

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.

April 30, 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Easter – Year A

9:30AM

Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries and Good Shepherd Sunday

“By the Gate”

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. 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:

“Sadie walked under the gates, one by one by one. At first, she felt nothing, but as she kept moving ahead, she began to feel an opening and a new spaciousness in her chest. She realized what a gate was: it was an indication that you had left one space and were entering another. She walked through another gate.” — Gabrielle Zevin

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Meditation” from Thais

Jules Massenet, arr. Alfred Silver

Greeting & Welcome

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

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

All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gathering Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

Hymnal #4

Call to Worship

Gene Moore

One: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come. You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power.

All: For you created all things, and by your will they were created. And worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

One: Now to him who sits upon the Throne and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!

ALL: Amen.

Invocation

Gene Moore

One: Let us pray.

All: We thank you, O God for your love for us. Love that reaches out to accept us, wherever we are, whoever we are. Your love, although unconditional, calls us forth to be the best we can be. And, at the same time, you amazingly enable us to respond. Help us, your people, held within the security of your love, to risk showing that same love to others. Abide with us, during this time of worship, that our love may also be known for its abundance, its readiness to speak out, and its healing power. In your many names we pray, Amen!

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Gene Moore

One: God's love for the world has been revealed in Jesus Christ, who certainly loved us beyond measure; Jesus – Savior and Lord – who at His last meal with his disciples gave them – and us – that new commandment: "...love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Merciful God, we have not loved you with all our heart and mind and soul. (silence) Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: We have not loved our neighbors as you have taught us. (silence). Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

One: We are indifferent to the saving grace of your Word and life. (silence) Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: Forgive and heal us by your steadfast love made known to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Jesus said: "I came not to judge the world, but to save the world"; and "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end." The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are, forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 2:42-47

Gene Moore

New Testament Reading

John 10:1-10

Pastor Morgan

Meditation Hymn

"My Shepherd Is the Living God"

Hymnal #247

Message

The Good Shepherd

Pastor Morgan

Anthem

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

arr. Jay Althouse

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

A Pastoral Prayer – In Recognition of Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries Sunday (Prayer of the Shepherd)

Pastor: Lord, make me a laborer of your peace. Where there is hatred, I may bring love. Where there is injury, I may bring forgiveness. Where there is discord, I may bring harmony.

All: Where there is error, I may bring truth. Where there is doubt, I may bring faith. Where there is despair, I may bring hope. Where there is darkness, I may bring light.

Pastor: And where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

All: We give you thanks and pray for the Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries of our United Church of Christ. Give all our churches courage and the grace to hear these voices and stories, to make new connections that will teach us to practice right relationships based on respect, sovereignty, self-determination and religious freedom. May this be the reality for all indigenous

peoples within our church and global community. Help us to welcome everyone to your table that goodness and mercy might follow us all the days of our lives.

Pastor: O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

All: For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Morgan

Offertory

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

arr. Mark Hayes

*Doxology

"Lift High the Cross"

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Morgan

Ke Akua, Lord of heaven and earth, accept now, our **makana** (gifts) and our lives that the world and all people may praise Your name. **'Āmene.** (Amen.)

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

*Sending Hymn

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Hymnal #252

**Blessing (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Pastor Morgan

1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

All: 'Āmene (Amen)

Postlude

"Toccatto on a Beethoven Theme"

arr. Christopher Uehlein

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., and Antonia S.

If you or someone you love would like to be added to The Prayer Circle, please let the office know.

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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 1:30-3 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

MAY 14TH- 2nd Sunday Potluck!

(also Mother's Day & Music Appreciation Sunday!)

Purple Prayer Cards are located behind each pew. Please feel free to fill one out and drop it in a basket or give it to one of the ushers. God Bless!

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

Gene Moore, 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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Game ON! 3PM			Adult Bible Study 1PM	EDGE 10:15AM Zoom	DAR 9 AM	
<i>Knitting into the Mystery 1PM</i>		Property Mgmt. Mtg. 9 AM	<i>Bells 1:30-3pm</i>	<i>Iris Kraus Celebration of Life 11AM</i>		
*St. Andrew's Community Supper 2-6PM	*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11am	<i>Barbershop 5-7pm</i>	<i>T Team 3pm</i>			
			<i>National Day of Prayer</i>			

* indicates events NOT @ CRR

