

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.*

August 6, 2023 – Year A

9:30AM

“For Compassion”

**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:

*“No one has ever become poor by giving.” – Anne Frank*

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

*“Well Tempered Clavier Prelude in C Major”*

J.S. Bach

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

*“We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness”*

Hymnal #179

Call to Worship

Lynn Schreiner

One: Our God, the Holy One is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: The Holy One is good to all, with compassion for all God's creation.**

One: Our God, the Holy One upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

**All: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.**

One: You open your hand, satisfying the desires of every living thing.

**All: The Holy One is just in all ways and always kind.**

One: Our God is near to all who call on the Holy One, to all who call in truth.

**All: The Holy One fulfills the desires of all who are in fear, hears their cry, and saves them.**

One: Our God watches over all who love the Divine Presence and will do wickedness no more.

**All: My mouth will speak the praise of the Holy One, and all flesh will bless God's holy name forever and ever. Amen.**

Invocation (based on Isaiah 55:1)- (In Unison)

Lynn Schreiner

One: Let us pray.

**All: Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and we who have need come, receive the abundance of substance provided freely for our bodies and souls. Incline your ears, and let us come to God to listen, so that we may live. Our Creator makes an everlasting covenant with us as God has with our ancestors. We ask for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in this sacred space, so we can recommit ourselves through word, love and action to our everlasting covenant with our God in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Lynn Schreiner

One: As we gather in worship, let us take this moment to consider our needs for transformation and forgiveness. I invite you to quietly reflect on our need for grace. *(A moment of silence.)*

**All: Dear God, the creator of all things based on love. You created us in your image of love. There have been times when we have fallen short of your love. We have failed to love you, each other, and all of creation. We ask your forgiveness and also forgiveness from our siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. We thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, we pray.**

## Words of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Friends, scripture tells us if we are "kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, God in Christ has forgiven us". Rest assured; our sins are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

### A Reading from the Hebrew Bible

Genesis 32:22-31

Lynn Schreiner

### Anthem

"At This Table Make Us One"

arr. John Purifoy

### A Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 14:13-21

Pastor Morgan

### Message

"God is Good, All the Time and All the Time . . ."

Pastor Morgan

## Responding with Prayer and Generosity

### Prayers of the People

Pastor Morgan

As we prepare to come to the table of Christ, let us lift the celebrations and concerns of our beloved community. (All are invited to lift up [to call out] the names of those persons who have requested our prayers. – *a moment of silence*)

**All: Dear God, we know that you have heard our prayers and we ask that the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with all of us, and especially with those who are in need of prayer, today and every day.**

**This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ who taught us to say when we pray:**

### Communion Hymn

"The Lord's Prayer"

(sung by all)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory; forever. Amen."**

### Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Morgan

### Offertory

"Air"

J.S. Bach

### \*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

Pastor Morgan

Dear God, with gratefulness we offer and dedicate these gifts for the continuation of ministry, in Christ's Name.

**All: Amen.**

## Service of Holy Communion [all are welcome to partake]

### Invitation to the Table

Pastor Morgan

### Prayer of Consecration:

**All: 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.**

**Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, now and forever. 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."**

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."

[NOW, LET US COME TO RECEIVE THE BREAD AND THE CUP]

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.

All: 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

"Forward Through the Ages"

Hymnal #377

\*\*Blessing

Pastor Morgan

Dear friends, we have been nourished in the love of God who created us, God who redeemed us, and God who sustains us. Go in peace, sharing the Good News.

All: Amen

Postlude

"Sinfonia 5"

J.S. Bach

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

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.

**\*PLEASE SEE SPECIAL INSERT IN TODAY'S BULLETIN**

**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

Lynn Schriener, Liturgist

54 Bowstring Drive Sedona, AZ 86336

TELEPHONE: (928) 282-7963

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

INTERNET: [www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com](http://www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com)

EMAIL: [receptionist@churchoftheredrocks.com](mailto: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  *St. Andrew's Community Supper	*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM	WMM 1:30PM  Barbershop 5-7PM	Adult Bible Study 1PM  T Team 3PM			

\* indicates events NOT @ CRR

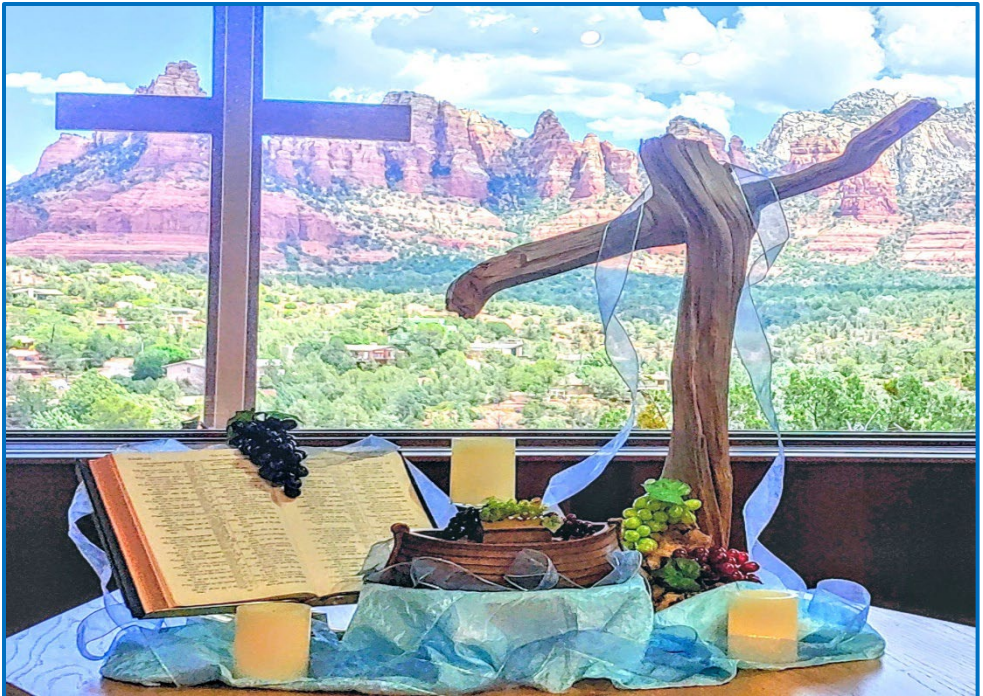


Photo credit: KeliAnne Piscopo 2023 ©