

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.

July 16, 2023 — Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Year A
9:30 a.m.

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:

Dear God, Help me to believe in beginnings, to make a beginning, to be a beginning, so that I may not just grow old, but grow new each day of this wild, amazing life you call me to live with the passion of Jesus Christ. - Ted Loder

Gathering for Worship

Prelude "Wonderful Words of Life" arr. Wilbur Held
Greeting & Welcome Rev. Dr. Sara Day

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

All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gathering Hymn "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" Hymnal #12

Call to Worship John McDougald

One: God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Open yourselves this day to receive the Word.

All: We commit ourselves to follow the light. We come now to be instructed.

One: We reach out for more than we can see and hear.

We long to know Love's embrace deep within. Let us, therefore, open ourselves to the Spirit.

All: We praise God who gives us hope. We praise the one that cares for the earth and for each one of us.

Invocation John McDougald

One: Let us pray:

ALL: All-powerful God, we celebrate the freedom you give us to make our own response to all the possibilities you lay out before us. Through the words of the Scriptures, help us to discern your Word. Open us to a new appreciation of our birthright as your children. Beyond all our clamor for the things of this world, we long for the richness of spirit you alone can provide. Feed us here, we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (ALL) John McDougald

Eternal God, lead us now out of the familiar setting of our doubts and fears, beyond our pride and our need to be secure into a strange and graceful ease with our true proportions and with yours; that in boundless silence we may grow strong enough to endure and flexible enough to share your grace. Amen.

Assurance of Grace
ALL: Thanks be to God!
Response: Lead Me, Lord!

Rev. Dr. Sara Day

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

Anthem	"Higher Ground"	John Carter
Old Testament Reading	Isaiah 55:10-13	John McDougald
New Testament Reading	Matthew 13:18-23	Rev. Dr. Sara Day
Meditation Hymn	"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"	Hymnal #318
Message	"The 4 R's"	Rev. Dr. Sara Day

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

Prayers of the People (ALL)	The Lord's Prayer	Rev. Dr. Sara Day
Invitation to Generosity		Rev. Dr. Sara Day

God's Word has been sown among us. We are the soils, receiving seeds of truth. The harvest depends on our accepting the Word, letting it take root and getting rid of the weeds. What we offer to God is a small return on God's investment in us. Let us give with joy.

Offertory	"In the Bulb There is a Flower"	Natalie Sleeth
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*Doxology – Praise God whose breath fills all the Earth. Whose love reveals our sacred worth. Whose Spirit forms one family. Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication (ALL)		Rev. Dr. Sara Day
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Accept our offering of praise and our offering of ourselves, O God, along with our tithes and contributions toward our church's mission. We rejoice in the opportunity to receive and share your Word. May the ministry in which all of us have a share bear much fruit, bringing in an abundant harvest for your realm. Amen.

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

*Sending Hymn	"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"	Hymnal #76
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*Benediction		Rev. Dr. Sara Day
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Postlude	"Heavenly Sunlight"	arr. Mark Hayes
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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., Antonia S., John L. and Marvin M.

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"

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Church of the Red Rocks welcomes today's guest Pastor, Rev. Sara Day:

The Rev. Dr. Sara Day is an ordained American Baptist minister living with her husband (Bob Baer) in Flagstaff. With advanced degrees in both Social Work and Ministry she has enjoyed a variety of positions. Sara has pastored local congregations in Indiana and Ohio and worked on regional staff in Massachusetts. Before retiring, she served at MMBB Financial Services, an annuity board for faith-based organizations, for 17 years as a member service manager, a financial planner and a development officer. She enjoys traveling, hiking, gardening, and her family (especially her grandchildren although they live a distance away).



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 ONLINE calendar for current events and classes @

www.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	*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM	Barbershop 5-7PM	CCM 11AM Adult Bible Study 1PM T Team 3PM			

* indicates events NOT @ CRR

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

54 Bowstring Drive

Sedona, AZ 86336

INTERNET: www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

John McDougald, Lector

TELEPHONE: (928) 282-7963

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

EMAIL: receptionist@churchoftheredrocks.com

