



*"Jesus of the People" – Janet McKenzie*

**Sunday January 31, 2016**  
**10:30 am**

# Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

*\* Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

## **Welcome**

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.

## **Chimes**

## **Voluntary**

## **Call to Worship**

Leader 1: Loud talkers and silent worriers,

Leader 2: glad-handers and lonely wallflowers:

**All: God gathers us together to be the Body  
of wonder and joy, of hope and healing.**

Leader 1: Bystanders with hands shoved into our pockets,

Leader 2: fraidy-cats whose feet are frozen in place:

**All: Jesus calls us to carry grace to outsiders,  
to walk with all those left behind.**

Leader 1: Kids who never offer answers in class,

Leader 2: bashful folks whose tongues tie in knots:

**All: The Spirit anoints us to speak up for the voiceless,  
to partner with the poor to discover their gifts.**

## **\*Hymn**

“We are One in the Spirit”

**We are one in the Spirit**

**We are one in the Lord**

**We are one in the Spirit**

**We are one in the Lord**

**We will work with each other**

**We will work side by side**

**We will work with each other**

**We will work side by side**

**And we pray that all unity may one  
day be restored**

**And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love**

**Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
by our love**

**And we'll guard each one's dignity  
and save each one's pride**

**And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love,**

**Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
by our love.**

## Call to Reconciliation

Despite what we sing or say, despite our best intentions, we know we have not been the Body we are made for, so let us pray that God might reshape us into a holy community.

## Unison Prayer for Forgiveness (Spoken by all)

**Do we make you laugh or weep, Gracious God? We sing that we are one in your Spirit, but cannot tolerate those who disagree with us. We talk of being one Body, but fight over music or Bible versions or carpet colors. We affirm the giftedness of each person, but we heap honor on just a special few.**

**Forgive us, Creative God, when we dismember your Body so easily. May the words of our mouths speak peace to the brokenness in our world; may the hopes of our hearts bring wonder to those in despair; and may our love embrace all who are around us, even as we have been welcomed by your grace in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

*Silence is kept*

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Forgiven, we are filled by God's Spirit, commissioned to be Christ's hope, Christ's people for the world.

**All: Anointed, we can care for one another, weep with one another, serve one another, and live with one another. Thanks be to God. Amen. Amen.**

## Sung Response

### "Weave Us Together"

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in 8/8 time. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody consists of three lines of music. The lyrics are: "Weave weave weave us to- geth - er weave us to- geth - er in u - ni - ty and love Weave weave weave us to - geth - er weave us to - geth - er to - geth - er in love". The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first line ends with a double bar line. The second line begins with a measure rest of 4 measures. The third line begins with a measure rest of 7 measures.

## First Scripture Reading

Luke 4:14-21

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**All: Amen**

Solo

Amanda Horton

**Time with Children**

Youth Group

**Congregational Blessing of Taleese Morrill**

Yolanda Adams

**Reading of 1 Timothy 4:12**

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young,  
but set an example for the believers in speech,  
in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

**Wild Goose Blessing** (read by all)

**May you make new friends wherever you go.**

**May you never be closed to new experiences.**

**May you never wear jewelry when approaching a shark  
and may you never lose your youthful sense of humor.**

**Equality flows in all directions.**

**\*Passing the Peace**

**Second Scripture Reading**

I Corinthians 12: 12-31a

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**All: Amen**

**Sermon**

“Body Language”

Rev. Margot Pickett

**\*Hymn #177**

“God of Change and Glory”

**Affirmation of Ministry for Governing Board Members**

**Introduction**

**Leader:** Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of people in the life of the church. There are different spiritual gifts, but the same spirit gives them.

**All: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.**

**Leader:** There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

**All: The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.**

**Leader:** Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

**All: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.**

**Leader:** If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all other parts share its happiness.

## **Expression of Gratitude of Past Service**

Cheri Britton and April Spencer

## **Presentation of New Board Members**

Newly elected members, Tisa Lewis and Phil Sageser

Newly elected Moderator, John Whitener; Vice-Moderator, Cathy McGaughey

## **Covenant/Promises of Mutual Support**

**Addressing the Individuals**

**Addressing the Congregation**

**Congregational Response** (spoken by all):

**We are called as partners in Christ's service and it is a joy to serve with you and one another in the Body of Christ. We give thanks for your gifts of leadership and we promise to love you and honor your leadership and work with you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **Laying on of Hands**

### **Sung Response**

"Weave Us Together"

## **Sharing our Celebrations and Concerns**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Every day sings of your glory,  
each night lullabies us to sleep;  
and in every moment between  
your grace silently laps upon  
the shores of our souls,  
Imaginative God.

You fulfilled the prophet's hopes,  
Faithful Servant,  
your voice racing through the valleys  
of our despair to bring us hope,  
your feet gently walking by our side  
over the dusty roads of death.

