

The Church of the Red Rocks

United Church of Christ

Inspired by God's grace we love and welcome all, serve all and seek justice for all.

March 19, 2023 — The Fourth Sunday in Lent – Year A

9:30AM

Welcome to all - those who are present in the sanctuary, our guests and visitors, and also those who are joining us, via livestream on Facebook and on our YouTube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@churchoftheredrocks>. When you worship with CRR, you are “at home.” We pray you will experience the presence of the Holy Spirit, during this time of worship. If you would like to receive information about CRR please be certain we have your email address. Let us know if you have questions or needs.

To ponder as we gather:

“I wonder if fears ever really go away, or if they just lose their power over us.” –

Veronica Roth

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Winter” from “The Four Seasons”

Antonio Vivaldi

Greeting & Welcome

Pastor Marvin Morgan

One: Whoever you are or where ever you are on life’s journey...

All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gathering Hymn

“Beautiful Jesus”

Hymnal #44

Call to Worship

Judith Glenn

One: Kindred of God, a new vision of leadership is called forth and God calls upon the least likely, the unheard of, and the humble of heart to assemble to receive anointing.

All: In peace, we anoint the forgotten, the youngest, smallest, and unlikeliest of siblings whom God has raised up to serve.

One: Though the call may involve risk and danger, we are called to listen, obey, and live a love unwavering.

All: In peace, we anoint the disinherited and dismissed.

One: God’s call does not depend on our outward appearance or our earthly achievements.

All: In peace, we anoint neighbor and kin alike, knowing God looks upon the heart. Let us open our hearts to God this day. Amen.

Handbell Choir Anthem

“We Sing the Mighty Power”

arr. Kurt Meyer

Invocation

Judith Glenn

All: Anointed One, your love comes peaceably into our lives if we will but receive it. We are so fixated on the gold standard, the familiar, and the safe choices that we often lose sight of what you are raising up right in our very midst. Enliven us with your Spirit this day so we might get a glimpse of your peace. Take what we might imagine as too small for your kin-dom and use it to open the world to your overflowing abundance and provision for all that you have created. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Judith Glenn

All: God of surprises, we know that we do not often perceive the world as you do. We look to the flashy fame, the grand gestures, optimal achievements, and unrealistic standards. Yet, despite our misguided reach towards perfection, you give us glimpses of your grandeur and grace. Surprise us yet again this day, O God, that in our complacency which allows us to drift towards the same old ways of faith that we may be transformed anew. Provide us with a new cup of oil that we may be anointed by your love so we may set out into your world to bless and anoint others. In the name of the One whose love and peace make all things new we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Friends, receive the anointing of God's tender love and forgiveness this day. For God's care and compassion for you abides in your heart today and always.

All: We worship with certainty that we are restored and renewed. Amen.

Meditation Hymn

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

Hymnal #433

Reading from the Hebrew Bible

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Judith Glenn

New Testament Reading

John 9:1-41 (NRSV)

Pastor Morgan

Anthem

"In Paradisum"

Michael Hoppé

Message

"SEEING THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY"

Pastor Morgan

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

Prayers of the People

Pastor Morgan

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Morgan

It is not the outward appearance or size of the gifts we have to share that matters to God. It is the loving generosity of our hearts that is closest to the heart of God. We are invited to give this day out of the abundance of our lives, from our hearts, knowing that whatever the size of our gifts may be, God knows our hearts.

All: We give this day from our hearts and may it be pleasing to God. Amen.

Offertory

"The Parting"

Michael Hoppé, piano;
Taylor Morris, violin; Gina Choe, cello

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. A-men.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Morgan

Generous God, you remind us that you "anoint our heads with oil" and our "cups overflow" with your abundance. We do not take for granted all that you provide. Take these gifts and use them for the healing and tender care of your hurting world. May your cup of love overflow to the benefit of those who are hurting and heartbroken, forgotten and despised, so we may all be made whole. Amen.

Departing to Serve ... with God's Kind of Love

*Sending Hymn

"All Beautiful the March of Days"

Hymnal #434

*Blessing

Pastor Morgan

Dear friends, set out from this place not to anoint power, prestige, and the outer appearances of grandiosity. Rather, set out from this place to anoint healing, renewal, and raise up those unexpected places and people that God has set apart for the transformation of the world. Open yourselves to the surprising and unexpected movements of the Holy Spirit, for around the corner of every assumption we carry and every community we live in, is an emerging shepherd among us waiting to lead with God's help. Go forth in peace to lead, to love, and be renewed by God.

All: Amen!

Postlude

"Rustle of Spring"

Christian Sinding

*When our worship is over, our service begins.
In Jesus' name, go and serve the world God loves.*

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Our church families pray for each other: Please pray for:

Bunny A., Elaine G., Sue L., Barb M., Martha T., Pat W., Jed S., Chase J., Arlene P.,
Jack K., Sonja O., Roswita N., Antonia S. and Scott K.

If you or someone you love would like to be added to The Prayer Circle please let the office know.
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Time and Talent Surveys:

Would you like to know more about one or more volunteer opportunities through CRR? Please indicate (no commitment implied!) on the survey cards and deposit it in the offering basket as you leave.

WEEKLY:

Monday: Knitting Into the Mystery at CRR 1PM
Tuesday: Bible study at Sedona Winds, in the Library 11 AM
Thursday: Adult Bible Study at CRR 1PM, Bell Choir practice 1-3 PM
Friday: Yin Yoga at CRR 9AM, EDGE (hybrid) 10:15AM

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

1st Monday of the Month: Game ON! at CRR 1-3PM
2nd & 4th Mondays- Men's Breakfast 8AM

STEPHEN MINISTERS INVITE YOU!

*Ron Goldman will be speaking about Eldercare
March 23rd 9:30 AM in PCH*

*The Transition Team is hosting "Connecting Conversations" small groups at the church on March 23 at 1pm.
and there will be meetings in people's homes on March 29 at 1pm and March 30 at 10am.*

JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING MUSICAL PERFORMANCE:

Michael Hoppé in concert TODAY @ 2PM

THE CHURCH of the RED ROCKS UCC

An Open and Affirming / Stephen Ministry Congregation

The Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan, Interim Pastor [PastorMorgan@churchoftheredrocks.com]

The Rev. Dr. George Ault, Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Ryan Holder, Director of Music Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

NAU Choral Interns CRR Choir

KeliAnne Piscopo, Church Administrator Judith Glenn, Liturgist

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Current Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday 9AM- 5PM

*additional hours on Saturday and/or Sunday (as needed)

Pastoral Counseling by appointment *please call the office*

Week-At-A-Glance at CRR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Lenten discussion 10AM Knitting into the Mystery 1PM	*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11am	Council 1PM Barbershop 5-7pm	Stephen Ministry 9:30AM Adult Bible Study 1PM Bells 1:30-3pm T Team 3pm	Yin Yoga 9AM PCH EDGE 10:15 Zoom	

* indicates events NOT @ CRR

