



**\*Gathering Hymn No. 22**

*"Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped"* (vs. 1-2, 4)

**Opening Prayer**

We saw You, O God, in a fleeting moment that nearly escaped us. You were in the playful child, the striving Olympian, in the tender touch of lovers. We saw You looking at us as we jumped to help our neighbor, as we walked and talked with indifference, as we kept without sharing, as we stared at the starlit sky with wonder. We saw You, O God, even if it was for a fleeting moment. Open our eyes wide, that we might recognize You in our lives. Open our hearts wide, so the sight of You might mean something, even if for a fleeting moment. Amen.

**\*Response** No. 505, vs. 1

Sweet Hour of Prayer! Sweet Hour of Prayer!  
That calls me from a world of care  
and bids me at my Maker's throne  
let all my needs and wants be known.  
In seasons of distress and grief,  
my soul has often found relief  
and oft escaped the tempter's snare  
by your return, sweet hour of prayer!

**Scripture Reading** Exodus 3: 1 – 6, 13, 14 Katelyn Mason

**Message** "Unexpected"  
Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

**Anthem** "Go Down, Moses" arr. Ruth Morris Gray  
Alec Wilkes, guest pianist

## A Time of Prayer

**Response** No. 518, vs. 1

Father almighty, bless us with Your blessing;  
answer in love Your children's supplication.  
Hear now our prayer, the spoken and unspoken;  
hear us, Eternal God.

## Invitation to Generosity

**Offertory**

*"You Stepped Out of a Dream"*

Nacio Herb Brown & Gus Kahn  
Alec Wilkes, guest pianist

**\*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** (together)

O God, who calls us to live the world with generosity, may  
these gifts reflect our commitment to Your love, justice, and  
compassion for a world in need of your healing.  
In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

**\*Parting Hymn** No. 77 *"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Choral Benediction** *"Give Thanks"* Henry Smith  
**Postlude** *"The God of Abraham Praise"* Newton Mann

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***When our worship is over, our service begins.  
We go to serve the world that God loves.***

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## Announcements

Special Lunch today after the service welcoming Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling and his wife Maria. This is a great day for celebration! Thanks to everyone who have worked to make this event possible.

Pastor Guillermo would love to meet you. Please email or call the office if you would like to schedule a visit with him.

The Edge discussion on Monday, September 9 will be with the author Pastor Guillermo regarding his trilogy about the immigration crisis in Central America, "Praying for an Eclipse". The second and third books are available at the office.

Homelessness discussion is on Wednesday September 11 at 10:30am here at our church. Please join this interfaith discussion cosponsored by the Sedona Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and The Church of the Red Rocks.

Stephen Ministry will resume their meetings on Thursday, September 12 at 9:30am. They are seeking new leaders and you may want to be part of this important ministry

The Handbell Choir will resume their rehearsals on Thursday, September 12 @ 3:30pm. If you have interest to join this beautiful ensemble, come on their first day and see if you can become a member of it.

## What's Going on

- TODAY** (September 8)  
9:30am Worship Service  
10:45am Welcome Luncheon in Painted Cliffs Hall
- MONDAY** (September 9) Office closed  
11:00am DAR Meeting in Painted Cliffs Hall  
12:45pm The EDGE Study/Discussion Group via Zoom
- TUESDAY** (September 10) Office open 9am-3pm  
11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds  
1:00pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Planning @ Sedona  
Methodist Church
- WEDNESDAY** (September 11) Office open 9am-3pm  
8:30am Property Management Ministry Meeting  
10:30am Interfaith Discussion of Homelessness in PCH  
5:00pm Barbershop Singers
- THURSDAY** (September 12) Office open 9am-3pm  
9:30am Stephen Ministry Meeting in classroom B  
1:00pm Bible Study at CRR in classroom A  
3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal in PCH

## The Church of the Red Rocks - UCC

Have questions or comments? Send us an e-mail at:

[info@churchoftheredrocks.com](mailto:info@churchoftheredrocks.com)

Visit our website at:

[www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com](http://www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com)

Or visit our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/churchredrocks](http://www.facebook.com/churchredrocks)

You can also walk in or call us

54 Bowstring Drive Sedona, AZ 86336	(928) 282-7963
The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling	Settled Pastor
Dr. Ryan Holder	Director of Music
Mrs. Suzanne Moore	Organist/Pianist
NAU Choral Interns	CRR Choir
The Rev. Dr. George Ault	Pastor Emeritus

# A Prayer for the Anniversary of 9/11

by the Rev. Jeremy Pridgeon

O God, our hope and refuge,  
in our distress we come quickly to you.  
Shock and horror of that tragic day have subsided,  
replaced now with an emptiness,  
a longing for an innocence lost.

We come remembering those who lost their lives  
in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania.

We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants who  
demonstrated the greatest love of all  
by laying down their lives for friends.  
We commit their souls to your eternal care  
and celebrate their gifts to a fallen humanity.

We come remembering  
and we come in hope,  
not in ourselves, but in you.

As foundations we once thought secure have been shaken,  
we are reminded of the illusion of security.

In commemorating this tragedy,  
we give you thanks for your presence  
in our time of need  
and we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth,  
our guide and our guardian. **Amen.**