

# The Church of the Red Rocks

## United Church of Christ

A Stephen Ministry & Open and Affirming Faith Community  
Through Christian Worship, Education and Mission  
we share and celebrate Faith in God with all.

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March 3, 2024 — Fourth Sunday in Lent  
2024 Lenten Theme: 'Turn, Turn, Turn'

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\*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

**TO PONDER AS WE GATHER:** How would you define the word *church*? After the early Jesus movement merged with the Roman Empire, its priorities turned to buildings, budgets, and 'bandwagons' from its origins of helping, hoping and healing.  
Will we be a part of re-turning to that Christ-like life?

### Gathering for Worship

**Prelude** "The Old Rugged Cross" George Bennard

**Greeting & Welcome** Pastor Len Silvester

One: Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey...

**All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!!**

**Call to Worship** (from Psalm 19) Gene Moore

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God...

**All: And the firmament declares God's craftsmanship.**

One: Awe in God's presence is pure, enduring forever.

**All: The ways of God are more valuable than gold!**

**Prayer for Transformation** (together) Gene Moore

**Called to be a community of helping, hoping, and healing,  
too often we have settled into our buildings, budgets and  
bandwagons. Turn us toward a passion to be the hands and  
heart of Christ in the world. Release our fascination toward  
what makes life better for all people...(a time of silence)**

**Assurance of Grace** Pastor Len

\*Hymn No. 275 "Come Now, Almighty God"

## Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 20:1-17 (sel.) Gene Moore

\*Gospel Reading John 2:13-22 Pastor Len

\*Response chorus from the Shaker hymn, "Simple Gifts"

**When true simplicity is gained,  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,  
To turn, turn, will be our delight,  
'Til by turning, turning, we come 'round right.**

Meditation The Parable of the Pool Pastor Len

Anthem "Draw Me Nearer" Jack Schrader

## Responding with Generosity and Sacrament

A Time of Prayer Pastor Len

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ("debts" and debtors")

Response (sung by all) No. 393 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" v. 2

**Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers,  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.**

A Time of Generosity

Gratitude Moment Harmony on the Rocks

Offering of Music "Ride the Chariot" Harmony on the Rocks

\*Doxology, No. 780

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, you heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (together)

**We offer these gifts with gratitude for the joy we find in  
generosity. Grant us grace, that our passion to help, hope,  
and heal will blossom in yet-unimagined ways.**

## Service of Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor Len

### **Prayer of Consecration** (together)

**Holy God, we are in awe of the splendor of your whole creation. We are mindful of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Send now your Spirit upon us, and these gifts of grain and grape, that in this sacrament we may recognize Christ's living presence. Going from here, may we be Christ's eyes, hands and feet in serving the world you love. May we and those we encounter know the blessings of living in open communion with you and one another. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, now and forever.**

### **The Words of Institution** (responsively)

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 together, 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. Whenever you share a cup like this, remember me."**

PASTOR: Great is the mystery of faith:

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

### **Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

Your row will be invited forward by the ushers to receive the elements as a medley of hymns is played. Feel free to sing or hum along.

### **Thanksgiving**

Pastor Len: May God - Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit – keep and preserve us to everlasting life.

**All: We have been fed, O God, by your presence and led by your light. May we live as Christ's people now and forever!**

Departing to Serve

*Song (insert)	"We Are the Church"	Avery & Marsh
*Blessing		Pastor Len
*Benediction	"An Irish Blessing"	Harmony On the Rocks
Postlude	"Lift High the Cross"	Sydney Nicholson

***When our worship is over, our service begins.  
We leave to serve in the world that God loves.***

**Welcome!** A special welcome goes to our guests and visitors.

We hope you have felt at home and have experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit. Please join us in Painted Cliffs Hall following the service for refreshments and conversation.

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**Next Sunday, March 10:**

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**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering:** This ecumenical offering dates back to reconstruction efforts in Europe following WWII. The mission now includes relief work around the world. One hundred cents of every dollar you give goes directly to helping those in the greatest need—all overhead is covered by the participating denominations.

**Can We Go Green Among the Red Rocks?** We invite you and your friends to join us for this event at 3 pm in Painted Cliffs Hall. The speaker is the Rev. Dr. **Jim Antal**, author and activist for "climate justice" since 1988. Area churches and concerned organizations will also be attending.

**Looking ahead to 'Holy Week'...**

Palm Sunday 3/24 at 9:30am—special dramatic liturgy just for CRR

Maundy Thursday 3/28 at 5pm Soup Supper/Tenebrae service in PCH

Easter 3/31 at 6:30 am Sunrise Service

Pancake Breakfast following at 7:15am

Easter worship at 9:30am. ***Invite your friends!***

## What's Going On Here?

**PCH** = Painted Cliffs Hall

### **TODAY** (March 3)

9:30am **Worship** – with **communion**

10:30am Coffee and conversation

### **MONDAY** (March 4) Office closed

9:30am Knitting Into the Mystery

4:30pm Sedona Community Meal @ St. Andrew's Episcopal Church hosted by The Church of the Red Rocks

### **TUESDAY** (March 5) Office open 9am-3pm

11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds

3:00pm How to Talk About Race in PCH (3 of 6)

### **WEDNESDAY** (March 6) Office open 9am-3pm

8:00am Property Management Ministry Meeting

5:00pm Barbershop Singers

### **THURSDAY** (March 7) Office open 9am-3pm

Next **Canyon Echo** is e-mailed... do we have your email address?

11:00am Bible Study in Conference Room

1:00pm Pastoral Search Committee

3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### **FRIDAY** (March 8) Office open 9am-3m

9:00am Yin Yoga in Painted Cliffs Hall

10:15am The EDGE Study/Discussion Group via Zoom

### **SATURDAY** (March 9)

### **NEXT SUNDAY** (March 10)

9:30am Worship service

3:00pm "Can We Go Green Among the Red Rocks?" with Dr. Jim Antal

## **The Church of the Red Rocks UCC**

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Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

CRR Choir

# We Are the Church

## Refrain (Unison)

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to -

geth - er! All who fol - low Je - sus,

all a - round the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth - er!

1 The church is not a build-ing, the church is not a stee-ple,  
2 We're man - y kinds of peo-ple, with man - y kinds of fac - es,  
3 Some-times the church is march-ing, some-times it's brave - ly burn - ing,  
4 And when the peo - ple gath - er, there's sing - ing and there's pray - ing,  
5 At Pen - te - cost some peo - ple re - ceived the Ho - ly Spir - it

to Refrain

the church is not a rest - ing place, the church is a peo - ple.  
all col - ors and all a - ges, too, from all times and plac - es.  
some-times it's rid - ing, some-times hid - ing, al - ways it's learn - ing.  
there's laugh - ing and there's cry - ing some-times, all of it say - ing:  
and told the Good News through the world to all who would hear it.