

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.

November 5, 2023 –Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

9:30AM

ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION - COMMUNION SUNDAY

“Greatness”

**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:

*“Even in suffering and struggle, God sets a table of abundance and grace.” – Diana Butler Bass*

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Sine Nomine”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Greeting & Welcome

Rev. Margaret Gramley, Ph.D.

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

All: **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE**

**CELEBRATION OF ALL THE SAINTS**

Gathering Hymn

*“As We Gather At Your Table”*

Hymnal #332

Call to Worship

Karen Stupak

One: Give thanks for the enduring love of the Holy One!

**Many: We've been gathered from all directions and in all spaces to declare the greatness of God.**

One: Give thanks for the enduring love of the Holy One!

**Many: We have been redeemed by the abiding love of our Creator.**

One: Give thanks for the enduring love of the Holy One!

**Many: Let the redeemed proclaim God's wondrous works. Great is the Holy One and greatly to be praised!**

Invocation - (In Unison)

Karen Stupak

One: Let us pray.

Invocation

God our Teacher, please instruct us in the ways of humility and love. Help us to be in community with one another rather than in competition with each other. Give us your heart for serving our neighbor. Assure us of your abiding presence and release us from the hierarchies of this world. May your kingdom come with power and gentleness in your name. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Exalted God, we struggle to trust you in all aspects of our lives, and we seek validation from temporal and inadequate sources. We confess that we base our identity on human structures, plans, and schemes. We fail to be satisfied with the gifts and purpose you have given to us. We do not appreciate the ways in which we are uniquely and wonderfully made. Deliver us from the tyranny of comparison and renew a right spirit of humility and peace within us, we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

Rev. Gramley

Friends, you are God's magnificent handiwork. You were created in greatness and can therefore rest in humility. Know that God's love for you is assured, God's grace finds you in the midst of your struggles, and God's plan for you is filled with hope. You are redeemed, recognized, and restored to the glory of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Listening for Our Still -Speaking God

**A Reading from the Hebrew Bible**

"Psalm 23" (The Message)

Karen Stupak

**Reading of the Gospel**

"Matthew 23:1-12"

Rev. Gramley

**Sermon**

"Grace, Gratitude and Generosity"

Rev. Gramley

**Anthem**

"In Christ There is No East or West"

arr. Dale Wood

## Responding to God's Word

**Invitation to Generosity**

Rev. Gramley

Our life in God is one full of generosity as a response to the Holy One's provision and abundance. Let us bring our resources into our common life as an offering of praise and thanksgiving.

**Offertory**

*Intermezzo*, Op. 13, No. 2

Johannes Brahms

Kyle Larsen, pianist

**\*Doxology**

"Give Thanks"

Henry Smith

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy one

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son (repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong."

let the poor say "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)

Give thanks, Give thanks.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Gramley

**Generous God, thank you for the gifts you give and the privilege and honor of bringing our gifts of time, talent, and treasure into your kingdom. Receive our humble offerings and magnify them to meet the needs of the community. Amen.**

**All: Amen**

"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. An 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; now and forever. Amen"

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

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Gramley

**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."**

### Song of Invitation

#### "Come to the Table of Grace"

Come to the table of Grace. Come to the table of grace.  
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to table of grace.

Come to the table of Peace. .... Love ... Hope ... Joy ...

#### [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

"Pues si vivimos" (In All Our Living)

Hymnal #499

### \*\*Blessing

Rev. Gramley

May the Spirit of the Living God go with you into the world with power and compassion to lift the lowly. May Creator be glorified through the lives we live as witnesses to the greatness of God. And may Jesus the Christ be our Companion and Guide on the path to humility and greatness.

**All: Amen**

### Postlude

"En Cristo Es No Este o Oeste "

arr. Gilbert Martin

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

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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://churchoftherocks.com> under the heading "About Us"

**GET READY!**

There will be SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH on November 12 after the service. It's a time to gather in friendship and share a meal.

**NO SIGN-UP SHEET!**

Bring a MAIN DISH... SIDE DISH... SALAD or a DESSERT that will serve 8 and leave these in the kitchen before the service. CCM will grill up burgers and hot dogs. Beverages, plates, utensils and napkins will be provided.

**Yin Yoga**

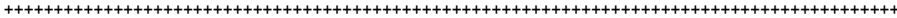
Robert Johnson will again lead Yin Yoga class for anyone who wants to join. It starts on November 10 and is available weekly from 9 to 10:30 am on Fridays in Painted Cliffs Hall. There is no charge. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat, if you have one.

**“Everyone is Welcome for Both Events”**



- WEEKLY:**  
**Monday:** Knitting Into the Mystery on break until Nov. 13  
**Tuesday:** Bible study at Sedona Winds, in the Library 11 AM  
**Thursday:** Adult Bible Study at CRR 12:30PM  
**Thursday:** Handbell Choir at CRR 3:30 pm  
**Friday:** Yin Yoga at 9am  
 Edge at 10:15 Hybrid

- This Week:**  
**Monday:** GAME ON!!! 1-3 pm Painted Cliff's Hall  
**Monday:** Community Supper Set Up 2:30 at St. Andrews  
**Tuesday:** Growth and Outreach 9:30 am  
**Wednesday:** Property Management 9 am  
 Finance, Endowment and Administration 3pm



**The Church of the Red Rocks**

*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  
NAU Choral Interns

Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist  
CRR Choir

Karen Stupak, Liturgist

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**Current Office Hours**

Tuesday – Friday 9 AM to 3 PM

\*Additional hours on Saturday and/or Sunday (as needed)  
Pastoral Counseling by appointment please call the office