More than any prize we might win,  
we long for the riches of your joy;  
more than all the world's empty calories,  
we hunger for the fullness of your love;  
more than all the fears promised to us,  
we embrace the peace of your heart,  
Anointing Spirit.

You are our promise, our hope, our  
fulfillment,  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
and so we pray with one voice,

**The Lord's Prayer** (spoken by all, using the words of your choice)

## Ministry Updates

Yolanda Adams

### Sharing our gifts

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #495

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

### Blessing

#### For Today’s Service

Greeters/Ushers: Mary Ann Brackett, Beaver Wyatt

Liturgist: Rev. Alice Martin Adkins

Deacon of the Month: Beaver Wyatt

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Judy Slater  
(Handicap Door)

#### Our Staff

Rev. Margot Pickett, Intentional 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

*Today’s prayers are from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com and are written by Thom M. Shuman.*

### STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS MINISTRY

The SPR Ministry provides a confidential outlet for staff and congregation members to raise concerns pertinent to the functions of the church....The SPR serves an “ombudsperson” role to complement the mediator/arbitrator function of the Personnel Committee. The SPR Ministry provides a confidential outlet for staff and congregation members to raise concerns pertinent to the functions of the church.

Over the past few months the Personnel Committee has worked to revise and revive this ministry. Please see the newsletter (available on our website) for the full description of the policies and processes around the SPR, including the steps for addressing a complaint or concern and the composition of the ministry.

We are happy to announce that Paul Gillespie, Joyce Rhymer, and Dorri Sherrill have agreed to serve on this ministry.

**A note about the artwork:** Cover image ‘Janet McKenzie’s position as winner of the National Catholic Reporter’s competition for a new image of Jesus at 2000 has been life-altering as well as humbling. Her goal was to create a work of art in keeping with her beliefs as a person and artist, and inclusive of groups previously uncelebrated in His image. She hopes “Jesus of the People” might remind us that we are all created in God’s likeness. The worldwide welcoming celebration of this interpretation of Jesus and the gratitude expressed to her - as well as the onslaught of negative responses - affirm her belief that this work, this particular vision of Jesus, was meant to exist now. The artist feels she is simply the vehicle through which the image came to be.’” (from <http://www.123soho.com>)

Back image: “Mystic Christ” by Father Giuliani who trained as an artist and then became a catholic priest. He is a well-known American painter, whose work mainly focuses on native American subjects, often depicted as major figures from

Christianity. He writes: “As a Catholic priest and son of Italian immigrants I bear the religious and ethnic burden of ancestral crimes perpetrated on the first inhabitants of the Americas. Many have been converted to Christianity, but in doing so some find it difficult to retain their indigenous culture. My intent, therefore, in depicting Christian saints as Native Americans is to honor them and to acknowledge their original spiritual presence on this land. It is this original Native American spirituality that I attempt to celebrate in rendering the beauty and excellence of their craft as well as the dignity of their persons.”

### **Current Faith Formation Classes**

*More information on our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)*

**Fear and Love:** Jane Stoffer has been facilitating a 4 week class on fear and love. Please join her for the final class focusing on “Practicing Love”. No previous attendance required. Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in E-107.

**Bible Study of 2 Corinthians with Rev. Brenda Lewis:** Join us when you can on Sundays at 9:15 in E-103.

**Youth Sunday School:** The last Sunday of each month, Youth Group (middle and high schoolers) will have Sunday School in the tower room starting at 9:15 am. Breakfast will be served.

### **For our Visitors and New Attendees**

*More information on our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)*

**Exploring the Path to Membership Classes:** Sundays January 31<sup>st</sup> and Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. If you missed today’s class, that’s ok! Try to come next week. If you have been visiting our church for a while and are thinking about joining, here is an opportunity to learn more about our church and the denomination as a whole. This is an opportunity to learn and ask questions about our church, what we believe, who we are and also about the wider missions of the UCC.

Recommended reading is Balaam's Unofficial Guide to the UCC. We have a few copies available but you can purchase the book on Amazon as well. There will be handouts and a tour of the facility. We invite you to come with energy, questions and to be ready to have a joyful and educational experience. You do not have to come to classes to join the church but it is recommended. If you have questions, please contact Yolanda at [ministry@uccasheville.org](mailto:ministry@uccasheville.org) or 828.252.8729.

**Join the church! Sunday February 14th will be New Member Sunday.** If you have been waiting and are ready to join the church, this is your day! There will be New Member Bio Forms available in the Narthex beginning in January. Everyone is welcome to join, but we DO need to know ahead of time if you plan to do so! If you’d like to join or have questions, please contact Yolanda at [ministry@uccasheville.org](mailto:ministry@uccasheville.org) or 828.252.8729.

### **Events and Opportunities to Connect**

*More information on our website: [www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)*

**Lunch Bunch:** Are you new to the church or Asheville and looking for an informal way to meet new people? We have a lunch bunch most Sundays after church. A varying group of us leave from the church 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!

