

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.

April 7, 2024 — Second Sunday of Easter
2024 Eastertide Theme: 'Our Raisin' Brand'

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

TO PONDER AS WE GATHER: How many different “voices” were calling to you this week ... through commercials, news, conscience, friends, loved ones, prayer? How do you discern which ones you should heed and follow? Discerning God’s call in the midst of this chorus of voices is a challenge ... a life-changing one.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

“Rustle of Spring”

Christian Sinding

Greeting & Welcome

Pastor Len Silvester

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life’s journey...

You are welcome here!

Call to Worship (from Psalm 133)

Barbara Peterson

It is wonderful when God’s people live together in peace.

It is as beautiful as olive oil, poured for anointing.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***Gathering Hymn** No. 230 *“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”*

***Prayer for New Life**

Leslie Duke

Good Shepherd, with loving grace you call to us, inviting us to find and share your life— that is true life. Too often we choose to hear and follow other voices, offering ways of being that do not lead to hope and healing. Tune our inner voice recognition to your frequency, and help us hear and respond ... [a time of silence]

***Assurance of Grace**

Leslie Duke

Here is the Good News: As Jesus said to the woman in Luke's Gospel, "Your faith has saved you. Go live in peace." Like she was, we have been set free!

Thanks be to God!

***Alleluia** No. 236, sung by the choir then by all:

**Halle, halle, hallelujah; Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah; Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

Scripture Readings

Romans 10:17, John 10:27 Barbara Peterson

[seated] **Hymn**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Message

Spiritual Voice Recognition: Discerning God's Call

Dr. Toni Hawkins

Anthem

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Mark Hayes

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

A Time of Prayer

Pastor Len

Response (sung by all) No. 765, v. 1

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A Time of Generosity

Gratitude from the Southwest Conference

Dr. Toni

Offertory

"He Is Risen"

Christine Anderson

Charis Mitchell, Handbell Soloist

*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)

**Use these gifts, we pray, to help 'raise up' others--
and ourselves--to new life and hope.**

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 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 hymns are 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 grace. May we live as Christ's people now and forever!

Departing to Serve

***Hymn of Service** No. 252 “*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*”

***Blessing** Dr. Toni

***Benediction** “*Go Now in Peace*” Don Besig

Postlude “*The Family of God*” W. and G. Gaither
Arr. Fred Bock

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 to the **Rev. Dr. Altonnette Hawkins**, Transitional Conference Minister of the Southwest Conference of the UCC (Arizona, New Mexico, and El Paso). This is Dr. Toni’s first visit to CRR and she looks forward to greeting you.

Sign up today for one of the small group discussions next weekend. Topic: How best to handle the proceeds from the sale of the lower parking lot. The dates are Saturday (11 am—Zoom or in person), and next Sunday (11 am—in person).

Next Sunday—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. Harmony on the Rocks will offer a **free barbershop singing concert** in our sanctuary.

<p>NEW BIBLE STUDY April 18, 11 a.m.: “<i>What Paul <u>Really</u> Said About Women.</i>” Do you think you know? You are in for some eye-opening surprises! Join Pastor Len here or via Zoom.</p>

April 21 – Question Box Sunday: Pastor Len once again invites your questions about faith, church, or life in general. Put your question in the offering basket, mail it to the office, or email him.

April 28 – Jonah Day! Don’t miss this presentation of an original sermon/skit in 4 parts presented by the Thursday bible study.

What's Going On Here?

TODAY (April 7)

- 9:30am Worship—Guest: The Rev. Dr. Toni Hawkins
- 10:30am Coffee and conversation in Painted Cliffs Hall
- 11:00am Pastoral Search Committee meets with Dr. Toni

MONDAY (April 8) Office closed

- 9:30am Knitting Into the Mystery
- 1:00pm **GAME ON!** – Everyone is welcome to come to PCH!

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

- 11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds
- 3:30pm Growth and Outreach Ministry Meeting

WEDNESDAY (April 10) Office open 9am-3pm

- 5:00pm Barbershop Singers

THURSDAY (April 11) 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 Classroom: Book of Jonah
- 1:00pm Pastoral Search Committee
- 3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY (April 12) Office open 9am-3m

- 9:00am Yin Yoga in Painted Cliffs Hall
- 10:15am The EDGE Study/Discussion Group via Zoom

SATURDAY (April 13)

- 11:00am Discussion group: Handling parking lot proceeds
[Zoom link available]

NEXT SUNDAY (April 14)

- 9:30am Worship—**Gospel Hymn-Sing Sunday!**
- 10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH
- 11:00am Discussion group: Handling parking lot proceeds
- 2:00pm **Free concert:** Barbershop singing!

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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