

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.

March 31, 2024 — Easter Sunday
2024 Eastertide Theme: 'Our Raisin' Brand'

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

A joyful and blessed Easter to all!

TO PONDER AS WE GATHER: Have you thought through the implications of resurrection? The initial reactions to the raising of Jesus included fear, disbelief, confusion... and joy. Today we focus on John's account of Easter morning; Mary arrives first and does not recognize Jesus. Why do you think that was? Could the same thing happen to us?

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

"In the Garden"

arr. Jason Coleman
Grandson of Floyd Cramer

Introit

"An Easter Celebration"

arr. Wes Cameron

Sedona Academy of Chamber Singers, brass, handbells, piano

Greeting & Welcome

Pastor Len Silvester

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

All: You are welcome here!

Call to Worship

Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros

○ death, where is your victory? ○ grave, where is your sting?

Christ has defeated every enemy, even death itself.

Joining the faithful across the centuries,
we are bold to proclaim: Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

Rev. Cenicerros

We rejoice, God of life, that Jesus is raised from the dead. Our hearts abound with thanks and praise! New life blossoms where dead hopes were buried. Today the world is made new. Unleash among us this resurrection power, even when it astounds and confuses us. We pray in the name of our risen Savior ... Amen!

***Hymn of Gathering** No. 233 *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”*

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

From the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 25:6-12

Rev. Cenicerros

***Gospel Reading**

John 20:1, 11-18

Pastor Len

CRR Handbells *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”*

arr. Lloyd Larson

Homily

Backs to the Tombs

Pastor Len

Anthem

“This Is a Day for Rising”

Joseph Martin

SACS, CRR Chancel Choir, brass, handbells, piano

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

The Easter Prayers

Pastor Len

[seated] **Hymn** No. 237

“I Come To the Garden Alone”

A Time of Generosity

Gratitude Moment

Rev. Cenicerros

Brass Offertory

“Thine Be the Glory”

arr. Brandon Dicks

***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 a step toward turning fully to
face your ways of life and hope. Amen!**

Departing to Serve

***Hymn of Service** No. 245 “The Day of Resurrection”

***Blessing & Sending**

Pastor Len

Postlude

“The Rejoicing”

G. F. Handel

When our worship is over, our service begins.

We go to serve the world that God loves.

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!

A special welcome the **Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros**, daughter of this church and now Conference Minister of the Kansas Oklahoma Conference of the UCC. Welcome home, Lorraine!

A big thank you to all the donors to CRR’s “**Friends of Music**” fund which helps to underwrite the costs of guest instrumentalists.

Free photos today! Dave Johnson invites you to have your photo taken next to the flowered cross—with the majestic Sedona red rocks in the background. We are pleased to email you this memento of your presence here on Easter Sunday.

Sign up for one of the small group discussions about how to handle the proceeds from the sale of the lower parking lot. The dates are this Saturday April 6 at 11 am, Saturday, April 13 at 11 am—on Zoom, and Sunday April 14 at 11 am.

Next Sunday our guest will be the **Rev. Dr. Toni Hawkins**, Designated Minister of the UCC Southwest Conference. Dr. Toni looks forward to meeting you and getting to know CRR.

Be here on April 14 - a day of great music!

During 9:30 a.m. worship the **SACS Choir** will join us for the annual Gospel hymn-sing.

At 2 p.m. that day Harmony on the Rocks will offer a free **Barbershop singing concert** in our sanctuary.

What's Going On Here?

PCH = Painted Cliffs Hall

TODAY (March 31)

9:30am Worship

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

MONDAY (April 1) Office closed

9:30am KRTA Meeting

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 (April 2) Office open 9am-3pm

11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds

WEDNESDAY (April 3) Office open 9am-3pm

8:00am Property Management Ministry Meeting

5:00pm Barbershop Singers Rehearsal

THURSDAY (April 4) Office open 9am-3pm

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

11:00am Bible Study at CRR: Book of Jonah

1:00pm Pastoral Search Committee

3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY (April 5) Office open 9am-3m

9:00am Yin Yoga in Painted Cliffs Hall

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

SATURDAY (April 6)

9:00am Discussion group #1: Handling parking lot proceeds

NEXT SUNDAY (April 7)

9:30am Worship—Guest is Rev. Dr. Toni Hawkins, SWCUCC

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

The Church of the Red Rocks UCC

54 Bowstring Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

Telephone: (928) 282-7963

Internet: www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchredrocks>

e-mail: info@churchoftheredrocks.com

The Rev. Len Silvester

pastorlen.crucc@gmail.com

Dr. Ryan Holder, Director of Music

Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

NAU Choral Interns

CRR Choir

The Rev. Dr. George Ault, Pastor Emeritus