

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 13, 2023 – Year A

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“For Faith” – 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:

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.” – Corrie Ten Boom

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“From Every Stormy Wind That Blows”

Penny Rodriguez

Greeting & Welcome

Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

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

All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Gathering Hymn

“Jesus Call Us, O'er the Tumult”

Hymnal #172

Call to Worship

Marcia Byrd

One: God moves among us.

All: We welcome your presence, Dear God.

One: Reach out your hand and we shall always be with you.

All: We reach for you, Jesus, and trust that you are present when we are in fear or pain.

One: Your presence, Oh Lord, calms the seas as it calms our hearts.

All: May we rest assured that you are ever present with us, turning our worries and our anxieties into eternal peace. Amen.

Invocation

Marcia Byrd

One: Let us pray.

All: God of many names, you command us to come to you, but we doubt our abilities to make the journey. We are so uncertain of our steps, yet we long to have the faith in ourselves that you have in us. Be with us and embolden us through faith to rise as we are called. To walk with you and to walk beside those who need companionship. Show us how to embody your presence. Grant that we may set aside skepticism and take up the mantle of faithful presence. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Marcia Byrd

All: God, our gentle parent, bring calm to the storms that batter us and blow us off course. We do not need to walk on water. We need only walk through life as whole and holy children. Help us to recognize that your love unites us, and carries us forward to face miraculous challenges in a complex world. Open our eyes to see through the clutter of daily existence so we may focus on what is most important: love, compassion, faith, and connection. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Morgan

Friends, even when we doubt, God is with us. God walks before us, beside us, and behind us, in all that we do. Miracles are all around us. Can't you see them?

All: Thanks be to God.

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Marcia Byrd
Meditation Hymn	"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"	Hymnal # 173 verse 1 only
A Reading from the Gospels	Matthew 14:22-33	Pastor Morgan
Message	"When the Storms of Life are Raging"	Pastor Morgan
Anthem	"Be Not Afraid"	Craig Courtney

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

Prayers of The People Pastor Morgan

As we prepare to offer the Prayers of the People, let us take a moment to lift up the celebrations and concerns of our beloved community. (All who wish to do so are invited to lift up [to call out] the names of those persons who have requested our prayers). This will be followed by (a moment of silence) and a brief prayer by the Pastor.

All: Amen.

Invitation to Generosity Pastor Morgan

Gratitude Moment *Harmony on the Rocks-* Barbershop Chorus John McDougald

Offertory "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" arr. Fred Bock

***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, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in ways both big and small, in ways miraculous and in ways that often go unnoticed. Use our gifts to further your loving justice in communities near and far.

All: Amen.

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

Sending Hymn "Dear God, Embracing Humankind" Hymnal #502 vs. 1,2 & 3

****Blessing** Pastor Morgan

Dear God, as we go forth from this time of intentional community and ministry, let us practice replacing fear with faith and worry with a calm that is rooted in your grace. Help us to connect more deeply with the freedom that comes from trust in you. Now, let us go in peace and do God's work among all of God's people.

All: Amen!

Postlude "Faith Is the Victory" arr. David Smithers

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

Your gifts, tithes and offerings may be placed in a basket as you leave worship today. Your generous giving means that lives will be touched and transformed far beyond our walls. Thank you!

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"

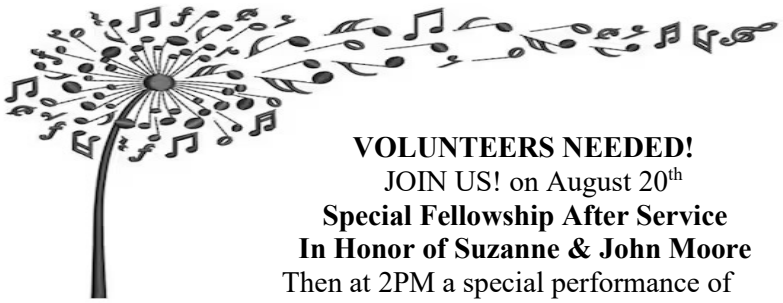


WEEKLY:

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.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

JOIN US! on August 20th

**Special Fellowship After Service
In Honor of Suzanne & John Moore**

Then at 2PM a special performance of
"Lionteeth"

Please SIGN-UP after service **TODAY**

The Church of the Red Rocks
proudly present

Lionteeth

(world premiere)

A multi-movement choral suite composed by Anders Edenroth and performed by the Sedona Academy of Chamber Singers, choir-in-residence at The Church of the Red Rocks.

Sunday, August 20, 2023 · 2:00 pm

The Church of the Red Rocks
54 Bowstring Drive, Sedona, Arizona

Presented free of charge by The Church of the Red Rocks as a gift to the people of Sedona and the Verde Valley.



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

Marcia Byrd, Liturgist

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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

<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	<i>*Sedona Winds Bible Study 11AM</i>	FEAM 3:30PM Barbershop 5-7PM	Adult Bible Study 1PM T Team 3PM			SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM LIONTEETH 2 PM

* indicates events NOT @ CRR

