



*"Jesus Wept" - Tissot*

**First Congregational United Church of Christ**  
**September 18, 2016**  
**10:30 am**

# Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

*\* Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

## **Prelude**

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

## **Welcome and 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.

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**

Cally Rogers-Witte

One: Great Spirit, you have turned your face earthward and opened your heart to your children,

**All: And so, O God, do we turn to you now.**

One: We turn to you for purpose and correction,

**All: For joy and peace,**

One: For a way out of hopeless situations,

**All: For justice,**

One: For forgiveness,

**All: For love.**

One: We turn to you, oh God, for all these things offered through Jesus the Christ, the maker of redemption and the bringer of hope.

**All: Amen.**

## **\*Hymn #84**

“This is the Day”

## **Prayer of Confession** (spoken in unison)

Cally Rogers-Witte

**Eternal God, you love us steadfastly, but we have trouble loving in return; you call us, but we have wax-filled ears; you reveal yourself, but our eyelids are heavy; you lead us toward our neighbor, but we build walls around ourselves; you hate evil, injustice, and alienation, but we get used to it. O God, we pray,**



**All: Your Kin-dom come, the commonwealth of your kin,**

One: a kin-dom with no borders, where all cultures are honored.... a kin-dom of harmony between all of your creation.

**All: Your will be done on earth as in heaven,**

One: as we commit ourselves to restore your creation..... as we surrender our day planners to your eternal vision.

**All: Give us this day our daily bread,**

One: grant us bread without fear.... the justice-making Body of Christ.

**All: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us;**

One: may we forgive ourselves for our real or imagined failures....our tendency to divide your children into winners and losers.

**All: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;**

One: the temptation of self-righteousness, the evil of judging others.... the temptation to put our faith in progress, the evil of a polluted world.

**All: For yours in the kin-dom, the power, and the glory;**

One: yours the reign of peace....the radiance of every color of the rainbow,

**All: Yours the everlasting glory of creation, in its magnificent, chaotic design, forever and ever glory to you our God.**

**Amen.**

## **We Offer Our Gifts**

Invitation to Share

Offertory "Adante Tranquillo" from Sonata # 2 - Mendelssohn

Prayer of Dedication

**\*Hymn #391** "In the Midst of New Dimensions"

## **Benediction**

*Please join us in the Friendship Hall for conversation about the future Mission and Vision of our congregation. The Transition Team will help facilitate the discussion and heavy snacks will be served.*

## For Today's Service

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte

**Greeters:** Beaver Wyatt & Mary Ann Brackett

**Security:** Chris Byrne

**Childcare/Nursery:** Marcella Gonzalez

**Deacon of the Month:** Carol Duin -  
scduin@gmail.com

**Alternate Deacon of the Month:** Julie Everett - zowiemom@yahoo.com

## 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

## Welcome!

*We believe God is calling us to:*

*Be a progressive, risk-taking, Christian faith community*

*Be a spiritual community acknowledging the grace of God that follows the way of Jesus as the Christ*

*Be welcoming, open, and affirming to all*

*Engage the wider world with acts of mercy, peace, and justice.*

**Nursery** Our nursery is open during worship for babies and children pre-school age and younger. Children and babies may be dropped off by a parent or guardian before worship or after a Time with Children. (You will be asked to sign in and leave a cell phone number). They must be picked up as soon worship ends. They are also welcome to remain with you in the sanctuary.

**Faith Formation for Children and Teens** On most Sundays of the month (except the first), we invite our children to go to a multi-age class in room E-204 following the Time with Children. This Sunday, our teen youth and children (and their parents) are invited to Taleese and JP Morrill's house for a cookout at 4pm. Contact Taleese for more info: 707-0163.

## Volunteering and Connecting

**Room in The Inn** returns to our church on September 25th to October 2<sup>nd</sup> and our new Inn Keepers, Richard and Ruth Howe will need volunteers to provide meals, transportation, and overnight hosting! RITI is a traveling homeless shelter for women until they can find permanent housing. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Richard and Ruth at [rmhhowe@gmail.com](mailto:rmhhowe@gmail.com) and [rbhowe54@gmail.com](mailto:rbhowe54@gmail.com)

**Sponsoring Immigrants:** Interested in helping refugees? New refugees are arriving this month in Asheville. They each need a friend to help them navigate learning to live in the states. Contact Yolanda (ministry@uccasheville.org) or Carol Duin (337-5228).

**Children and Youth Chime Choirs** – Have started back up! Preliminary plans are to have three different meeting times for chime choirs: Sundays, 9:15 am; Sundays, 12:15 pm; Wednesdays, 4:30 pm. All who want this Christian music education programming to succeed are encouraged to invite parents to contact Betty Dillashaw (bettydtleaf@gmail.com OR 336-260-0836) to register their children for one of these meeting times. A successful beginning for this programming will be much easier with the help of our "village" at FCUCC!

