

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 10, 2024 — Fourth Sunday in Lent  
2024 Theme: 'Turn, Turn, Turn'

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\*Congregation standing in body or in spirit.

**TO PONDER AS WE GATHER:** When you think of 'unconditional love' what comes to mind? Many people name their pets or their parents. Theologians tell us that love without conditions is what fueled the life of Jesus—and is offered to us. Have there been relationships or experiences in your life that exemplified such selfless love?

Gathering for Worship

**Prelude** "What a Wonderful World" Weiss & Thiele

**Greeting & Welcome** Pastor Len Silvester

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

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

\***Hymn of Gathering No. 43** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

**Call to Worship** (from Psalm 107) Dale Pearson

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: Let those whom God has redeemed say so!

**All: Let them thank God for the amazing deeds done so often.**

**Opening Prayer** Dale Pearson

**All:** O God, whose purpose is not to condemn and exclude, but to redeem and welcome: Dull our appetite for the ways, too often chosen, that separate us from you and our true selves. Aid us in turning toward your generous ways that lead us to your light, love and eternal life. (...a time of silence...)

**Response** chorus from "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.

### Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures	Numbers 21:4-9	Dale Pearson
*Gospel Reading	John 3:14-21	Pastor Len
Special Music		Mychal and Theresa Lotz
Message	Facing the Snake(s)	Pastor Len
Anthem	<i>"God So Loved the World"</i>	John Stainer

### Responding with Prayer and Generosity

**A Time of Prayer** Pastor Len

Response (sung by all) No. 775 - sung twice: choir first, then all

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

**A Time of Generosity**

Generosity Moment: One Great Hour of Sharing Steve Canipe

Offertory Mychal and Theresa Lotz

\*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 as our grateful "yes!" to your call  
to love others as you have loved us. Amen!**

### Departing to Serve

\*Hymn of Service No. 524 *"This Little Light of Mine"*

\*Blessing Pastor Len

\*Benediction Mychal and Theresa Lotz

Postlude *"To God Be the Glory"* arr. David Smither

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

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**Welcome!** We are happy that you are worshiping with us this morning, and please stay for refreshments and conversation in Painted Cliffs Hall. Questions? Just ask us!

**Welcome, Mychal and Theresa Lotz!** They have been part of the Sedona church and music scene for several years. We are pleased to have them with us this morning!

**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering is TODAY:**  
This ecumenical offering helps so many...please be generous!

**Can We Go Green Among the Red Rocks?** We invite you and your friends to join us for this event **today** 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 have been invited.

**Special Church Meeting Next Sunday:** The meeting in Painted Cliffs Hall will follow worship. The purpose is to act on the motion by the Church Council to approve the recommendation of the Property Management Ministry to replace the units providing heat and cooling to PCH, up to a cost of \$30,000, to be financed from available funds (which include the parking lot sale proceeds) and/or special gifts. Proxy ballots are available this morning.

**Are you an avid reader?** Do you enjoy participating in group studies (Biblical - Book Studies) here at The Church of the Red Rocks? Perhaps you enjoy leading some of these groups. Our church library has been a good source of support for such efforts in the past and could be again in the future. If you are interested in being part of a committee that would work to "clean up" the library and help determine how it could best serve our church community and others, contact Sharon Canipe at (828)406-1288 or [sharon.canipe@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.canipe@gmail.com). Dates, times to meet and work will be decided by those interested.

**Game On!** Happens on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month from 1 – 3pm. Come for an afternoon of fun playing PEGS & Jokers! Bring your beverage and a friend. ALL players are welcome and it's free! Contact Maureen Zdimal at [mfgowest@gmail.com](mailto:mfgowest@gmail.com) or Bonnie Mckeon at [sdmama@msn.com](mailto:sdmama@msn.com) for questions.

**Tom Doeller** passed away at the end of February. Tom was an active member in both the choir and Harmony on the Rocks Chorus for almost 40 years.

## What's Going On Here?

**PCH = Painted Cliffs Hall**

### **TODAY** (March 10)

9:30am Worship – **One Great Hour of Sharing offering**

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

3:00pm “Going Green Among the Red Rocks” – Rev. Dr. Jim Antal

### **MONDAY** (March 11) Office closed

9:30am Knitting Into the Mystery

1:00pm Game On!

### **TUESDAY** (March 12) Office open 9am-3pm

11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds – in person and via Zoom

3:00pm How to Talk About Race Series in PCH (4 of 6)

### **WEDNESDAY** (March 13) Office open 9am-3pm

1:30pm Worship Team Meeting via Zoom

5:00pm Barbershop Singers

### **THURSDAY** (March 14) Office open 9am-3pm

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

9:30am Stephen Ministry Meeting

11:00am Bible Study in Conference Room

1:00pm Pastoral Search Committee

3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### **FRIDAY** (March 15) Office open 9am-3m

9:00am Yin Yoga in Painted Cliffs Hall

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

### **SATURDAY** (March 16)

### **NEXT SUNDAY** (March 17)

9:30am Worship service

10:30am Coffee and **SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING** in PCH

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

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Dr. Ryan Holder, Director of Music

Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

NAU Choral Interns

CRR Choir

The Rev. Dr. George Ault, Pastor Emeritus