



*"Ruth" by Alexandre Cabanel, 1868*

**Season of Ordinary Time**  
**November 8, 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**

**\*Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 148)

One: Hallelujah! Praise God from heaven,

All: ***Praise God from the mountaintops;***

One: Praise God, sun and moon,

All: ***Praise God, you morning stars;***

One: Praise, oh let them praise the name of God---

All: ***God spoke the word, and there they were!***

One: Praise God from earth,

All: ***Mountains and all hills, apple orchards and cedar forests;***

One: Wild beasts and herds of cattle, snakes, and birds in flight:

All: ***Earth's monarchs and all races, leaders and important people,***

One: Robust men and women alike, old and young together!

All: ***Let them praise the name of God—the only Name worth praising.***

One: God's radiance exceeds anything in earth and sky; God has built a monument—God's very own people.

All: ***Let all who love the Lord praise God's name! Hallelujah!***

**\*Hymn #25**

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Opening Prayer *(in unison)*

*Holy God, Sustainer of life from the beginning of time; we recall the many times of sorrow and struggle through which your presence has comforted us. We remember with hope that all our hurried days are held in your embrace, and we are refreshed by the gifts you share with us in the wonders of creation. Comfort, embrace, and refresh us this day, that your will may be done in us and in all the world. Amen.*

**A Time with Children**

*Children will remain in worship today.*

**\*Passing the Peace**

**A Responsive Reading of Scripture**

Psalm 146

One: Praise Yahweh! Praise Yahweh, O my soul! I will praise Yahweh as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being.

**All: *Put not your trust in earthy rulers, in human beings, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.***

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of our forbearers, whose hope is in Yahweh their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

**All: *Yahweh sets the prisoners free; God opens the eyes of the blind.***

One: Yahweh lifts up those who are bowed down; God loves the righteous.

**All: *Yahweh watches over the sojourners and upholds the powerless; but the way of the wicked is brought to ruin.***

One: Yahweh will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations!

**All: *Amen***

**Anthem**

“Kum Ba Yah”

**A Reading of Scripture**

Ruth 2:1-13; 3:1-5; 4:13-17

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**

“From the Margins”

Rev. Margot Pickett

**\*Hymn #410**

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

**Sharing Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**We Offer our Gifts**

**Call for the Offering**

**Offertory**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #81**

“God Be with You”

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**For This Week’s Service**

Greeter/Usher: Al Mojonier

Liturgist: Reverend Alice Martin-Adkins

Deacon of the Month: Randall Bowman

Alternate Deacons of the Month: Melissa Fleig & Judy Slater (Handicap Door)

**Christian Marquess is our guest organist today.**

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **Operation Christmas Hope at Community High School:** Help us in our third year of buying gifts for each student of Community High School. The cost per child is \$50 and you may choose to simply donate your money or you can wait to pick a child or two to buy directly for. This program means the world to these young adults as this may be the only Christmas present they receive and some ask for presents for their parents or their own children. You may donate by check or cash, just make sure that the memo line or envelope has "Community High School" indicated. We will also be asking for shopping help and gift wrapping help as well as donations of Christmas wrap and gift bags. For more info or to become involved, contact Yolanda (ministry@uccasheville.org).
- **Pritchard Park Needs:** We will be providing the entire Breakfast meal for Pritchard Park on the following dates: November 29th, 2015, December 20th, 2015, and January 10th 2016. We will ask for donations of boiled eggs, fruit, juice, milk or just plain old currency. Please see Beaver Wyatt for more details or email her at beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net
- In addition to those needs, **they need Captains to oversee November 29<sup>th</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>:** You'd be on deck from about 7-11 am and duties include: picking up a sailor in Oteen, picking up donated grub from Greenlife, serving breakfast to the homeless and underfed at Pritchard Park, and returning said Oteen sailor to his home port. You'd be ably assisted by Rear Admiral John Himmelheber, Senior Captain Wayne Burgess, and swabbies from a local church. If interested, please contact Captain Wrangler Calvin Allen at calvinwnc@gmail.com.

