



*Natalya Milashevich*



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**Mental Health Sunday**  
**April 24, 2016**  
**10:30 am**

# Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

*\* Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

## Prelude

As the Prelude is played, please prepare to worship God in a spirit of prayerful meditation.

## Welcome and Ministry Updates

Yolanda Adams

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 when it is passed later in the service.

## Call to Worship

One: God calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves;

**All: the one who is weak and the one who is strong,**

One: the one who is happy and the one who is sad,

**All: the one who is enjoying mental wellness today**

One: and the one who is struggling with mental illness today,

**All: the one whom we understand and the one we don't,**

One: the one who is embraced and the one who is shunned,

**All: the one who is like us and the one who is different.**

One: Come, let us worship together!

**All: We come, trusting God's abundant love!**

## Hymn # 388 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

**Unison Prayer:** Creator God, source of love and healing, help us to remember that you love us, even when we can't love ourselves. When we feel our lives, with all of their emotions are out of control, you never stop holding our hand, even when we try to pull away in anger. Help us to remember when we are broken, and think our nightmare will never end, you, loving God are still there, holding us. When circumstances rob us of our dignity, our independence, and at times our livelihood, you, merciful God, are still with us.

## Response

"Will I"

Larson (from the musical Rent)

## Psalm 88 (selected verses)

### Time with Our Children

Taleese Morrill

### \*Passing the Peace

At this time, children K-5 may go to Children's Church with JP Morrill in Room 207 of the Christian Education building. Parents and guardians should meet their children there immediately after worship.

### Scripture Reading

**John 13: 31-35**

### Sermon

“The Shape of Love”

**Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund**

### Congregational Time of Silence and Contemplation

### A Moment for Mission

**Paulette Heck**

### Litany

**Leader:** Will those with a colored sticker on your bulletin please stand or raise your hand. You represent the one in four people in America who are affected by substance abuse or a mental illness that is severe, moderate, or mild. We acknowledge that we are often uninformed about these issues and how they impact persons and their families.

**Response (those who are seated):** At times, due to our lack of knowledge and understanding, we find ourselves separated from our sisters and brothers with serious mental illness and substance abuse, as well as their families.

**Response (those who have risen):** We hope that God will help us all dispel ignorance and misinformation about substance abuse and the serious mental illnesses such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and obsessive compulsive disorder.

**Leader:** We pray that troubled minds and hearts, and broken lives and relationships might be healed.

**Response (those who are seated):** We pray that the cloud of stigma, labels, exclusion and marginalization might be dispelled for the sake of those touched by mental illness and substance abuse.

**Response (those who have risen):** We pray that we may be containers of hope for persons and families living with mental health challenges. We pray also for better treatment, for steadier recovery, for greater opportunity to work and serve.

**Leader:** We live with gratitude for compassionate, dedicated caregivers and mental health professionals, for new discoveries in brain research and better medications.

**All:** O God, we seek the power of your Spirit, that we may live in fuller union with you, ourselves, and those living with mental health issues. Grant that we may gain courage to love and understand each other, as you love and understand us. Amen.

## **We Offer Our Gifts**

### **Call for the Offering**

#### **Offertory: Children's Chime Choir**

"Jacob's Ladder" Arranged by Bob Ivey

"Fairest Lord Jesus" Arranged by Bob Ivey

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn # 488**

**"Be Still My Soul"**

## **Blessing**



## **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.*

### ***A Special Word of Thanks Today to:***

**Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund** - Vice President for Seminary Advancement, Christian Theological Seminary and author of the book **“Blessed Are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence about Mental Illness, Family and Church.”**

**Paulette Heck** - Board President and Family Support Group facilitator for the Western Carolina affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

**Reverend Jerene Broadway** - for helping to facilitate our adult forum. Rev. Broadway is a Staff Chaplain, serving primarily in the Copestone Psychiatric Units at Mission Hospital.

