



Mikhail Nesterov, "Annunciation"

First Congregational United Church of Christ
August 14, 2016
10:30 am

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

** Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude “Sunstreams” Ian Clarke Ruth Johnson, piano & Lea Kilber, flute
As the Prelude is performed, please prepare to worship God in a spirit of prayerful meditation.

Welcome

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

Leader: There is no stillness in life, but what one holds in the heart.

ALL: There is no peace, but what one has in the soul.

Leader: There is no calm in life, but what one finds in God.

ALL: God has not promised us security

God has not promised us certainty

**God has not promised us freedom from sorrow,
suffering or pain**

Leader: Life is a journey through all of these

ALL: But what God HAS promised isGod!

Leader: When you pass through the waters,

ALL: God will be with us and the rivers will not overwhelm us.

Leader: What God has promised is GOD

ALL: Walk in faith, not in fear

***Hymn** “God Is Here” (Printed at end of liturgy)

Unison Prayer

Creator God, source of love and life, we thank you this day, for the gift of Jesus, the Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. By His example may we be moved to action, to lift up the fallen, to seek justice and equality for all, and to love extravagantly. And when our race is completed may we hear the invitation into your presence:

“You’ve kept the faith, you’ve run the race, enter in good and faithful servant”. Amen

Response “O God, Hear My Prayer”

O God hear my prayer, O God hear my prayer,
when I call an-swer me, O God hear my prayer, O
God hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me

First Lesson

Luke 12:49-56

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

ALL: Thanks Be to God.

Psalm 82 p.674. Please join in responsive reading alternating verses with leader

A Time with Children

Gary Mitchell

Children and teens are invited to remain in worship today. The Nursery is open for children and babies pre-school and younger.

***Passing of the Peace**

Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 29 -12-2

Sermon “I Got Faith! Believe It or Not”

Assistant Minister, Gary Mitchell

***Hymn # 256**

“We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

Prayers of The People & Ministry Updates

Sharing our Gifts

Invitation to Share

Offertory “Mountain Song”- Rorem Ruth Johnson, piano & Lea Kibler, flute

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn #497**

“Guide My Feet”

Benediction

Postlude

Please join us in the Friendship Hall for some light refreshments and conversation.

For Today's Service

Greeter/Usher: Al and Anne Mojonnier

Liturgist: Ellenor Frelick

Deacon of the Month: Randall Bowman
(bwr0165@aol.com)

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Beaver
Wyatt (beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net)

Childcare/Nursery: Kirby Wyatt

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

Welcome!

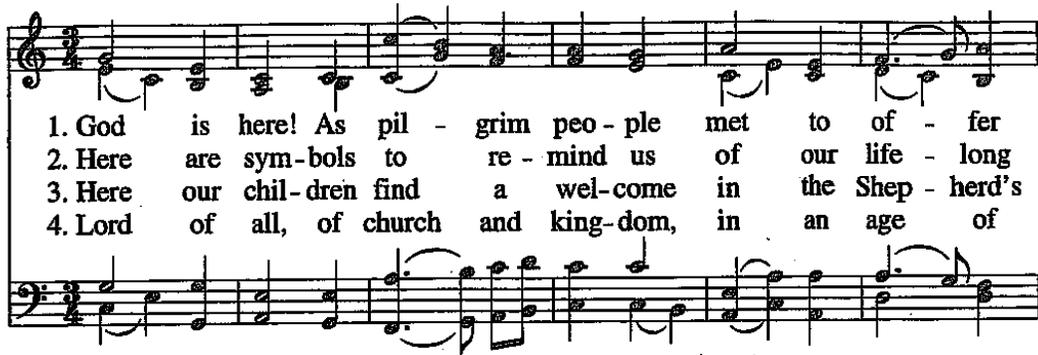
We are a progressive, risk-taking Christian faith community.

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.

God Is Here!



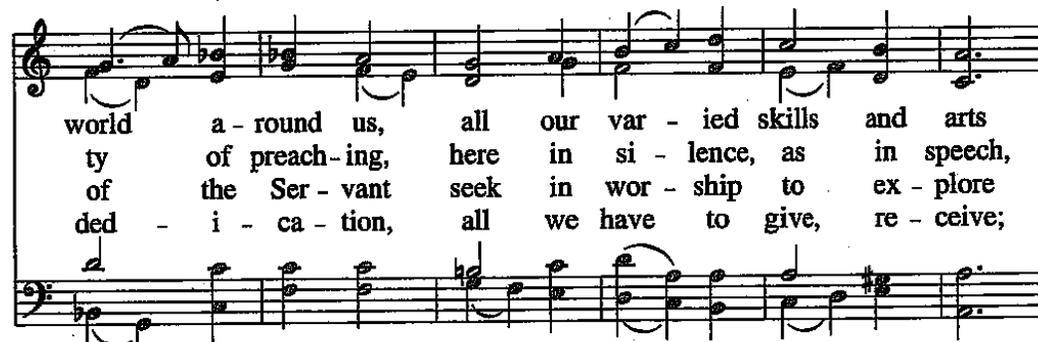
1. God is here! As pil - grim peo - ple met to of - fer
 2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us, as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Nursery

