



*Sandy Freckleton Gagon "Ruth and Naomi"*

**Season of Ordinary Time**  
**All Saints Day**  
**November 1, 2015**  
**10:30 am**

# *Jesus Justice Prayer Peace*

*\*Indicates to stand in body or spirit*

## **Welcome & 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.*

## **Voluntary**

“Fantasy on Hyfrydol” – Hopson

Oak Street Ringers

## **\*Call to Worship**

One: There are many who have walked the path toward God before us, showing us the way with their lives.

***All: We lift our voices in thanks for them.***

One: As they were called, so are we called to live boldly and faithfully.

***All: We come to ask for guidance and courage.***

One: We are, each of us, like those who have gone before us, a peculiar mixture of saint and sinner. God accepts us as we are and fills us with the Spirit, who empowers us to act.

***All: Let us sing praises to this holy and gracious One.***

## **\*Hymn #299**

“For all the Saints”

## **Opening Prayer** *(in unison)*

***O God, constant and compassionate, you protect all those who trust in you. Each new day you call us to venture from our homes and families and follow you into difficult places among people we may consider strangers. Grant that we, like Ruth, may find your blessing in the wandering in our lives. And shelter us under your wings, that we may find our true home in you. Amen.***

## A Reading of Scripture

Hebrews 12:1-2

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

*All: Thanks be to God!*

## A Time with Children

*Children will remain in worship today.*

## \*Passing the Peace

## A Reading of Scripture

Ruth 1:1-8

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.

*All: Thanks be to God!*

## Sermon

“A Pledge of Allegiance”

Rev. Margot Pickett

## \*Hymn #383

“Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls”

## We Offer our Gifts

**Call for the Offering**

**Offertory** “Be Still, My Soul” – Endean Oak Street Ringers

**Prayer of Dedication**

## Holy Communion

**Song #332** “As We Gather at your Table” verse 1

## Invitation

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.

Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.

We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages:

to the saints of old who felt unworthy,  
to the seekers who are eager to know God,  
to the teenagers who wonder what it’s all about,  
to the children who eat with unburdened faith.

Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.  
There is great joy here.  
No one is turned away for God is the host!

**Song # 332**      “As We Gather at your Table”      verse 2

### **Prayer**

Pastor:      God is in this place.

***People: And in our hearts.***

Pastor:      Open yourself to the nudging God.

***People: We feel the breath of the Spirit.***

Pastor:      Remember God made flesh.

***People: Jesus, who lived and died that we might know eternal life.***

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,  
***To taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.***

Time and time again you've offered your grace,  
***Even as we have stepped away,***  
***You continue to call us to be your people.***

You have never left us.

***We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances.***  
***You are ever-patient, always faithful.***

We give thanks for this time of celebration.

***For the One this meal remembers.***

***For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.***

With those who have gone before us,

*Whose hands touched the bread,  
Whose lips embraced the cup,  
We worship you.  
We glorify you. Amen.*

### **Remembering**

We remember those who have died in the past year.

*(A bell will be rung after the name of each person who has died in the past 12 months)*

We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

And now we pause to remember all those who have gone before us.

### **Choral Response**

“May the Memories”

This is the mystery of our faith:

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

### **Song #332**

“As We Gather at Your Table”

verse 3

### **Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine**

Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said:

“This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat.”

And pouring the wine:

“This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

### **Prayer for the Holy Spirit**

God of all, send your Spirit to this place so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment, may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with the saints, and with our sisters and brothers in faith around the world.

*Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives. Help us to know you, to be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to in live Christ. Now and forever. Amen.*

**The Lord's Prayer (Maori Version)**

*Earth Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer,  
Source of all that is and all that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
May the hallowing of your name  
echo through the universe!  
May your heavenly will be done  
by all creatures great and small!  
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth!*

*With the bread we need this day, feed us.  
For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.  
Through times of temptation, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love. Amen.*

**Call to the Feast**

This is the feast prepared for you.  
Come and share for all is ready.

**Sharing the Bread and Wine**

*All are welcome at this table. Please come down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and return by one of the side aisles. Each station has a gluten free option. The*

*dark liquid is wine, the lighter liquid is juice. There will be a communion station in the balcony for those seated there.*

### Communion Anthem



### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Creative, connecting God, you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ;

From child-like faith, to youthful energy,

from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder's wisdom..

We thank you for this time, this remembrance.

Increase our faith.

***Boldly!***

Help us to love.

***Boldly!***

Encourage us to act.

***Boldly!***

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

***Amen.***

**\*Hymn #376**

**"God, We Thank You for Our People"**

**\*Benediction**

### Postlude

*You may contact our Interim Pastor, Margot Pickett at [margot.pickett@uccasheville.org](mailto:margot.pickett@uccasheville.org). Her open office hours are Tuesday through Thursday 9 am to 12 pm. She prefers to know in advance if you will be stopping by, so please call the office or email her to arrange a time. If those hours don't work for your schedule, she is able to work with you. Just ask! For urgent pastoral needs, call her on her cell phone: 919-414-6053.*

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*Jacob Schikaneder "All Soul's Day"*

**Welcome! WE ARE...**

*AN LGBT OPEN and AFFIRMING Congregation of the United Church of Christ  
and a Just Peace Church.*

*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**