



"Prayer for Peace" Shelly Penko

Season of Ordinary Time
September 20, 2015
10:30 am

To our visitors.....



Photo by Sharon Stepp. Left to right: Rev. Joe, Harper, Pastor Gary, Yolanda

Welcome! We are delighted that you have come to worship with us. We are an Open and Affirming, Just Peace, Public Church. These phrases indicate our desire and effort to be welcoming of all, learning and working for a just peace in our community and world, and always a part of the public life of the Asheville community. And underlying all this is a strong emphasis on worship and faith formation that helps us remember our identity as followers of Jesus. Please feel free to participate in any and all of our ministries that stir your passion. All of us on staff invite you to come and visit with us - to

ask us questions - to find help in knowing all the ministries with which we are engaged. Again, we

welcome you - whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey! -**Rev. Joe Hoffman, Senior Minister**

Today, as you visit our community of faith you will hopefully experience extravagant welcome, a variety of musical styles, from Bach to World music, and an open and loving community. We encourage you to not be an observer, but a full participant. – **Pastor Gary, Assistant Pastor and Minister of Arts and Music**

Dear Visitors, We are privileged to have you as our guest here at First Congregational UCC - Asheville today, and are grateful you choose to worship with us. We trust that your visit here is spiritually enriching and that you were warmly received.

As a church, we are committed to the walking in the ways of Jesus Christ, and we believe whole-heartedly in a "Still-Speaking God". It is our desire that people come to place their trust in our faith community and find it to be a safe place to worship no matter where you are in the journey of life.

We seek to provide meaningful times of worship, opportunities for fellowship, prayer, outreach, and numerous other ministries for people of all ages.

We hope that you will join us as often as you can.

- **Yolanda Adams, Ministry Coordinator.**

I hope you will visit our website, Facebook page, and check out our e-newsletter so you can learn more and get involved! There truly is something for everyone. – **Harper Leich, Administrative Assistant.**

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

**Indicates to stand in body or spirit*

Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte is our guest preacher today. The Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte and her husband Frank joined FCUCC in 2012. In retirement they returned to live in their hometown of Cocoa FL but spend June through October at their cottage at Lake Junaluska and say they are so happy to have found this wonderful church home and regret missing all those Sundays with us during the winter and spring months. Cally has been an ordained UCC minister for 42 years and served as pastor of Community UCC in Raleigh for 18 years, then as Conference Minister of the UCC Southwest Conference for 10 years before beginning her final ministry as Executive Minister of the UCC Wider Church Ministries and co-executive of the Global Ministries of the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for 6 years.

Welcome and Ministry Updates

Yolanda Adams

Voluntary “Adagio Voluntary #1” – Stanley

Call to Worship

Catholic Worker Community

One: We have chosen to be here, forming one body out of many.

All: We are one in the Spirit; we are one in Christ.

One: With us are those we see and those who share our vision but are scattered across creation.

All: We are one in the Spirit; we are one in Christ.

One: We share a vision arising from differing experiences—men and women, gay and straight, rich and poor, of many races, creeds and cultures that are one with us in this moment.

All: We are one in the Spirit; we are one in Christ.

One: We have chosen to be here in a time of war when we have called for peace.

All: We have chosen to be here in a time of injustice when we have called for liberation.

One: We have chosen to be here in a time of fear when we have called for hope.

All: We have chosen to be here in a time of action as a sign of faith.

One: We have chosen to be here in a time of darkness as a sign of light.

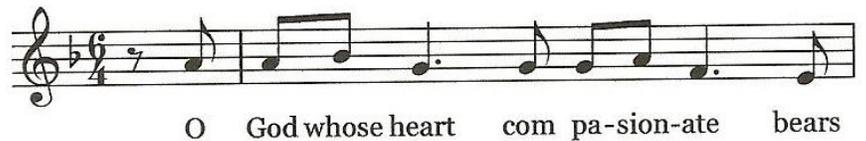
All: We are one in the Spirit; we are one in Christ.

***Hymn** “We Are One in the Spirit” (Printed in bulletin at end of liturgy)

Unison Prayer for Peace

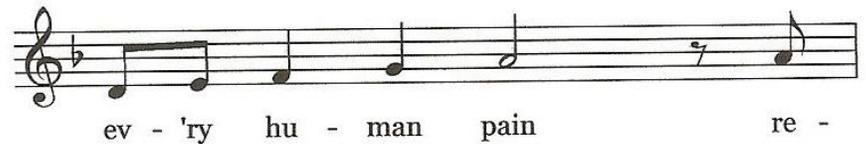
*Creating and healing and transforming God,
God who makes one of all those sharing in the hope of faith,
remind us that we are more than the people in this room
and more than the present time, that we may be your
instrument for peace and justice in the present time and for all
time. Amen*