## Activities

- **Faith & Flicks Screening** of Life of Pi. Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 pm in the Library.
- **FCUCC Game Night** Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> w/ Mary & Dennis E-105 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- **Advent Wreath Making Workshop:** November 22nd at 11:30 am. Join us as we make advent wreaths from freshly cut greenery and candles for you to use in your home. Children are welcome to participate, with the help of their adults. Cost of materials is \$11. Please RSVP in advance so Gary can purchase enough materials: cantorucc@aol.com
- **On Wednesday, November 18, 7-9 pm, Earth Team will host an Asheville presentation of NC WARN's Climate Roadshow in the Friendship Hall.** NC WARN educates and empowers citizens in their efforts to slow climate change. Executive Director Jim Warren, joined by other NC WARN staff, will lead a presentation and discussion on the WARN campaign, updated climate science, and what you can do about it. For more information, visit <http://www.ncconservationnetwork.org>.
- **ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET December 6:** We are inviting all artists that would like to exhibit and sell during this event to participate. Please contact Yolanda for further info or if you would like to exhibit: ministry@uccasheville.org.

## Announcements

- **Harper's Office Hours will be changing to 9:00 am to 2:00 pm** starting Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. This means the church's open office hours change with it! No one will be here to let you in before 9!
- **Our Advent Devotionals are now here!** Written by the UCC's Stillspeaking writers it is a beautiful way to enjoy the waiting and anticipation of the coming of Jesus to the world. Copies will be available the next few Sundays in the back of the Narthex. We are asking for a donation of \$5 to offset the cost of the purchase of the Devotionals and shipping cost.
- **The Nominating Committee would like your recommendations for 2 Church Board positions.** These two positions are for 3 year terms and will begin in January, 2016. Current continuing Board members are: Spencer Duin, John Carroll Whitener, Cathy McGaughey, Noreen Bania and Sondra Helton-Moeller. Cheri Britton and April Spencer are completing their terms this year. We ask that your recommendations be returned no later than Nov. 9. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of the Church's leadership needs. Your Nominating Committee... Horace Hunt, Brenda Lewis and Alice Martin-Adkins, Chair. Nominating Guidelines and nomination forms are available in the Narthex.

- **VETERAN'S SUNDAY RECOGNITION – SUNDAY, November 15<sup>th</sup>:** During the worship service we will be recognizing our military veterans and thanking them for their sacrifice and service. We are asking all who served to come in uniform (if you still have them or they still fit) or wear a symbol of your service in some way.
- **Honoring Elva Hunt November 15<sup>th</sup>:** Join us after worship for the interment of her ashes in our Memorial Garden.

## Special Events and Worship Services in December

- **Alternative Gift Market December 6<sup>th</sup> after worship:** Join several artists connected to the church congregation, as well as some from our greater community for a chance to buy some local art as holiday gifts! The sale will also feature art and crafts by Rise Up! Studios, a ministry of Beloved house and a booth where you can buy sponsorship gifts through Heifer International.
- **Crèche Service Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am:** A lessons and carols service that incorporates placing the figures of the nativity on the communion table.
- **Longest Night Service Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm:** Not everyone finds Christmas to be filled with joy and laughter, and it's a hard time not to be happy when everyone and everything around us says we should be! This service is designed as a time of prayer, lament, scripture and music to help us remember that the Light came into the world and the darkness has not overcome it.
- **Christmas Eve Service Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm:** We will read the familiar story and sing the well loved carols of the season, ending with our traditional candle lighting and "Silent Night". Communion will be served. Children are welcome.

## Classes & Workshops

**Sundays at 9:15 am:** On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Brenda Lewis will be starting a drop-in style Bible Study on the topic of 1 Corinthians. Anyone is welcome to attend as often as they like.

**Mondays at 5:45-8pm:** Contemplative Creativity Group. Join us for some meditative art-making! No art experience or supplies needed. Drop-ins welcome. Please arrive on time.

## Calendar

### **Sunday, November 8, 2015**

Listening Circles 9:15 am  
Worship 10:30 am  
Deacon Meeting 12:00 pm  
Faith & Flicks Library 5:45 - 8:00 PM

### **Monday, November 9, 2015**

Creative Contemplative Group 5:45 - 8:00 PM E-105

### **Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

Staff meeting 11:00 AM  
FCUCC Game Night w/ Mary & Dennis E-105 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

### **Wednesday, November 11, 2015**

Librarian in Church Library 2- 4PM  
Bell choir E-101 5:30 PM  
Church Choir 6:30 PM

### **Sunday, November 15, 2015**

Bible Study 9:15AM E-107

Worship 10:30 AM

Earth Team Meeting 12 Library  
FCUCC Youth group tower Room 2  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

### **Monday, November 16, 2015**

Ex. Board mtg. Library 5:15-7:15 PM  
Creative Contemplative Group E-105  
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

