

Opening Prayer (together)

Marcia Byrd

All: Loving God, you have shown us that in the midst of every moment there is the possibility of the stirring of holiness—light as the touch of a butterfly passing. And yet, the busyness of our days keeps our eyes dim to its brightness, our skin taut against the flicker of feeling it might produce, our minds filled with intentions and decisions. Teach us to set aside those things that would keep us from knowing such a gift. Open our hearts to wonder. May this wonder cause us to know blessing in those places where difficulty has calloused us. May it allow us to soothe our pain-filled memories with peace. May it help us experience joy in the divine presence of all our gathered brothers and sisters. As we open our hearts to the stirring of holiness, may we know love in this place today. Amen.
(Adapted from HOLY BREATH by Gretta Vosper)

*Hymn of Praise No. 439

“A Mighty Fortress”

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Marcia Byrd

Leader: Loving God, you are Sovereign over all our days.

All: When the winds of faith blow strong and our spirits are invigorated, you are with us. When the burdens of life seem oppressive as hot humid air and our spirits become listless, you are with us still. When a sense of calm purpose moves us from the depths of our being, you are present. And when a turbulence of confusion or pain storms within us, you are present still.

Leader: Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge or rely upon your steadfast love.

All: Sometimes we do not want to see you.
At other times we try stubbornly to do without you.

Sometimes we lock you in the past as if your best efforts concluded long ago.

At other times we put you off until tomorrow.

Great God, forgive us, and grant us the wisdom to trust you and the courage to serve you.

Through Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

Pause for Reflection

Words of Grace

Leader: The Psalmist reminds us, exhorts us, to be still. Be still and know that God is God. Know that God who created us and gave life to us, will never abandon us, no matter what! God loves us just as we are, even as God does not wish us to remain just as we are. With God's love comes new life and new beginnings. Be still, and know this truth. Be still, and know!

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!

Listening for Our Still-Speaking God

Scripture Reading

Psalm 46

Marcia Byrd

Anthem

“Be Not Afraid”

Craig Courtney

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-32

Pastor Rich Smith

Message

Selah: The Power of the Pause

Song

“I’m Not in Charge”

(words and music by Rev. Dr. Dosia Carlson)

I'm not in charge of the sun,

I'm not in charge of the moon,

I'm not in charge of the birds of the air;

I'm not in charge of the clouds,

I'm not in charge of the rain,
all these are gifts for the whole world to share.

But I am responsible for thoughts that I express,
and I am responsible for saying "No" or "Yes".
How much do I control my body, mind and soul?
My life I do not possess!

So, I give thanks for the sun,
and I give thanks for the moon,
and I give thanks for the birds of the air.
Yes, I give thanks for the clouds, and
I give thanks for the rain,
I'm thanking God..... for this God's-in-charge prayer.

Responding with Prayer and Generosity

A Time of Prayer

Pastor Rich Smith

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

"Near to the Heart of God"

Penny Rodriguez

***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 No. 488 “Be Still My Soul”
- *Blessing Pastor Rich Smith
- *Choral Benediction “Let Christ Rule in Your Heart” arr. Ken Baker
- Postlude “Blessed Assurance” Phoebe Knapp

When our worship is over, our service begins.

We go to serve the world that God loves.

On this 4th of July - "May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."
Peter Marshall

Sally's Book Club – Will meet on Friday July 5 and their new book is “*Good Night, Irene*” by Luis Alberto Urrea.

Upcoming Congregational Meetings - Information meeting on July 7 and meeting to vote on July 14. Please mark your calendars.

Did you know? Rev. Dr. Dosa Carlson who wrote “I’m Not in Charge” is the beloved late sister of our member Bob Carlson who now lives in Phoenix with his wife Millie.

What's Going On Here?

TODAY (June 30)

9:30am **Worship service**

10:30am Fellowship in PCH

MONDAY (July 1) Office closed

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

4:30pm Sedona Community Meal @ St. Andrew's Episcopal Church hosted by The Church of the Red Rocks

TUESDAY (July 2) Office open 9am-3pm

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

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

5:00pm Barbershop Singers

THURSDAY (July 4) Office closed this week only

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

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

10:00am Book Club – “Good Night, Irene”

SATURDAY (July 6)

NEXT SUNDAY (July 7)

9:30am Worship service with Pastor Rich Smith

10:30am Coffee and conversation in PCH

10:45am Congregational Information Meeting

The Church of the Red Rocks UCC

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Website: www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com
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The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling
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Pastor-Elect (arriving Sept. 1)
Suzanne Moore, Organist/Pianist
CRR Choir