

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 18, 2023 – Year A

9:30AM

FATHER'S DAY

Focus on **PRIDE** Month and the Third Sunday After Pentecost

“Kingdom”

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 Kingdom of God is where our best dreams come from and our truest prayers. We glimpse it at those moments when we find ourselves being better than we are and wiser than we know. We catch sight of it when at some moment of crisis a strength seems to come to us that is greater than our own strength. . .”

— Frederick Buechner.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Faith, Hope, and Love”

J. E. Lorenz

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

“Bring Many Names”

Hymnal #11 vs. 1,2,3 & 6

Call to Worship

Shakir T. Morgan

One: Please join together in the Call to Worship.

All: The Lord is in this Holy Temple, let all the children of God rejoice. We are called as family to hold up holy hands and praise the God of justice and liberation! Not for some, but for all people regardless of where you are on life's journey or who you are in the Kingdom of God.

One: We are here to worship!

All: Hallelujah! *[A brief pause]*

[All, who are able, are invited to lift one or both hands while completing the Call to Worship]

One: We are here to lift up Holy hands!

All: Hallelujah!

One: We are the kingdom of God!

All: Glory Hallelujah! Let us praise the name of the Lord!

Invocation

Shakir T. Morgan

One: Let us pray.

All: Gracious and ever-present God, make each of us an instrument of your justice. Continue to weave us into a family, your Kingdom, showing forth your power of healing, feeding, clothing and resurrection as evidenced through the life and ministry of your son Jesus the Christ. Bless us and our differences and sustain our courage to always stand together in the face of oppression and injustice, in all places. We call on you, Dear God, to gather us in your love. Impart to us the

knowledge and understanding to better know you and to show forth your grace on every step of life's journey. In the name of Jesus, who came in love, let us now commit to shout with voices of triumph and proclaim the love and grace of God to all the world.

One: Let all the kingdom of God shout "Victory"!

All: Over Oppression!

One: Shout "Victory"!

All: Over Injustice!

One: Shout "Victory, Church of the Red Rocks"!

All: Through Jesus the Christ. Amen!

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Shakir T. Morgan

One: Now, let us join in the prayer of Transformation,

All: Righteous God, we find ourselves striving to be your hands, legs, heart and spirit here on earth. As were your disciples, we are called to manifest a Gospel of love, justice, reconciliation, and healing in all the world. But our concern for a just and egalitarian world too often dissipates at the point of our discomfort. Forgive us for our humanity and our frailty as we dwell in your presence. Grant us new energy for the work of your ministry. Revive us again O Lord.

One: O Lord Revive...

All: Our love for the Kingdom!

One: O Lord Revive...

All: Our yearning for justice!

One: O Lord Revive in all of us...

All: A desire for reconciliation and healing! Amen!

Words of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Just as Jesus endowed his disciples, his family, with moments of rest and amazement, it is good for us, to bask in the glorious and loving presence of God. How good it is that with grace and compassion, the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit lifts, informs and propels us in the direction we should go.

All: Thanks be to God!

Listening for Our Still ~Speaking God

Meditation Hymn

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

Hymnal #290 v. 1

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

Shakir T. Morgan

A Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Pastor Morgan

Message

Ain't That Good News

Pastor Morgan

Anthem

"God Gives Us Those Who Love Us"

John Carter

A Litany for Father's Day

(To be read responsively – adapted from the CRR Bulletin – Dated 6/18/2018)

One: Thank you, God, for all those who have loved us dearly.

All: For all parental figures in our lives that showed us Your love, we give thanks.

One: We thank you, Dear God, for those who have stepped into the parental role when others were absent.

All: We are grateful for step-fathers and uncles, brothers and caregivers, teachers and coaches who made a difference in our lives.

One: We thank you, for our fathers and grandfathers.

All: For all those who have mirrored Your love in our lives, we give thanks.

One: We lift up to you, O God, those fathers who have preceded us in death.

All: We pray for those who are grieving, for those who feel a void in their lives on this day.

One: And now, we lift up to you, Divine Creator, all those who have had difficult relationships with their fathers.

All: For those who were harmed by their fathers and by others in whom they placed their trust, we pray, we cry out, and we seek justice.

One: Loving God, You are the one Jesus called "Abba, Father." Abba God, . . .

All: Abba God, this we pray in Your many names. Amen.

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

**Invitation to Generosity
Offertory**

"Terra Beata"

Pastor Morgan
Bonnie Barrett

***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

Generous God may these gifts glorify your spirit and meet the needs of your kingdom. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray.

All: Amen.

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

***Sending Hymn**

"Surely No One Can Be Safer"

Hymnal #487

****Blessing**

Pastor Morgan

May the glory of God transform you and the Holy Spirit revive you. May you embrace difference as strength, as you spread the Good News of relationship. God grant that you may be renewed and empowered to an ethic of inclusion, that calls us to treat one another as family.

Now, for the glory of God and the hope of the world, go fourth to serve, in peace and Kinship.

All: Amen

Postlude

"God of Our Fathers"

Daniel Roberts

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., Antonia S. and John L.

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

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.

TODAY June 18th- Join us after service for a Transition Team update...& coffee of course! **HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Please, mark your calendars **for Sunday, June 25, 2023.**

Your Church Council has called a Congregational meeting to take place immediately following worship service this morning. The subject of this meeting will be to discuss and then vote on the sale of the lower parking lot to the City of Sedona. Your Church Council encourages you to attend and participate in this significant event in the life of the Church of the Red Rocks.

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 Shakir T. Morgan, 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
Knitting into the Mystery 1PM	*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM	WMM Meeting 1:30PM/Hybrid FEAM 3:30PM Barbershop 5-7PM	Adult Bible Study 1PM T Team 3PM			

* indicates events NOT @ CRR