



**First Congregational
United Church of Christ**
June 26, 2016
10:30 am

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

** Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Gary Mitchell

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

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.

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: We have been called here to lean into God's gracious way of living. We are to leave the past behind us and walk into new days of our ministry.

People: **Sometimes we'd rather remember how things used to be. Sometimes we are afraid to be disciples.**

Leader: But this is a new day, and Christ is sharing freedom with us. It is a time to put aside all fear, to leave doubting behind, and to take courage in God's loving call.

People: **We will look to the new day, and we will trust in the Spirit. We will strive for faithfulness, and use the freedom we've received through Christ to serve the world around us.**

***Hymn #312**

"We Love Your Realm, O God"

Opening Prayer (prayed in unison)

Merciful God, Just God, Faithful God, God of blessing and God of our most difficult times, we come to you for a moment of quiet in our self-made busyness. We come to you for energy in our weariness. We come to you for challenge when we are willing to settle for our own small plans and dreams. We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are afraid of the urgency of your call. Enter, Spirit of God, into each of our lives and enliven us; enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children. Amen.

Response #283

“Spirit of the Living God”

Scripture Reading

Psalm 16

Anthem

Solo, Amanda Horton

Time with Children

Taleese Morrill

After a time with Children, children K-5 may go to the Children’s Church room with JP Morrill. Teens may go to the Tower Room. Parents and guardians will need to pick them up after worship.

Passing the Peace

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:1,13-25

Sermon

"Freedom in Community"

Rev. Elizabeth Kennett

***Hymn #586**

“Come to Tend God’s Garden”

Concerns and Celebrations

Yolanda Adams

Sharing our Gifts

Invitation to Share

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Saying Farewell to Denise and Andy Potts

***Hymn # 393**

“Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

Benediction



Please join us for a workshop led by Rev. Kennett immediately following worship in the sanctuary. Food will be provided at the back of the sanctuary.

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 Today's Service

Greeters/Ushers: Wes Heath
Liturgist: Rev. Margot Pickett
Security: Randall Bowman (Door Checks & Monitor)
Nursery/Childcare: Marcella Gonzalez
Accessibility Door: Carol Duin
Deacon of the Month: Judy Slater
(jbugslater@gmail.com, 734-679-3497)
Alternate Deacon: Mary Ann Brackett
(mochasmoms2@charter.net, 777-6384)

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: www.uccasheville.org*

The Church and Mental Illness: A 3-Part Adult Forum Summer Series 9:15 am – 10:15 am in E-101.
Next session: **July 10th – Responding as People of Faith to Suicide:** Suicide is a painful subject. It is a tragic ending to a life haunted by pain and suffering. Too often the church has only responded with judgment and condemnation. How do we as a faith community respond with compassion, understanding, and grace to those whose illness brings them to a place where taking their lives seems the only solution to their pain? How do we offer love and support to those who have already lost someone they love to suicide?

All Church Retreat August 12-14 at Lake Logan Episcopal Center

The theme of this year's retreat is "Re-Imagine the Gifts of God: Sowing Seeds of Hope and Wholeness"
Retreat Leaders are David LaMotte, Rev. Karen Richardson Dunn and Katie Warren, M. of Ed. The Transition Team will also facilitate a session on our church heritage immediately after lunch on Saturday. Registration forms are available in the Narthex (pink sheets) or in the plastic pocket outside Yolanda's office.

Heels on Hills Hikes with Randall: 07/16/2016 Dog Hike: DuPont State Park. Bring your four legged friend to share in this beautiful hike. We will hike rain or shine but not in storms. Meet in the church parking lot at 9 am to carpool. Any questions, call Randall at 828-242-9536 or email bwr0165@aol.

First Congregational UCC

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

www.uccasheville.org

828-252-8729