Deliver Plants to shut-ins after Easter_____