



Season of Ordinary Time
October 18, 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**

One: Though the mountains may shake,

All: *We are standing on holy ground.*

One: Though the earth moves under our feet,

All: *Christ alone is our rock.*

One: Though the walls may crack,

All: *Our refuge is in the everlasting love of God.*

One: Though structures may come tumbling down,

All: *God is our stronghold.*

One: Though fear may seek to set up camp,

All: *God is our strength and guide.*

***Hymn #400**

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Holy Dwelling Place, your tent is wide enough to provide shelter for all who seek you, food for all who hunger, and healing for all who suffer. Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence, that we may risk sharing Jesus' cup and his baptism so the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all. Shelter us with your light, and clothe us with your heavenly garments. Teach us how we may

best serve you, our world and one another on this daring adventure. Amen.

Prayer Response

“We Praise God with Prayer”

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system contains the lyrics: "We praise God with prayer, to - geth - er we are wor - ship - ing;". The second system contains the lyrics: "in kind - ness we share, we come now with sing - ing." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and single notes.

A Reading of Scripture

Palm 46:1-7

Anthem

“The Least of These”

A Time with Children

Pastor Gary Mitchell

After a Time with Children, children may follow Gary out of the sanctuary and into a classroom for a time of religious exploration and education, and will return to the sanctuary before the last hymn. Children are also welcome to remain in worship.

***Passing the Peace**

A Reading of Scripture

Mark 10:32-45

Sermon

“The Greatest”

Rev. Margot Pickett

***Hymn #539**

“Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant?”

A Time of Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus (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.

We Offer our Gifts

Call for the Offering

We are collecting for Neighbors in Need again this Sunday. Please make all checks out to FCUCC with "NIN" in the memo line. Please mark envelopes with NIN if you are donating cash.

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn #489**

"Be Still my Soul"

***A Litany of God's Love** (based on Romans 8:18-39)

One: Whatever we may have to go through now is less than nothing compared with the magnificent future in store for us.

All: *The whole of creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the daughters and sons of God coming into their own.*

One: If God is for us, who can be against us?

All: *The Great Spirit who does not hesitate to be manifest in human form- can we not trust such a Presence to give us everything we need?*

One: Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, pain, or persecution?

All: *Can lack of clothes and food, danger to life and limb, the threat of force of arms?*

One: No, in all these things we win an overwhelming victory through One whose love for us has been proved.

All: *I have become absolutely convinced that neither death nor life, neither messenger of heaven nor ruler on earth, neither what happens today nor what may happen tomorrow, neither power from on high nor power from below, nor anything else in God's whole world has any power to separate us from the love of God! Amen!*

Postlude

Please join us in the Friendship Hall following worship. The Board will be leading a community gathering and discussion time regarding Joe's Fitness Review. The Board will share as much information as possible and do their best to answer any questions you may have.

For this week's service

Liturgist: Colin Covell

Deacon of the Month: Carol Duin

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Julie Everett (Handicap Door)

Nursery/Childcare: Savannah Price

Announcements

Please see our website for more upcoming events or to read our e-newsletter

- **Rev. Joe is on a Leave of Absence.** Rev. Margot Pickett has started as our Interim Pastor. You can read more about her on our website: <http://www.uccasheville.org/our-interim-pastor.html>. If you want to send Rev. Joe a get well card, you can mail it to his home at 29 Birchwood Lane Asheville, NC 28805
- **You may contact our Interim Pastor, Margot Pickett** at 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.
- **We are collecting for the special offering, Neighbors in Need today.** Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.
- **Reading Buddies Program with Johnston Elementary:** If you are interested in being a reading buddy for a student who needs extra help at Johnston Elementary, please contact Yolanda (ministry@uccasheville.org). There will be a brief training and orientation tour of the school on the weeks of Oct. 12th and Oct. 19th. ALL Reading Buddies will need to complete the form for background checks as a LEVEL 2 volunteer. Access the form at this link: <http://www.buncombe.k12.nc.us/Page/21699> - Yolanda
- **Finance Report:** On Sunday, October 25th following worship Spence Duin, Chair of Finance, will present a report about our finances in the Friendship Hall. He will be reviewing our budgets and how well our giving and pledging has met up with our goals for this year.



- **Men's Group** will meet Tuesday October 20 from 6:30 until 8 pm in the Library or Yolanda's office. The Men's Group welcomes all men to a confidential time of sharing the issues, ideas and experiences of our lives. We provide support and understanding to each other and discuss pressing issues of the day or in our lives. For more information contact Bill Petz at 628-9158.

- **Pritchard Park** Our upcoming 2 Sundays to provide the entire meal for Pritchard Park will be Sunday, November 29th and Sunday, January 10th of next year. If you would like to help volunteer, please contact Beaver Wyatt:
beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net

All music reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net. License #-700000



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.

We hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today. If you have any questions about us or the building, please ask one of our greeters! Visit our Facebook page or website to learn more about our classes, events, and ministries! You can sign up for our e-newsletter via our website.

www.uccasheville.org

www.facebook.com/FCUCC

Current Classes & Workshops

Sundays at 9:15 am: Rev. Brenda Lewis is leading an ongoing, drop-in style Bible study focusing on the Book of Daniel downstairs in the education wing in E-107. October 25th is the last offering of this class. On November 1st, she will be moving on to a different topic TBD.

Mondays at 5:45-8pm: Art as a Spiritual Practice for Peace and Healing. Join us in some meditative art-making! No art experience or supplies needed. Drop-ins welcome. Please arrive on time.

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 828-252-8729