**Betty Dillashaw** – Director of the Children’s Chime Choir.

**Children’s Chime Choir Members:** *Andy Potts, Byron Parks, Ethan Parks, Elijah Purdom, Rebekah Purdom, Ruby Leggat, Nora Leggat.* This is their first performance since the choir was formed 10 weeks ago.

**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

### For Today's Service

Greeter/Usher: **Beaver Wyatt**  
Deacon of the Month: **Jacque Wuelling**  
Alternate Deacon of the Month: **Mary Ann Brackett** (Handicap Door)  
Security Floater: **Randall Bowman**  
Childcare/Nursery: **Marcella Gonzalez**

### Our Staff

**Rev. Margot Pickett**, Interim Senior Minister (margot.pickett@uccasheville.org)  
**Gary Mitchell**, Assistant Minister (cantorucc@aol.com)  
**Yolanda Adams**, Ministry Coordinator (ministry@uccasheville.org)  
**Harper Leich**, Administrative Assistant (admin@uccasheville.org)  
**Andrea Blankinship**, Contract Accountant  
**Taleese Morrill**, Youth Ministry Coordinator (taleesemorrill@gmail.com)  
**Viviana Altamirano**, Custodian

### Events and Opportunities to Connect

*More information on our website:*

*www.uccasheville.org*

First Congregational UCC Asheville is proud to be a co-sponsor and to support the efforts of the Campaign for Southern Equality, Transmission, Asheville Buncombe NAACP, and the ACLU-NC for mobilizing people for a rally and direct action at the NC General Assembly in Raleigh on Monday April 25, led by Turn Out NC and the NAACP. Please go to the Facebook link below for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/events/831592593634126/>

**Congregational Conversation:** May 1<sup>st</sup> after worship in the Friendship Hall. As one of its first efforts, the Team is asking members of the congregation to join us for this Congregational Conversation to help us get an idea of "Where We Are Now" as a congregation. After losing our pastor of almost 20 years, many of us have been working through the various stages of grief over the last nine months. We'd like to share with you some of the stages of grief we learned about as a Team, and hear some of your feelings as to where you are in your own stages of grieving. From this conversation, the Team will begin formulating plans for future meetings as, together, we explore where we've come from, who we are now, and who we feel God is calling us to be.

### Faith Formation Classes

*For more information about events and Faith*

*Formation classes, visit our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)*



# Church Calendar

## **Sunday, April 24, 2016**

*Mental Health focus Sunday*

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

9:00 am Special Faith Formation with Rev.

Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund

10:30 am Worship, Rev. Lund

12:00 pm Laundry Love (off campus)

## **Monday, April 25, 2016**

5:30 pm A Sacred Pause w/Mandy E-105

## **Tuesday, April 26, 2016**

10:30 am Staff meeting Library

## **Wednesday, April 27, 2016**

2:00 -4:00 pm Stir The Soul Cafe – Library

5:30 pm Hand bell Choir - choir loft

5:30 pm Margot's Book Study - E-107

## **Sunday, May 1, 2016**

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

9:15 am Joy of Sects Faith Formation E-101

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Congregational Conversation with

The Transition Team, Friendship Hall

5:30 pm Youth Group, Tower Room

## **Monday, May 2, 2016**

*Yolanda out of the office*

*No Sacred Pause*

## **Tuesday, May 3, 2016**

*Yolanda out of office*

10:30 am Staff Meeting

## **Wednesday, May 4, 2016**

*Yolanda out of the office*

2:00 pm Stir The Soul Café

5:30 pm hand bell choir - choir loft

5:30 pm Margot's Book Study E-107

6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal in loft

## **Thursday, May 5, 2016**

*Yolanda out of the office*

## **Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

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

9:15 am Joy of Sects Faith Formation E-101

10:30 am Worship

5:30 pm Faith & Flicks Screening Library



“Judas Returns the Money” James Tissot



*Nikolai Ge - Judas*

**First Congregational UCC**  
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**[www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)**      **828-252-8729**