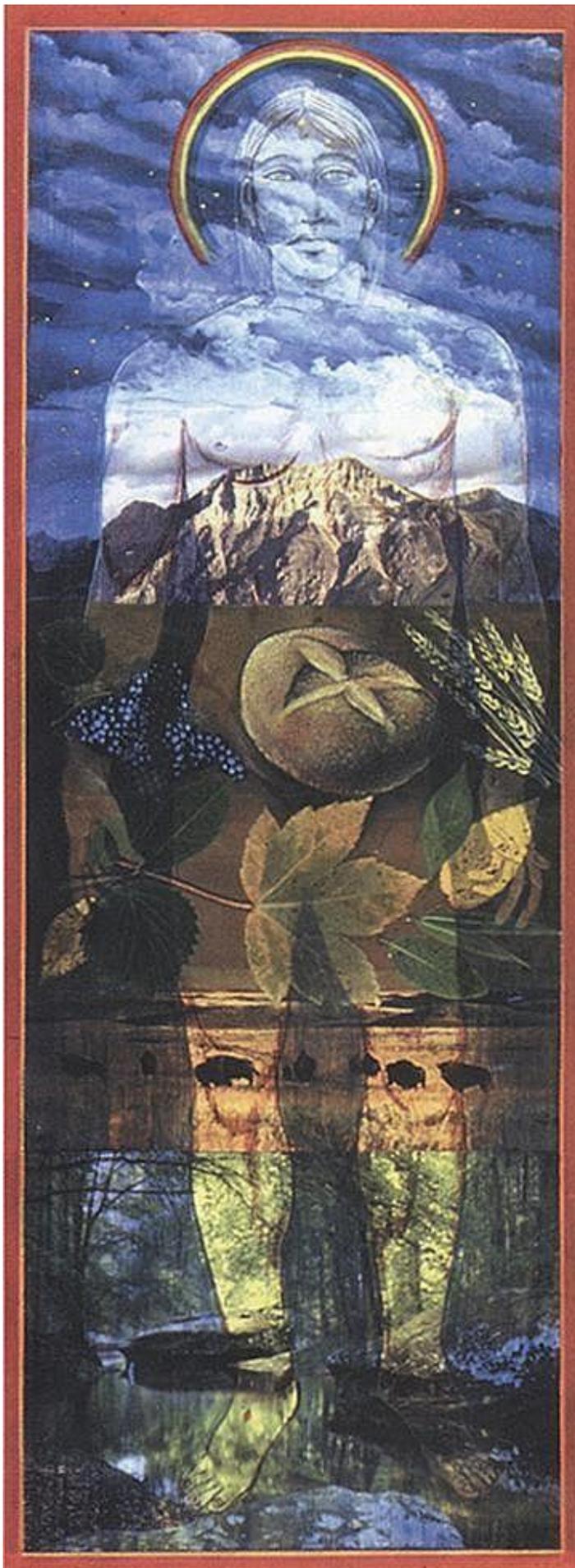
**Stir the Soul Café:** Wednesdays from 2-4 pm, you can join Loraine Tuenge in the church library for a time of conversation and coffee or tea. Everyone is welcome to stop by!

**Creative Contemplative Group:** Mondays 5:45-8PM Room 105 in the education wing of FCUCC.

**Refugee Resettlement Discussion:** (TODAY after worship) Several members of the congregation expressed an interest in our church doing something in response to the Syrian refugee crisis. A group has met twice and now would like to share our thoughts with the congregation. We invite anyone who is interested in our congregation’s response to this situation to meet with us after the service today in room 101. For more information, contact Paul Gillespie at [tellpablo11@gmail.com](mailto:tellpablo11@gmail.com) or Linda Comer [rnhealing@yahoo.com](mailto:rnhealing@yahoo.com)

### **Can “the ultimate team sport for children and youth” become active at FCUCC?**

Beginning this week, parents of children / youth should be receiving a contact from Betty Dillashaw, a member of FCUCC’s hand bell choir and also formerly a director of bell choirs in Elon, NC. Betty will be asking



whether children / youth may be interested in being part of a new chime / bell group at FCUCC. We are hoping for enough interest to begin team meetings / rehearsals in February – at a time / day convenient for the majority of people who are interested. If you have any questions at all about this FCUCC initiative, please contact Betty: [bettydtleaf@gmail.com](mailto:bettydtleaf@gmail.com) 336-260-0836

### **Welcome! WE ARE...**

*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.*

**First Congregational UCC**  
is located at 20 Oak Street in  
downtown Asheville. Please send all  
mail to PO Box 3211 Asheville, NC 28802.  
**[www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)**  
**828-252-8729**

**Financial statements are available  
to pick up after worship today.  
Please save us the postage of  
having to mail yours!**

**2015 Annual Reports are available  
in the Narthex.**