

## February 7th, 2021

Fifth Sunday  
After Epiphany

*"We're all ghosts. We all carry, inside us,  
people who came before us."*

–Liam Callanan, *The Cloud Atlas*

### Announcements

#### **\*CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY!\***

Immediately following today's service, the congregation will meet to present and approve the final 2021 budget.

**WELCOME** to all guests or visitors worshipping with us today in this Zoom format! We are doing everything we can to keep the service open to all, yet secure. In the eventuality of a disruption of the service, we will email information on how to re-enter the service with a password.

**FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN** - We encourage you to share this service with your children, as well as take part in the virtual activities with Ms. Mindy at 9:30 (1/2 hour before every service). The link for this can be found in either the email you may have received, on our Facebook page, and/or on our church website:  
<https://brecksvilleucc.org>  
<https://brecksvilleucc.org/services/childrens-time-online/>

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** – Because our Ash Wednesday service will be celebrated remotely this year, we will each need our own supply of ashes. Pastor Allan is encouraging us to create our own "Ashes of Repentance". This is done by writing down any burdens that you are carrying, sins you'd like to confess, and/or anything else that's bothering you. Then burn this paper and crush the ashes, reserving them for the service on 2/17, at 7pm.

**FUND RAISER!** We will be hosting a Fish Dinner on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This fundraiser will be presented with the help of the Tri-C Culinary Arts Department and Stone Soup. The students have been trained in the latest COVID-19 restaurant protocols, i.e., in addition to gloves, masks and social distancing, they've studied the new "no-touch" food safety guidelines and services. It will be served "carry out" style, and all proceeds will directly benefit the BUCC. Volunteers are needed to assist with planning, coordinating and distribution to customers on the day of the event. This dinner will be open to the public, and we hope for strong congregational support. If you're interested in lending a helping hand, please call or text **Doug Fawcett** at **440-653-3572**. Thank you!

***We are an Open and Affirming  
Congregation, welcoming all of God's  
children.***

Whether you are single, married, divorced,  
separated,  
or partnered,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your race, ethnicity, or age,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your gender identity or sexual  
orientation,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your religious background, creed,  
or spirituality,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your social or economic  
circumstances,

***You Are Welcome Here!***

Whatever your health conditions,  
impairments, or mobility needs,

***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!***

## **Announcements** (continued)

**SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAY:** Thank you for your generosity over the past couple months, and we are still collecting donations! If you wish to drop off a donation at the church, please call **Anne** at **440-526-4364**, so that she can make sure the back doors are unlocked for you. Likewise, you may contact **Elizabeth** by either phone call or text, at **440-319-6384**, or by email at **elizgadus@gmail.com**.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB** – The Social Justice Book Club will continue to discuss the book *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*, by Bishop Michael Curry. The next Zoom meeting is on Thursday 2/11, at 7:00 pm. (Please use the same Zoom account as our Sunday service.) We will cover Chapters 8 (“When the Spirit Reworks You”) & 9 (“The Real E Pluribus Unum”). The discussion questions will be emailed to all at the beginning of the week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Kate Klonowski** at **keightykay@gmail.com** or **216-534-3498** (text ok).

**PASTOR SEARCH AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The PSNC is diligently making survey calls to everyone from the BUCC. If you have not been called yet, don’t worry – your input is essential, and no one will be “left behind”! The following are the members who are conducting the survey calls: Beth Rehling, Ben Rehling, Jon Thompson, Cliffs Cribbs, Joy Garapic, Sherrill Witt and Alan Klonowski. For more information, call **Sherrill Witt** at **216-244-6916**, or **Cliff Cribbs** at **216-970-6347**. Thank you in advance for your time and insights!

**THE PASTOR IS IN** – Pastor Allan is available every Tuesday, between 11 am and noon. You can contact him either by mail, email or phone - feel free to call either the church or his cell phone directly. You can also catch him online, by clicking on the same Zoom link that we use for Sunday services. He’d love to hear from you! Here’s his contact information:

- BUCC address: **23 Public Square, Brecksville OH 44141**
- Email: **buccpastor@sbcglobal.net**
- BUCC office phone: **(440) 526-4364**
- Pastor Allan’s cell phone: **(513) 417-1537**
- Zoom link: **<https://zoom.us/j/4780705901>**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION** is still happening! Please don’t forget to send in your pledges to the church by mail or (preferably) PayPal! Check out **[BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving](https://BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving)** for more info.

**2021 PLEDGE COLLECTION ENVELOPES:** The small collection envelopes for this year are available on the pew bench just inside the back doors. If you haven’t gotten yours yet, Joy has sent your envelopes for the first quarter in with your year-end statement. To pick up your envelopes, please call the church office to make arrangements for the doors to be unlocked. If you can’t pick them up, notify **Anne** and she will mail them to you. The church office phone number is: **440-526-4364**, and **Anne’s** email is **buccoh@sbcglobal.net**.

