

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.

June 4, 2023 — Trinity Sunday – Year A

SERVICE OF WORD and SACRAMENT

“Authority” – 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. 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:

“The richness, beauty and depths of love can only be fully experienced in a climate of complete openness, honesty and vulnerability.” – Anthony Venn Brown

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Fanfare on Azmon”

arr. Michael Helman

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

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Hymnal #277 vs. 1, 3 & 4

Call to Worship

AJ Cook

One: After Jesus' death and resurrection He called the eleven to a mountaintop in Galilee and they went.

All: Let us be attentive to the voice of Jesus and bravely go when called.

One: Once the eleven saw Jesus they doubted but still worshipped Him.

All: Let us forgive ourselves when we doubt, and remain open to understanding as we encounter Jesus.

One: As they worshiped, Jesus declared his authority and charged the eleven to GO to ALL people. He instructed them to build community with ALL people, be willing to touch ALL people, and be willing to minister to ALL people.

All: Let us bravely Go to All people especially those society often tries to ignore.

One: Jesus instructed the eleven to use their voice, their stories, and their authentic truth as a witness to those whom they ministered to.

All: Let us stand in authenticity empowered by the Holy Spirit as we bravely share our story to help others find the love of Jesus.

One: Jesus assured the eleven to remember that He would always be with them.

All: Let us bravely live, work, and GO in authenticity as we do the work of connecting people with the Love of Jesus. Let us remember that His love, peace, and hope is always with us. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (together)

AJ Cook

Loving God, often in our quest to do the work that we are called to do we miss the mark. At times we doubt even as we worship. Sometimes in the same day that we offer gratitude for answered prayers and blessings received we think thoughts of apprehension and utter words of uncertainty concerning those same blessings. Occasionally we forget that the peace, love, hope, and joy of the Divine extends beyond the walls of our churches and the hearts of those who identify as Christians. Frequently we forget how the Divine and Jesus have moved in our own lives. Help us to push through our doubt. Help us to move past our selfishness and fear of “other people.”

Help us to truly love our neighbors as ourselves—all of our neighbors. Please change our hearts God. Please help us to muster the bravery to put into practice the light and love of Jesus. Help us to love boldly without hesitation. All humans are worthy of experiencing the Love of Christ. Please change our hearts and minds. Please show us how to love all. We confess that we get it wrong all the time and we pray that you help us too do better. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Assuredly God forgives us of all of our wrongdoings— those committed consciously and unconsciously. Thank you, God, for your forgiveness. Let us forgive others as God continuously forgives us as we work to do better starting now.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reading from the New Testament

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

AJ Cook

Reading from The Gospels

Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor Morgan

Message

"Reflections on The Ways We Talk About God"

Pastor Morgan

Anthem

"Holy"

James Eakin

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Morgan

God has blessed us beyond measure and our own generosity is an opportunity to use a portion of our blessings to minister to others. As Jesus gathered the eleven and sent them into the world to share their witness and wisdom— Christ is calling us to gather our gifts and offer them to God in worship. Let us gather our gifts and worship through our generosity.

Offertory

"How Can We Say Thanks"

Andrae' Crouch

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Morgan

We offer these gifts to the God of all people. We cheerfully give our treasure to bring love, peace, hope, joy, justice, and healing to those who are hurting. May these gifts be blessed and used to provide ministry for those who are too often forgotten in our society. Let the generosity represented here be magnified and amplified to stretch beyond our mortal thought and imagination.

All: Amen.

Service of Holy Communion

[all are welcome to partake]

Pastor Morgan

Invitation to the Table:

Prayer of Consecration:

God we gather at this table representing all people in all places in our world. We bless and pass the bread and cup as Christ passed it to his friends. Please allow these elements to remind us of the good that you have done and inspire us to do the good that Christ calls us to do. May we leave this table revived and refreshed having sipped from the cup of bold courage so that we may challenge all forms of injustice and pain. In Christ name we pray. Amen

Words of Institution:

Pastor: On the night he was betrayed, the Light of the World took bread and blessed it, Then he thanked God for it and broke it, saying:

All: "This is my body which is broken for you. Whenever you eat it, remember me."

[IN A MOMENT WE WILL EAT TOGETHER]

Pastor: And likewise at the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and thanked God for it. Pouring out the red wine, he said,

All: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you. When you drink this cup ever after this night, remember me."

[IN A MOMENT WE WILL DRINK TOGETHER]

Pastor: Great is the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Blessing:

Pastor: + May the presence of God, Christ and the Holy Spirit, keep and preserve you to everlasting life.
Amen.

Thanksgiving:

All: We have been fed, Dear God, by your presence and led by your light. May we bask in this glow now and forevermore. Amen.

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

***Sending Hymn** "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" Hymnal #276 vs. 1 & 4

****Blessing** Pastor Morgan
Lord dismiss us in your light and in your love. Let us leave this worship experience stronger and wiser than we entered it. Let us leave with a renewed sense of hope and healing. Let us leave this space walking and serving in authenticity understanding that our greatest witness is our truth. The truth that you offer love and peace to every person as they are no matter who they are.
All: Thank you Dear God. Amen!

Postlude "Nicea" arr. Joel Raney

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

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.

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!

Prayer requests may also be added to the Church of the Red Rocks Prayer Wall at:
<https://churchoftheredrocks.com> under the heading "About Us"



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
Friday: EDGE (hybrid) 10:15AM

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:
*Many of our classes and meetings will **BE ON HAITUS** over the summer and will resume in September. Please see the calendar for current events and classes.

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

AJ Cook, Liturgist

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INTERNET: www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

EMAIL: receptionist@churchoftheredrocks.com

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

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Knitting into the Mystery 1PM CRR Website Committee 3PM	GOCOM meeting 10AM <i>*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM</i>	PPM Meeting 9AM <i>Barbershop 5-7PM</i>	Adult Bible Study 1PM T Team 3PM	<i>EDGE 10:15AM Zoom</i>		

* indicates events NOT @ CRR



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