**Harper's having a baby!** We are very excited for her and Kurt, but the sad news for our congregation is that our awesome Administrative Assistant has decided to leave us to stay home with Baby Girl. **On October 2 we're planning a special Friendship Time to say farewell to Harper and best wishes for motherhood. If you would like to contribute to a gift, please send a check to the church with a note that it is for Harper.** Our plan is to get her some gift cards at her favorite places to shop for the new arrival. If you would prefer to get her a gift card yourself, those places are Amazon.com, Target, Babies R Us, and Littlest Birds (a consignment shop in West Asheville). We look forward to celebrating Harper and all she has contributed to FCUCC these past 6 years and helping her get ready for her new baby.

### **All Church Camping Trip- Join us for Lunch!**

On Saturday, September 24th, we invite you to join the campers for a cook out! Please RSVP to Mary Ann Brackett if you'll be joining us and let her know what side dish or dessert you'll be bringing. Please call her at (828) 774-5393 by September 19th.

If you are wishing you could join in and spend a few nights, there are some A-frames and cabins available which can be rented directly through the campground itself: <http://orchardlakecampground.com/>

### **Calling all artists, crafters, and creative people!**

Our annual Alternative Gift Market will be held on **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** after worship service. Set up hours are from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm on Saturday. Last year's gift market was truly successful and we hope that all who participated will do so again. We will also have non-profit organizations like Habitat for Humanities and Heifer International that you can purchase gifts from. So please contact Yolanda if you want to participate: [ministry@uccasheville.org](mailto:ministry@uccasheville.org).

### **March for "Souls to the Polls" starting at Pack Square, October 30, Sunday, 2 p.m.**

The NC NAACP and Democracy NC have combined forces to coordinate an ambitious state-wide grassroots voter engagement plan. To check your voter registration and current address, log on to [demnc.co/lookup](http://demnc.co/lookup) To help organize the march or work a voter registration table at church, contact Bonnie Schell, (828) 575-2549 or [Bonniebelle1221@gmail.com](mailto:Bonniebelle1221@gmail.com) or Rachel Bliss (828) 505-9425 or [blissinstoyou@gmail.com](mailto:blissinstoyou@gmail.com), Faith Ambassadors for Souls to the Polls.

**A Healing and Communion Worship Service** -- on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30. The Healing part of the service is based upon a laying-on of hands Healing Service held at the Iona Abbey that many in the Iona Group attended. The communion part of the Service is also Celtic-based and we will use 4 stations – two in the front and two in the rear of the sanctuary.

**Invitation for Prayer Requests.** We invite you to submit Prayer Requests on a form developed just for this service and included in the Bulletin. You can find additional forms on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. You may put the Prayer Requests in the Offering Plates or in the Prayers Requested box in the rear of the Sanctuary. The first names of all of the prayer requests will be read during the Healing Service.

**Laying-On of Hands.** After the prayer requests are read, we will invite those who wish to have hands laid-on them to come to the front of the sanctuary. In groups of 6-12, we then will ask you to form a circle and then members of the Iona Group will lay-on hands on each person while saying the Healing



Prayer. If you wish to add your hands to this part of the service, please come forward, stand behind one of the people who will have hands-laid on them, and place your hand on their shoulder, back, or arm.

**Annual Family Christmas Party** What fun that was last year!!! This year the party will be held at the church again on **Friday, December 9th from 6pm to 9pm**. It will be a potluck of festive holiday fare. More details closer to time...

**News From the Earth Team:** Have you noticed a bright splash of color alongside the back parking lot? We have decided this year to feed the pollinators! Go out and look, and listen to the happy humming of the workers, most of whom are facing a decline. All of the flowers are indigenous to this native corridor of Western North Carolina and are also perennials, which means they'll be back next year too to continue strengthen a part of our local eco-system. The Earth Team meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in library if you have a passion for environmental issues. Please contact Julie Everett for more information at zowiemom@yahoo.com

**Asheville Gay Pride:** Based on feedback from you, the congregation, Our church will not be renting a booth at this year's Asheville Gay Pride Celebration on October 1st, but we do hope that you will go to the festival and support the local vendors.

## Upcoming Faith Formation Classes

**Prerequisite to A Sacred Conversation:** "The Good Word: You Say You Want a Revolution?" with Rev. Aubra Love. Each week's exploration is based on the Lectionary texts for that Sunday. **Classes will be on September 25<sup>th</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, October 9<sup>th</sup> Room 107 starting at 9:00 am.**