**COFFEE HOUR!** After the service, we welcome all attendees to stay on Zoom to enjoy some time and fellowship with each other. Brew your favorite fairly-traded coffee or tea and a snack and catch up with friends!

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Meditation:** *"Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise. I rise. I rise."* –Maya Angelou, Pulitzer Prize winning African American poet

**Prelude Music:**     ***Calling the Ancestors***     Mixture of traditional West African and Afro Caribbean rhythms  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTw3sYjKOE4>

### Call to Worship:

- ◆ Leader (Sue): Those who came before us ask: will you keep worship alive in this place?
- ◆ **People (Bridget): May those who follow after remember us as those who kept the faith.**
- ◆ Leader: While we are alive and have breath, let us praise and worship God.
- ◆ **People: May the words of our parents find echoes in the songs of our children.**
- ◆ Leader: Let us be the link between our ancestors and our descendants. Let us worship God!

**Hymn of Praise:**     ***From All That Dwell below the Skies***     Geistliche Kirchengesäng,  
 Cologne, 1623

1. From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise;  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, by every tongue.  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Eternal are your mercies, God; your truth stands ever high and broad:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
 (Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.)

### Prayer of Approach & Confession:

From "*The Black Family Pledge*", by Maya Angelou:

- ◆ **People (Bridget): "Because we have forgotten our ancestors , our children no longer give us honor. Because we have lost the path our ancestors cleared kneeling in perilous undergrowth, our children cannot find their way. Because we have banished the God of our ancestors, our children cannot pray. Because the old wails of our ancestors have faded beyond our hearing, our children cannot hear us crying. Because we have abandoned our wisdom of mothering and fathering, our befuddled children give birth to children they neither want nor understand. Because we have forgotten how to love, the adversary is within our gates, and holds us up to the mirror of the world shouting, 'Regard the loveless!'"**

## Words of Challenge:

Continuing Angelou's poem:

Leader (Sue): "Therefore we pledge to bind ourselves to one another, to embrace our lowliest, to keep company with our loneliest, to educate our illiterate, to feed our starving, to clothe our ragged, to do all good things, knowing that we are more than keepers of our brothers and sisters."

People (Bridget): **"We ARE our brothers and sisters. In honor of those who toiled and implored God with golden tongues, and in gratitude to the same God who brought us out of hopeless desolation, we make this pledge." Amen**

## Song of Praise:

<p>Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!          Glory, glory, glory! Glory to God in the highest!          And on earth be peace to all people, with whom God is pleased.          And on earth be peace to all people, with whom God is pleased.</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## Readings

### **First Reading: Psalm 103:8-18** *(Inclusive version) God's faithfulness through the generations*

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. God will not always accuse, nor will God remain angry forever. God does not deal with us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear God; as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us. As parents have compassion for their children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear God. For God knows how we are made; God remembers that we are dust. As for mortal human beings, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear God, and God's righteousness to children's children, to those who keep God's covenant and remember to do his commandments.

### **Second Reading: Matthew 1: 1-17** *Jesus' Ancestors*

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David.

(continued on next page)

## Readings

### **Second Reading (continued): Matthew 1: 1-17** *Jesus' Ancestors*

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.

Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

### **Contemporary Reading:** From *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*, by James W. Loewen

"Many African societies divide humans into three categories: those still alive on the earth, the sasha, and the zamani. The recently departed whose time on earth overlapped with people still here are the sasha, the living-dead. They are not wholly dead, for they still live in the memories of the living, who can call them to mind, create their likeness in art, and bring them to life in anecdote. When the last person to know an ancestor dies, that ancestor leaves the sasha for the zamani, the dead. As generalized ancestors, the zamani are not forgotten but revered. Many ... can be recalled by name. But they are not the living-dead. There is a difference."

### **Musical Offering:** *God of Our Mothers and Fathers* Russell/Squyres/Corum Vineyard Worship, featuring Samuel Lane [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCKcSGvj\\_IQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCKcSGvj_IQ)

### **Sermon:** *Honoring The Ancestors* Pastor Allan Lane

## Hymn of Reflection: *Unite and Join Your Cheerful Songs*

From Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829

1. Unite and join your cheerful songs, with angels 'round the throne;  
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues, yet all their joys are one.

2. This is the way the church should strive, in harmony below;  
As members of one body live, one Sovereign shall you know.

3. Worthy the Lamb, the angels say, to be exalted thus;  
Amen, amen the saints reply, the Lamb was slain for us.

4. Assist us, all above the sky, on earth, and on the seas;  
United and raise God's honors high, in hymns of endless praise.