Our nursery is open during worship for babies and children pre-school age and younger. Children and babies may be dropped off by a parent or guardian before worship or after a Time with Children. (You will be asked to sign in and leave a cell phone number). They must be picked up as soon worship ends. They are also welcome to remain with you in the sanctuary.

Faith Formation for Children and Teens

We celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every month and encourage your children and youth to be part of that sacrament. Therefore, we do not offer Faith Formation classes during worship on first Sundays. On other Sundays of the month, we invite our children to go to a multi-age class in room E 205 following the Time with Children. Our teen youth meet with Taleese Morrill or volunteer parents in the Youth Tower on those Sundays.

Events and Opportunities to Connect *More information: www.uccasheville.org*

Feeling passionate about something that the church might do? Feeling called to start something exciting at this church? The way ministries are started and carried out here is that when someone feels such inspiration, they are invited to make an appointment with our Coordinator of Ministries, Yolanda Adams, who will help them find ways to organize and find support to make their vision reality. You can contact Yolanda at Ministry@uccasheville.org or at 252-8729.

Stir the Soul Café: Meets Wednesdays in the library from 2-4 pm. Join Loraine Tuenge for a time of discussion and fellowship.

Lunch Bunch: Most Sundays after church, 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! Ask a greeter or usher for help finding Beaver or the lunch bunch!

Hood Tours: Our first two tours are fully booked! If you have reserved a spot on either tour, please send a \$25 check to the office made out to FCUCC with "Hood Tours" in the memo line by September 8th. We have added an additional tour on Thursday, October 6th with checks due September 22nd. If you want to reserve a spot, please contact Bev Reddick at bpeacenow@yahoo.com.

Laundry Love Volunteers Needed: Adult volunteers are needed to provide transportation the day of each month's Sunday event, especially between 1:30 and 4 pm. Please contact Taleese if you're interested in helping out with this ministry that allows for homeless people and folks in need to do their laundry for free! Providing transportation to those folks is very important and we need your help! Taleese: taleesemorrill@gmail.com

Room in the Inn still needs an overnight coordinator. If you think you may be able to help, please contact Richard or Ruth Howe, our Innkeepers! Home: 828-595-2796 Richard's cell: 413-538-1306 Ruth's cell: 413-537-6642

Volunteers needed for Sunday morning Hospitality Time clean up! Teams will rotate about 4 times annually to clean-up after Sunday Friendship Time beginning September 5. Team Leaders and 3-4 Team Members will be identified either through volunteering or recruitment. Tasks will be outlined. Reminders will be sent.

If you want to be a Team Leader or Team Member, please contact Beaver Wyatt at 828-231-3113; beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net or Bev Reddick at bpeacenow@yahoo.com.

The FCUCC Men's Group will meet Aug 16 at 6:30 pm at the church. (Room to be determined) We will discuss "Boycott for Justice?" Is boycott, that is to say non-participation, a legitimate and effective strategy to bring about change toward justice? Are additional measures such as public declaration of your motive and recruitment of others required to legitimize boycott? Is it justified to boycott the total company or political entity or just the offending product or action? Is leaving a church or ending a friendship a kind of boycott? South Africa, Israel, North Carolina, Walmart, California grapes, NFL Washington R-word, Nestle, tax resistance as examples.

Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Events!

Baseball with Beaver: Join Beaver and other FCUCC folks for an Asheville Tourists game on August 19th. Contact her to buy your tickets: 231-3113.

Heels on Hills Hike: Next hike is Saturday, August 20th. Meet at the church at 9:00 AM to carpool to the Arboretum.

Habitat for Humanity: We only need one more volunteer for First Congregational UCC's workday: Tuesday, September 6th (1 volunteer needed). Contact Mary Ann Brackett for more info: 777-6384.

This Week's Calendar

Monday, August 15th 5:15 pm Governing Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 16th 10:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 17th 1:30 pm Stir the Soul Café in Library

Sunday, August 21st 10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Friendship Time in Friendship Hall

12:00 pm Earth Team Meeting in Library

12:30 pm Lunch Bunch off campus

Monday, August 22nd 5:45 pm Sacred Pause E-105



First Congregational UCC

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Please send all mail to PO Box 3211 Asheville, NC 28802.

www.uccasheville.org 828-252-8729

www.facebook.com/FCUCC