

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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June 16, 2024 — Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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\*Congregation standing in body or in spirit.

**TO PONDER AS WE GATHER:** John Kavanaugh SJ “A mustard seed, among the smallest of the earth, slowly rises and erupts. It unfolds to reign as the largest of shrubs, ample enough for birds to nest and rest in.

The reign of God, this matter of faith, hope, and love, this kingdom for the ages, need not measure well in isolated moments. It is a living and growing thing.

So also, our lives. Life is slow and subtle. Love takes time to show and grow. In life, little acts count. In fact, that is what life is all about, a long parade of moments deceptively inconsequential.

Gathering for Worship

**Prelude**                    *“Jesus, Lead Thou On”*                    Gordon Young

**Greeting & Welcome**                    Rev. David Stabenfeldt

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

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

**\*Call to Worship**                    Penny Beers

L. It is good to give God thanks, to sing praises to the Most High!

**P. We will sing for joy to God who has made us glad.**

L. Let us declare God's steadfast love in the morning,  
**P. and God's faithfulness by night.**

L. So come to worship God with thankful, joyful hearts!  
**P. Let us praise God's holy name together.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Penny Beers

**Oh God, creator of heaven and earth, who grants us life, may the seeds of wisdom from the ancient sacred texts grow within us so that we may bear good fruit that nourishes a hungry world. May the Holy Spirit of Pentecost descend upon us this day as we give thanks to you Holy One. Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn** No 421 "We Gather Together"

**Prayer For Transformation and New Life**

Penny Beers

Living God, from you come vitality, love and joy.  
Your peace is our companion, your love is our strength,  
your Son is our hope. Your Spirit nurtures tiny seeds of purpose  
and potential,  
hidden deep in the soil of life, to surprise us with new life.  
While the earth begins to bloom around us, we bring you our  
prayers and praise, trusting that your Spirit will renew in us the  
gifts we need to serve you in faithfulness in the example of Christ  
our Brother and Guide.

**Living, loving God, as we watch our gardens and our children  
grow,  
we confess we often resist the change growth can bring.  
We form opinions about many things – and cling to them.  
We fear new insights and new directions.  
Forgive us when we think already know enough.  
Grant us faith like the mustard seed, able to grow with your  
blessing  
to become a mighty sign of your lively kingdom among us. Amen**

Hear the good news! Who can condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace! Rejoice in God's good gift.

**Response** No. 760 Amen!

(Sing Amen!) **Amen! We praise your name, O God!**

(Sing Amen!) **Amen! We praise your name, O God!**

(Sing Amen!) **Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen,**

**Amen! We praise your name, O God! (x2)**

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

**Scripture Reading**

Mark 4:26-34

Penny Beers

**Anthen**

*"Treasure Each Moment"*

Joseph Martin

**Message**

Jesus' Garden Plot

Rev. David Stabenfeldt

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

**Meditation Hymn** No. 433 *"In The Bulb There Is a Flower"*

**A Time of Prayer**

Rev. David Stabenfeldt

**Response** No. 581 Refrain

**Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth**

**From despair to hope, from fear to trust.**

**Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;**

**Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,**

**Let peace fill the universe.**



**Welcome!** We are happy that you are worshiping with us this morning, and we hope God's Spirit has spoken to yours. Please stay for refreshments and conversation in Painted Cliffs Hall.

**Thanks to the Rev. Dr. David Stabenfeldt** for bringing us the message today. He's a retired UCC minister and a valuable member of our CRR family along with his wife Pam, who was our church moderator in 2023. He is also the facilitator of the weekly EDGE discussion group on Mondays via Zoom. We're blessed by your dedication!

**Happy Anniversary!** Bob and Holly Johnson are celebrating 50 years of marriage. What a blessing! **Coffee Hour today** is in their honor and we encourage you to stop at PCH and congratulate them.

**Happy Father's Day!** Today we express love and gratitude for our fathers, whether they are biological, stepfathers, or father figures. We also honor those who are no longer with us. "As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him". Psalm 103-13

**Help Wanted!!** For the plants in our office. If you have a green thumb, please stop by and help Jussara care for them. Although she enjoys plants, her thumb is brown!

**Pastor Rich** can be reached by email if you should need anything throughout the week. His email is [richsmith@ecunet.org](mailto:richsmith@ecunet.org).

**Yin Yoga** classes will run through June but will take a break until October. Call the church or check our website for updates. Thanks, Bob Johnson, for this contribution to our community.

## What's Going On Here?

PCH = Painted Cliffs Hall

### **TODAY** (June 16)

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship in PCH

### **MONDAY** (June 17) **Office closed**

9:30am KRTA Special Meeting in PCH

12:45pm The EDGE Study/ Discussion Group via Zoom

### **TUESDAY** (June 18) **Office open 9am-3pm**

11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Wind

### **WEDNESDAY** (June 19) **Office open 9am-3pm**

4:30pm Finance, Endowment and Administration Ministry Meeting

5:00pm Barbershop Singers Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY** (June 20) **Office open 9am-3pm**

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

11:00am Congregational Care Ministry

### **FRIDAY** (June 21) **Office open 9am-3pm**

9:00am Yin Yoga

### **SATURDAY** (June 22)

### **NEXT SUNDAY** (June 23)

9:30am Worship Service with Pastor Rich Smith

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

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

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The Rev. Rich Smith (Interim/Bridge Pastor)

[richsmith@ecunet.org](mailto:richsmith@ecunet.org)

The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

Pastor-Elect (arriving Sept. 1)

Dr. Ryan Holder, Director of Music

Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

NAU Choral Interns

CRR Choir

The Rev. Dr. George Ault, Pastor Emeritus