

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 25, 2023 – Year A

9:30AM

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

“Life”

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:

*“These are the times when our faith is not just an idea or a concept that we throw around.
It's something that has to actually be lived out.” — Craig D. Lounsbrough*

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

arr. Jack Schrader

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

“Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”

Hymnal #73

Call to Worship

Michael Redhawk

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey of discipleship that will radically transform our lives.

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say “yes.”

One: Christ calls us to a journey of “follow-ship” that will challenge us as it challenged Jesus to live the truth of his identity. It is not easy to let Christ's love be shown in the face of adversity or hostility and yet,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say “yes.”

One: Christ calls us to a journey of discipleship that may bring us into direct conflict with those we know and love, even the members of our own family but still,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say “yes.”

One: Christ calls us to a journey of “follow-ship” that offers life without fear, a life that transcends our earthly existence, eternally bound in the love and shelter of our Creator, and

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say “yes.”

One: Christ calls us to a journey of discipleship that will call us OUT of the shadows and compel us to share the message of God's Kingdom for all, proclaiming what we have learned at our teacher's feet and in the company of like-minded students and,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say “yes.”

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey that will radically transform us and the world. Christ blesses us so we do not have to travel alone, but with all others who hear their names.

ALL: Let us continue the journey as we worship the One who calls us in spirit and in truth!

Invocation

Michael Redhawk

One: Let us pray.

All: Holy and Beloved God, Author of Life, transcendent and yet closer than our breath – we gather first just to say “thank you.” We thank you for the privilege of being in relationship with you. We thank you for knowing us and calling us by name to follow in your way. We thank you for being our Master Teacher, leading us through the text of your life, death, and resurrection. We thank you for being the one who cares so much about us that not even a hair can fall from our heads without you taking notice. We thank you for challenging us to claim our identity as your disciples even when claiming so puts us at risk of adversity for your name’s sake and for the sake of compassion, justice, and extravagant welcome to all. We thank you for the Church of the Red Rocks and we ask that you make your presence felt with and among us. Help us to see you in the faces of all who are gathered in this sacred place, whether in-person or virtually. During this **Pride** Month, help us to celebrate the beautiful array of all we are as we worship you in spirit and in truthfulness. These things we pray in the name of the One who calls us continually to life and that more abundantly. Amen!

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Michael Redhawk

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

All: Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being – you call us to journey with you as you journeyed on this earth – in love, in power, in healing, in conflict, in boldness, speaking truth to the powers that be – even the powers that threaten our very lives.

Yet we are often afraid for our lives and reputations. We are often afraid of those who would bully us spiritually, emotionally, and even physically. We are often afraid to identify with you because your name has been used to justify harm to those who are marginalized and oppressed. We are often afraid to be singled out as the different ones – the unusual or queer Christ-followers who have a message to proclaim that can impact the world to become the loving Kingdom you desire for all your creation.

We forget that you have promised to watch over and care for us as much as and more than you care for the sparrows. We forget that you will never deny us and will be with us throughout our entire lives. Forgive our fear – Forgive our forgetfulness – Forgive our hiding and turning from your path. Forgive our unbelief and heal us by your peace and your presence. Amen!

Words of Grace

Pastor Morgan

In Christ, we are welcomed fully and enabled to replace our fear with faith, our forgetfulness with fond remembrances, our turning away with turning toward our call to life more abundant. We are enabled to transform all of creation by the power of God’s unconditional and all-encompassing love. With open hands and hearts, let us receive the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

Listening for Our Still -Speaking God

Meditation Hymn (seated)	<i>"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"</i>	Hymnal #290 v. 1
A Reading from the Hebrew Bible	Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7	Michael Redhawk
A Reading from the Gospels	Matthew 9:35-10:8	Pastor Morgan
Message	Opening the Door to Share Our Blessings	Pastor Morgan
Anthem	<i>"Good News"</i>	arr. Roger Emerson

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Morgan

Offertory

"In the Garden"

arr. by Jason Coleman,
grandson of Floyd Cramer

*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

Dear God, all that we have belongs to you and you provide for our every need. Now we bring back a part of what you've given to us, and in love, we gladly say thank you. Receive our gifts and use them for your glory and for the blessing of all your beloved creation.

All: Amen.

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

*Sending Hymn

"It Is Well with My Soul"

Hymnal #438 vs. 1 & 4

**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 forth to serve, in peace and Kinship.

All: Amen

Postlude

"Classical Theme by Marcello"

arr. by Robert Thygeron

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: TODAY AFTER SERVICE

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

Michael Redhawk, Liturgist

54 Bowstring Drive Sedona, AZ 86336

TELEPHONE: (928) 282-7963

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/churchredrocks>

INTERNET: www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

EMAIL: receptionist@churchoftheredrocks.com

Current Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday 9AM- 5PM

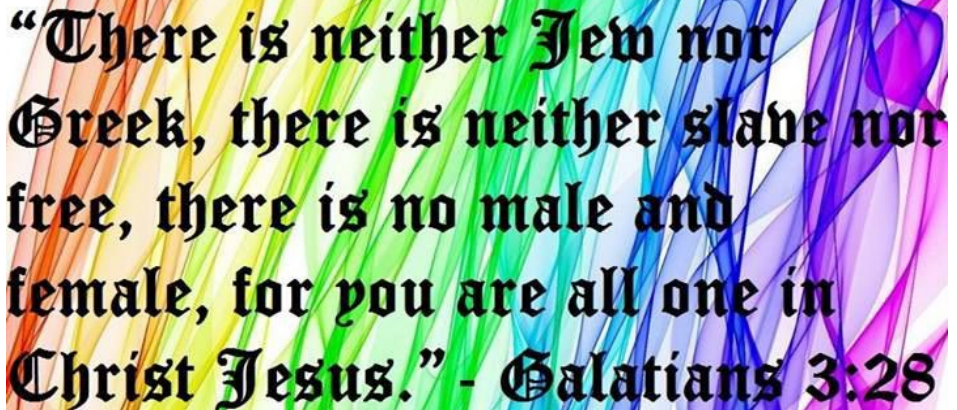
**additional hours on Saturday and/or Sunday (as needed)*

Pastoral Counseling by appointment please call the office

Week-At-A-Glance at CRR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Knitting into the Mystery 1PM	PEO 10AM *Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM	Council Meeting 1PM Barbershop 5-7PM	Adult Bible Study 1PM T Team 3PM			

* indicates events NOT @ CRR



“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” - Galatians 3:28