

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.

June 23, 2024 — Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

TO PONDER AS WE GATHER: "Beware of the differences
that blind us to the unity that binds us."

—Huston Smith

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

"Come Sunday"

Duke Ellington

Greeting & Welcome -- Introduction

Pastor Rich Smith

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

All: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!!

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 133)

Steve Canipe

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when the beloved
community live together in unity!

People: It is like the precious oil on our heads which anoints our
worship and praise.

L: It is like a soft mist, which falls on the mountains of the earth.

P: For there God has ordained the blessing, life forevermore.

Opening Prayer (together)

Steve Canipe

All: Loving and Eternal God, be upon us this day in our worship and
praise. Strengthen our faith in the teachings of Christ as we let the
Holy Spirit be our guide. As celebrate our gathering as your church,
help us to be the disciples of your realm in the world today. May
we take hold of the hope and courage you offer. We pray this in
the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise No. 12 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”**

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Steve Canipe

Leader: As we gather in worship, let us take this moment to consider our needs for transformation and forgiveness. I invite you to quietly reflect on your need for grace.

Moment of Silence

People: Dear God, the creator of all things based on love. You created us in your image of love and there have been times we have fallen short of that love, not only to you but to each other and all of creation. We ask for your forgiveness, for the courage to ask it from those we have harmed, and the humility to receive it, as we forgive those who have wronged us. We thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit that we may do better in bringing love and grace in all we do. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

Leader: “Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture— “I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and therefore we also speak” in the affirming knowledge that when we turn to God with our shortcomings, we are renewed in God’s Love by the grace of Christ. Amen.

*Response No. 760 Sing 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 Acts 17:16-29

Steve Canipe

Anthem

“Hope is Like the Wind”

Ruth Schram

Message

A Hindu and a Christian and a Muslim and a Jew

Pastor Rich

*Hymn No. 575

“O For a World”

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

A Time of Prayer

Pastor Rich

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.

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

“Whispering Hope”

Alice Hawthorne

***Doxology** Tune: NCH 17

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia,
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit: One.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

All: Holy One, your generosity knows no bounds. Your golden fields are our tablecloth, your sun and moon our dinner plates. Your starry sky is our comforter, your breezes sing us a lullaby. How can we stand in gratitude for your constant miracles, but to return abundantly of your gifts, spreading them into the world, our love but a reflection of your own? Bless us and these gifts and all we are meant to do through them, and in that bless the world you so love. Amen. (Based on a poem by Tina Datsko de Sanchez, in *Singing Fierce Gratitude*)

Departing to Serve

*Hymn of Service	"Draw the Circle Wide"	(from Sing! 123) (see insert)
*Blessing		Pastor Rich
*Choral Benediction	"Lead Me, Lord"	Samuel Wesley
Postlude	"From Every Stormy Wind that Blows"	Penny Rodriguez

***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!

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.

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!

June 24 The EDGE will begin reading Pastor Guillermo's book: "Praying for an Eclipse: Mother Moon". The first assignment is to read the first chapter of the book. It can be purchased on Amazon.

June 25 marks the 67th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ.

Pastor Rich can be reached by email if you should need anything throughout the week. His email is richsmith@ecunet.org.

Draw the Circle Wide

Gordon Light

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wilder still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide,
wide.*

- 1. God the still point of the circle, 'round
who all creation turns; nothing lost, but
held forever in God's gracious arms.*
- 2. Let our hearts touch far horizons, so
encompass great and small; let our loving
know no borders, faithful to God's call.*
- 3. Let the dreams we dream be larger, than
we've ever dreamed before; let the dream
of Christ be in us, open every door.*

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What's Going On Here?

PCH = Painted Cliffs Hall

TODAY (June 23)

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship in PCH

MONDAY (June 24) **Office closed**

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

TUESDAY (June 25) **Office open 9am-3pm**

11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Wind

12:30pm PEO Meeting

WEDNESDAY (June 26) **Office open 9am-3pm**

1:30pm Council Meeting

5:00pm Barbershop Singers Rehearsal

THURSDAY (June 27) **Office open 9am-3pm**

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

FRIDAY (June 28) **Office open 9am-3pm**

9:00am Yin Yoga (last class for the summer)

SATURDAY (June 29)

NEXT SUNDAY (June 30)

9:30am Worship Service with Pastor Rich Smith

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

The Church of the Red Rocks UCC

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The Rev. Rich Smith (Interim/Bridge Pastor)

The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

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Pastor-Elect (arriving Sept. 1)

Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist

CRR Choir