(Hymns and Spiritual Songs, ed. James O'Kelly, 1816; alt.)



## The Church at Prayer

The Family and friends of Lee Sanderson, Ann Klonowski, Lenore Harris, Susan Renovetz, David Pastor, Elizabeth Gadus, Phyllis Hassler, Joanne Cook, Sheila Day (friend of the Sniders), Joanne K. and Jim C. (friends of Ed & June Puwal), Max Roha, Betty Kaul, Justin Brownlow, Anna Mary Fisher, Bill Toneff, Jan Wardlaw, Suzanne Patrick (niece of Kathy Smith), Stan McCain, Dottie Faust, "Edna House", Jon Thompson, Tina Ortiz, Dassy Matsuoka, Kathleen Stewart & Joe Blasko (her father), Cindy Burton, people who are unemployed and under employed.

**Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.**

### ❖ 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.

## Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

### The Invitation:

A prayer of educator and civil rights activist W.E.B. Dubois (pronounced “*dyou-BOYSS*”):

- ◆ Leader (Sue): “Give us grace, O God, to dare to do the deed which we well know cries to be done. Let us not hesitate because of ease, or the words of men’s mouths, or our own lives. Mighty causes are calling us – the freeing of women, the training of children, the putting down of hate and murder and poverty – all these and more. But they call with voices that mean work and sacrifices and death. Mercifully grant us, O God, the spirit of Esther, that we say: ‘I will go unto the King and if I perish, I perish.’”

(Dubois, who lived from 1868-1963, was the first African American to receive a doctorate from Harvard.)

Let us present our offerings to God.

**BrecksvilleUCC.org/giving**

### 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:

(Today we are praying Harriet Tubman’s “***Unconditional Affirmation***”, which she prayed before she began each of her escapes leading enslaved people to freedom on the Underground Railroad. She never lost anyone she was leading.)

- ◆ People (Bridget): “God, I’m going to hold steady on You, an’ You’ve got to see me through.” Amen

## Holy Communion

**Communion Hymn: *Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts*      Baker**

1. Jesus, the joy of loving hearts, fount of our lives, and light of all,  
From every bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

3. We taste of you, the living bread, and long to feast upon you still;  
We drink of you, the fountainhead; our thirsty souls from you we fill.

(Attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux, c. 1150; transl. Ray Palmer, 1858; alt.)



- ❖ The Thanksgiving
- ❖ Words of Institution
- ❖ Prayer of Consecration
- ❖ The Invitation
- ❖ Receiving the Bread and Cup

## Prayer of Thanksgiving:

- ◆ **People (Bridget):** From our ancestors we have learned this sacrament which we hold dear. From them we know that you are present with us in the bread and the juice, O Jesus our Redeemer. To them and to you we give our thanks and praise. Amen

## Hymn of Departure: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Holden

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Christ servant of all.  
Attend the Savior's sovereign claim, and crown Christ servant of all.

2. Adorn, O martyred saints of old, the coronation hall;  
Extol the wounded One foretold, and crown Christ bearer of all.  
Extol the wounded One foretold, and crown Christ bearer of all.

3. All heirs of Israel's chosen race, now ransomed from the fall,  
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace, and crown Christ healer of all.  
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace, and crown Christ healer of all.

4. Before the cross, with heaven's throng, we on our knees shall fall  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Christ savior of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Christ savior of all.  
(Stanzas 1-3: Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; alt., stanza 4: John Rippon, 1787; alt.)

## Going With God's Love

## Carrying the Light of Christ Into the World

Circle of Community

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:**

**Someone**

Manor

*(Translation:*

*"Someone, someone worries  
 Worries for me up there  
 Came and lit a few stars  
 And they fall one by one.  
 We are turning in two different ways  
 Day and night to their length  
 Tired and hungry In the paths of dust and time.  
 We'll meet at the end of paths and questions  
 We will meet at the end of many days, at the end of many nights  
 The spring passed, the summer went, and the rain returned.  
 Someone, someone worries  
 Worries for me up there  
 Came and lit a few stars  
 And they fall one by one.")*



By Hebrew writer Ehud Manor, at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Israel, on Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) -- Dedicated to the memory of people who were killed in the holocaust, and for all the victims of terrorist attacks.

## Special Thanks:

### February 7, 2021

**Lay Reader** Sue Stenzel  
**Responder** Bridget Sproul  
**CE** Mindy Wade  
**Slide Runner** Kate Klonowski  
**Zoom Host** David Pastor

### February 14, 2021

**Lay Reader** Betsey Wilson  
**Responder** Cliff Cribbs  
**CE** Mindy Wade  
**Slide Runner** Kate Klonowski  
**Zoom Host** Jim Duffy

**HAVE A GOOD WEEK!**

