



**Earth Day Worship  
Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 10, 2016  
10:30 am**

# Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

*\* Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

## Prelude

## Welcome

Margot Pickett

Please pass the red friendship pads to sign in at this time. If this is your first time visiting, please legibly write your name and address so we may send you a letter of welcome and more information about our church.

If you have a prayer concern, you may fill out a prayer card located in the pew pads and place it in the prayer box in the Narthex or in the offering plate.

## \*Call to Worship

Margot Pickett

One: This is the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: We come as God's beloved people, aware of the gifts that surround us, air and water, land and sky, day and night, beauty and simplicity.**

One: This is the Earth that God calls "good" - the creatures and everything that crawls, flies, breathes, sings, loves. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: We come as God's beloved people, aware of the miraculous web of life that connects and sustains us, and like those before us, we are awed and humbled.**

One: This is the moment that God has made. We are standing on holy ground. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: This is the day that God has made. Standing on holy ground, we rejoice and are glad!  
Thanks be to God!**

## \*Hymn #32

"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"

**Reading:** "Death Comes to the Archbishop" by Willa Cather

Read by Ron Martin-Adkins

## Prayer of Repentance and Renewal (in unison)

Julie Everett

Gracious God, You have called Creation “good”. Throughout the eons you have been brooding and hovering over the deep to bring forth life. You have fashioned and formed the cosmos and the crocus, the majestic and the minuscule. Yet how slow we are to see Creation as a manifestation of your holy love. How we have spent and burnt, extracted and polluted, consumed and defiled this sacred trust. In the depth of our hearts we know we stand on holy ground, and so our hearts are broken by our own actions. Forgive us and reshape us, loving One. Ease our hunger to devour, and fill us with your healing balm, your peace and compassion. Grant us the courage to say “no” to all that despoils and a resounding “yes” to all that brings life. We pray that your resurrecting Spirit might move again through us raising us from despair to hope, from death to life. We pray in the name of the Risen One. Amen

## Anthem

“Spring Prayer” - Caldwell

God, now that spring's in the world, And ev'ry tulip's a cup  
Filled with the wine of your love, lift me up.

Raise my heart as flow'rs rise, to greet the glory of day,  
With soul as clean as lilies are, and white as they.

Let me not fear the darkness now,  
since life and light break through your tomb!

Teach me that doubts no more oppress, no more consume.  
Show me you are April, God. You are the flow'rs and the grass,  
Then when awake the soft spring winds, I'll hear you pass.

## Scripture

Job 12:7 - 10

Karen Richardson Dunn

## Children's Time

Taleese Morrill and the Youth

*Children in K-5 are invited to accompany Betty Dillashaw to the Children's Church Room to plant seeds that will go in the church garden. Teens may go to the Youth Tower Room with Matt Leggat.*

## \*Passing of the Peace of Christ

**Introduction of Preacher**

Karen Richardson Dunn

**Scripture**

Luke 24:13-16, 27-35

Scott Hardin-Nieri

**Sermon**

“Body, Mind, Heart, Spirit”

Scott Hardin-Nieri

**\*Hymn #557**

“Pray for the Wilderness”

(Tune: #99 “Eventide”)

**Sharing Concerns and Celebrations**

Yolanda Adams

**Prayers for the Earth**

**We Offer Our Gifts**

**Call for the Offering**

**Offertory**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Reading**

“The Mad Farmer Liberation Front” by Wendell Berry

Read by Sandra Clark

**\*Hymn #569**

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

**Celtic Benediction**

Karen Richardson Dunn

**Postlude**



*Please join us in the Friendship Hall for a time of fellowship and light refreshments!*

**Earth Team Garden Planning:** Any members and friends interested in helping with our church garden, please join Earth Team for a garden planning session today in the library following worship.

## Welcome!

*We are a progressive, risk-taking Christian faith community.*

*We follow the way of Jesus as the Christ and are welcome, open, and affirming to all.*

*We believe God is vibrant, alive, and still speaking to us!*

*We believe that God encourages us to engage the world through acts of mercy, peace, and justice.*

**For our guests and visitors:** we have several gender neutral restrooms: three behind the sanctuary and three more on the top floor of the education wing. For restrooms which are labeled male or female, we invite individuals to use the restroom they are most comfortable using.

As we gather today to celebrate God's Creation, Karen Richardson Dunn, a UCC minister and member of First Congregational, would like to share the good news that the Southern Conference of the UCC will soon be formalizing a proposal for an environmental justice and sustainability network among the congregations of the Conference. More information to come!

Our thanks to Rev. Karen Richardson Dunn, Julie Everett, Ron Adkins-Martin, and Sandra Clark, all members of the FUCC Earth Team, for planning and leading today's service. We are especially grateful to our preacher, Rev. Scott Hardin-Nieri, an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) who has recently relocated Asheville after serving churches in Colorado and Texas. He is the Director of the Creation Care Alliance, network of clergy, lay leaders, and people of faith who advocate on behalf of God's creation and our neighbors harmed by environmental injustices.

Thanks also to Ruth Johnson for substituting for Gary Mitchell this morning while he attends a college reunion!