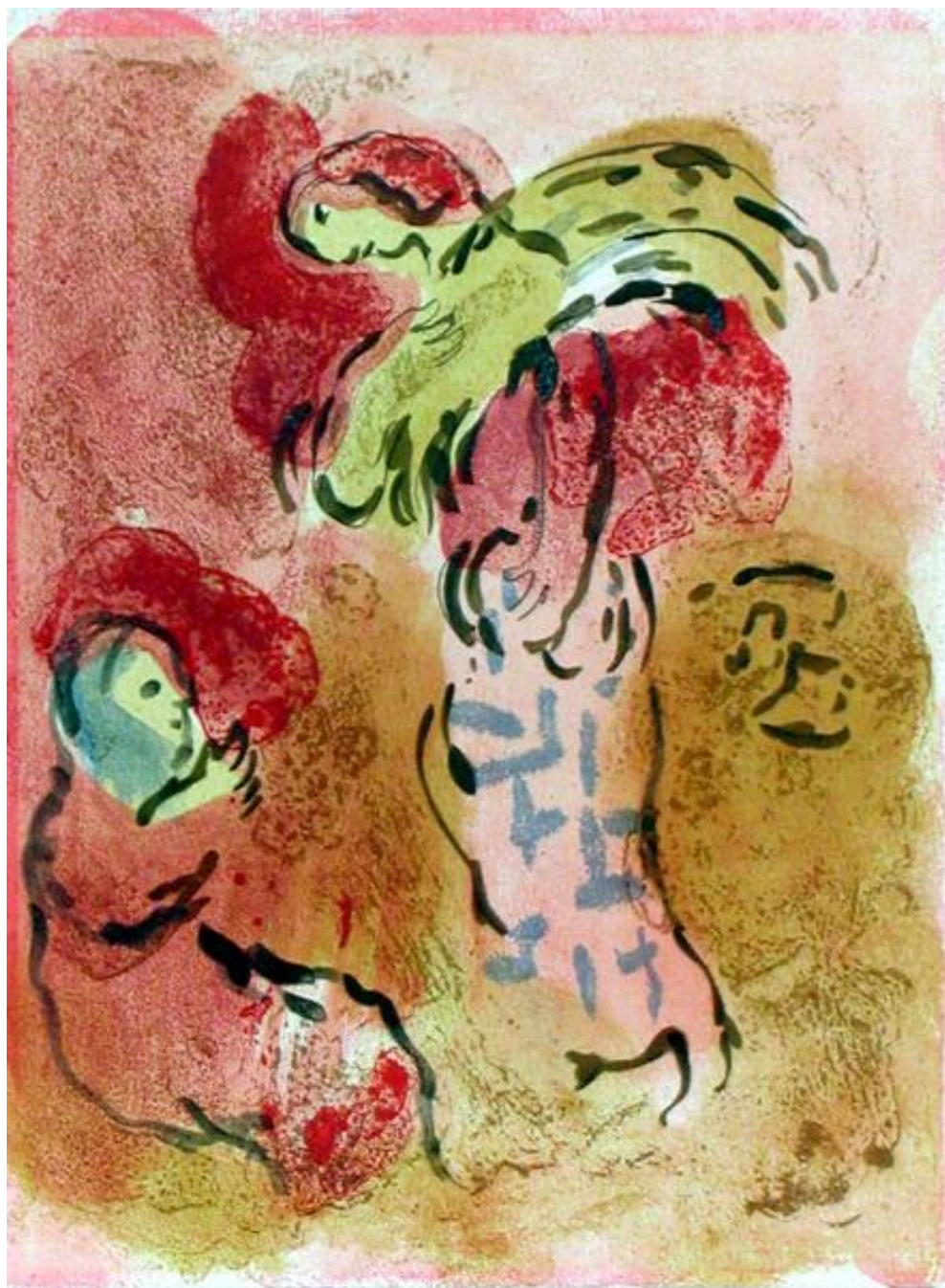
### **Tuesday, November 17, 2015**

Staff meeting-Yo's office 11 AM  
Men's Group w/Bill –Library 6:30-8:00 PM

### **Wednesday, November 18, 2015**

Librarian in Church Library 2-4 PM  
Bell choir E-101 5:30 PM  
Church Choir in Choir Room 6:30 pm  
NC WARN's Climate Roadshow  
7:00pm -9:00 pm

*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.*



“Ruth at the Feet of Boaz” Chagall

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.*



*"Ruth Gleaning" James Tissot*

**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**