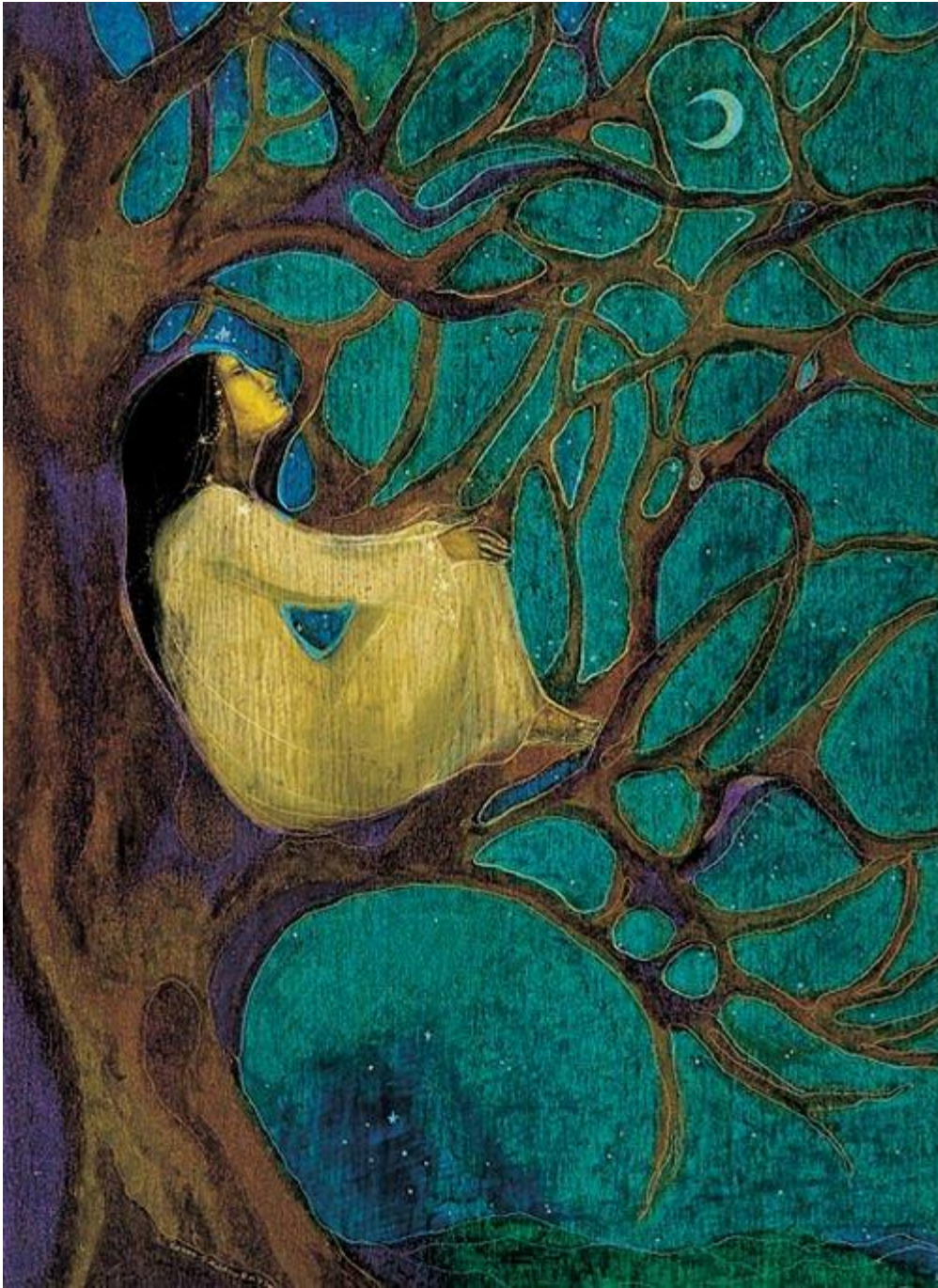
**Visitor Orientation:** Are you interested in becoming a member of FCUCC or just learning more about our congregation? Please plan to attend the **Visitor Orientation on September 25<sup>th</sup> after worship** in the sanctuary.

**New Member Classes** will be held on **October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am** in E-103. The first class, "The UCC: A Heady, Exasperating, Hopeful Mix," will be led by Rev. Margot Pickett.

**A Sacred Pause:** Creating a simple piece of art such as a mandala can soothe the soul and bring an inner calm. Join us to experience it yourself! A weekly commitment or experience in artsy pursuits is NOT a requirement for attending. **Mondays 5:45-8 PM in Room 103.**

## Just Peace Statement adopted by First Congregational United Church of Christ

As a just peace church continuing the work of Jesus, we commit to work towards a world where all persons are treated with dignity and equality, where societies are structured in ways that promote the wellbeing of all people, and where conflicts are resolved through communication and negotiation, without resorting to exploitation or violence- and to embody these principles in our life and witness as individuals and as a congregation.



**Located at 20 Oak Street  
Asheville, NC 28801**

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

[www.uccasheville.org](http://www.uccasheville.org)

828-252-8729

[www.facebook.com/FCUCC](http://www.facebook.com/FCUCC)

*"We now need to put as much effort into defining  
a just peace as we have done in the past in  
defining a just war."*

*- Dr. Robert V. Moss*

**JUST**  
*Peace*