### **For Today's Service**

Greeter/Usher: Jim Beggs and Julie Everett

Deacon of the Month: Jacque Wuelling

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Mary Ann

Brackett (Handicap Door)

Security Floater: Randall Bowman

Childcare/Nursery: Denise Potts

### **Our Staff**

Rev. Margot Pickett, Interim Senior Minister  
(margot.pickett@uccasheville.org)

Gary Mitchell, Assistant Minister  
(cantorucc@aol.com)

Yolanda Adams, Ministry Coordinator  
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Andrea Blankinship, Contract Accountant  
Taleese Morrill, Youth Ministry Coordinator  
(taleesemorrill@gmail.com)

Viviana Altamirano, Custodian

**Deacon of the Month:** Jacque Wuelling: jacque45@live.com, 314.409.4850 (Mobile)

**Alternate Deacon of the Month:** Mary Ann Brackett: mochasmoms2@charter.net,  
828.777.6384

## Events and Opportunities to Connect More information on our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)

**Faith & Flicks Viewing of *Whale Rider*: TODAY** in the Library at 5:30 pm. *A contemporary Maori tribe struggles to hold on to their traditions and the myth that shapes their culture and belief system. Can a young and unexpected member of the tribe be hearing the call to a new interpretation of the old story to lead the tribe in a new and meaningful direction?* Followed by a brief discussion.

**On April 24, The Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund**, Vice President for Seminary Advancement at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and author of the book *Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness, Family, and Church*, will be preaching at the 10:30 worship service as well as leading an Adult Forum at **9:00 AM** on Mental Health and the Church (please note the early start time for this special event).

**Lunch Bunch:** Most Sundays, a varying group of us leave from the church around noon and head to a local eatery close by and just have a good time getting to know each other. All are welcome and for more information please contact Beaver Wyatt at 828-231-3113 or [beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net](mailto:beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net) OR just find her at church. Ask a greeter or usher for help finding Beaver or the lunch bunch!

**Sacred Pause:** Come and use artmaking/coloring as a way to find some meditative quiet and self-reflection in your life. Mondays 5:45-8PM Room 105 in the education wing of FCUCC.

**Stir the Soul Café:** Starting back up April 13<sup>th</sup>. Meets Wednesdays in the library from 2-4 pm.

**Weekly Book Club:** You are welcome to join a book discussion group that meets each week on Tuesday's at 10 am at 48 Dover Street, Asheville. We would very much like to have YOU!!! Please call Spence or Carol Duin 828-254-4068 or Doug or Carol Groben 828-712-4417 for details. The new book that will be discussed is "What's So Amazing About Grace" by Philip Yancey. This study will start in mid-April.

**Game Night:** April 12<sup>th</sup> and every second Tuesday of each month in Room E-105. 7:00 pm. Join us! We might be playing cards and games such as dominoes, Rummikub, etc. We'll play for fun and friendship, so no experience necessary! Contact Dennis Vanator & Mary Hawkins if you have questions: [denmary14@gmail.com](mailto:denmary14@gmail.com).

## Faith Formation Classes More information on our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)

**Faith Formation Class led by Brenda Lewis: "Joy of Sects"**– The class will be delving into the history and basic ideas of some of the major religions such as Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Hinduism. Class will continue through May 15<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost Sunday, and will be facilitated by Rev. Brenda Lewis.

**Join us on Wednesday evenings, 5:30-6:30, for discussion of the book** "Reading the Bible Again for the First Time" by Marcus J. Borg in Room E-107, led by Margot Pickett. For this week please read chapter 3 and come with your insights and questions.

**A Note on the Artwork:** This week, I offer you photographs found online of some of the beauty and wonder that's just outside our doors here in Western North Carolina. The back cover is filled with flowers that are blooming about now (or just have or will soon) in our woodlands. Take a hike and see if you can spot them! They all grow in the UNCA Botanical Gardens, too. Pictured are foam flower, dwarf crested iris, and trillium/wake robin. They're some of my all-time favorites. – Harper, Administrative Assistant

**Interested in working to oppose HB2? The Campaign for Southern Equality recommends participating in the following ways:**

1) On Tues. 4/12, Asheville City Council will take up a resolution opposing HB2. We are working to pack chambers to show how much support there is for this resolution/opposition there is to HB2. The meeting starts at 5 PM at City Hall.

2) The North Carolina legislative session starts again on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Plans are underway for people to travel to Raleigh to make our presence and perspective seen and heard. Stay connected to Campaign for Southern Equality via their Facebook page for more information as they have it.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

9:15 am viewing of a short film "Ten Commandments to Avoid Extinction" in room E-107

9:15 am "Joy of Sects" Faith Formation with Rev. Brenda Lewis E-101

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir in E-107

10:30 am Worship, Rev. Scott Hardin-Nieri

11:30 am Friendship time in Friendship Hall

12:00 pm Lunch Bunch off campus

12:00 pm Earth Team Garden Planning Meeting

5:30 pm Youth Group in Tower Room

5:45 pm Faith & Flicks Movie in Library

### Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

5:45 pm A Sacred Pause (meditation through creativity) E-105

### Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm FCUCC Game Night

### Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Book Group with Rev. Margot Pickett

5:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30 pm Choir Practice

### Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

9:15 am "Joy of Sects" Faith Formation with Rev. Brenda Lewis E-101

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir in E-107

10:30 am Worship, Rev. Margot Pickett

11:30 am Friendship time in Friendship Hall

12:00 pm Lunch Bunch off campus

### Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

5:45 pm A Sacred Pause (meditation through creativity) E-105

### Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

2:00-4:00 pm Stir the Soul Cafe

5:30 pm Book Group with Rev. Margot Pickett

5:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30 pm Choir Practice

### Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am Mental Health & the Church forum

With Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund E-101

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir in E-107

10:30 am Worship, Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund

11:30 am Friendship time in Friendship Hall

12:00 pm Lunch Bunch off campus

12:00 pm Laundry Love off campus



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