Quiet Prayers



Response

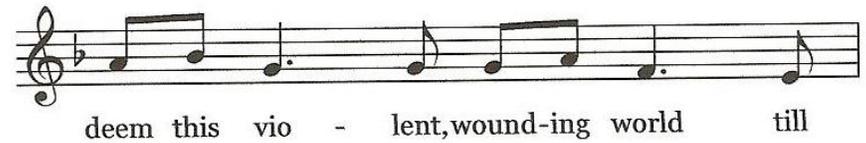
“Bring Peace to Earth Again”



Anthem

“Lo, I Am with You”

The Iona Community



Psalm 1

(from Psalms for Praying)

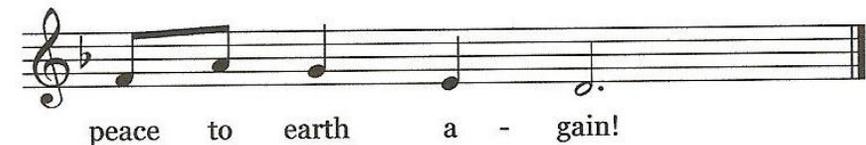


Children’s Time

Pastor Gary and Earth Team



***Passing of the Peace of Christ**



2nd Lesson

Luke 10:25-37

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People

All: *Thanks be to God!*

Sermon

“And Who Is My Neighbor?”

Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte

Joys and Concerns of Our Community

The Lord’s Prayer in Time of War by Ms. Wendy Lyons (*Said in unison*)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, slow to anger, and of great mercy, lover of all peoples of the earth,

Hallowed be thy name.

Remind us that “all the nations are as nothing before thee,” their governments but a shadow of passing age;

Thy kingdom come on Earth.

Grant to thy children throughout the world, and especially to the leaders of the nations, the gift of prayerful thought and thoughtful prayer; that following the example of our Lord, we may discern what is right, and do it;

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.

Help us to protect and to provide for all who are hungry and homeless, especially those who are deprived of food and shelter, family and friends, by the tragedy of war;

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us for neglecting to “seek peace and pursue it”, and finding ourselves in each new crisis, more ready to make war than to make peace.

“We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves;”

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Let us not seek revenge, but reconciliation; let us not delight in victory, but in justice; let us not give ourselves up to pride, but to prayer;

Lead us not into temptation.

Be present to all thy children ravaged by war: be present to those who are killing and those who are being killed; be present to the loved ones of those who are killing and to the loved ones of those who are being killed;

Deliver us from evil.

Subdue our selfish desires to possess and to dominate, and forbid us
arrogance in victory;

**Fore thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory “Adante from Voluntary #9” -Stanley
Prayer of Dedication Yolanda Adams

***Hymn #586** “Come to Tend God’s Garden”

***Benediction** Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte

Today after worship, Earth Team will have several containers of fresh-cut herbs on the stage in the Friendship Hall. You are welcome to take some home to add special flavors to your cooking. (Garden produce donations will be used to purchase compost next spring to organically enrich the raised beds. Donations are welcome, but never necessary.)

For this week’s service

Greeter: Sandy Clark

Liturgist: John Whitener

Deacon of the Month: Mary Ann Brackett

Alternate Deacon: Terry Kaeser (at the Handicap door)

Nursery/Childcare: Savannah Price

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We are One in the Spirit

Unison

1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,

we are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride:

Refrain (Harmony)

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love,

yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

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 will be starting as our Interim Pastor soon. Her first Sunday with us will be October 4th. Please join us after worship that day to meet her during Friendship Time! You can read more about her on this week's insert or on our website: <http://www.uccasheville.org/our-interim-pastor.html>*
- **Faith Formation with Brenda Lewis!** Join us as we study Daniel, one of the most vivid collections of stories and visions in the Old Testament. 9:15 am Sundays
- **New Class: Art as a Spiritual Practice for Peace and Healing. Mondays 5:45-8 PM Room 105 at FCUCC** It is essential to arrive on time as it will be very disruptive if you enter during the meditative music and quiet time. Mandy Kjellstrom and Karen Nice Webb will be present to accompany each person. Call or text Mandy with any questions: 828-553-7070.
- **New Member Sunday:** September 27th. Anyone is welcome to join us as a member. Please contact Yolanda immediately if interested: ministry@uccasheville.org.



Complete details for all events, and our continuing prayer concerns can be found in our weekly e-newsletter. Sign up or read the most current issue on our website: www.uccasheville.org. You can also scan the QR code with your smart phone or device to get to our website. You may also donate through Paypal on our website!

Find us on Facebook for photos, event invitations, news, and links to our e-newsletter: www.facebook.com/FCUCC. You can also scan the QR code with your smart phone or device to get to our Facebook page!



First Congregational UCC is located at 20 Oak Street in downtown Asheville. Please send all mail to PO Box 3211 Asheville, NC 28802.

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