

The Church of the Red Rocks ~ United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Faith Community

Through Christian Worship, Education and Mission
we share and celebrate Faith in God with all.

October 6, 2024 — World Communion Sunday

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

TO PONDER AS WE GATHER:

*There are people in the world so hungry, that
God can only appear to them in the form of bread.*

~ Mahatma Gandhi

PRELUDE *"Break Thou the Bread of Life"* arr. C Berry
(based on Bach's Prelude in C)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

You are welcome here!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave Norton

Leader: We gather from the west & east, from south & north...

People: ...to praise God who calls us to live in peace.

Leader: The God of peace is with, within, and around us.

People: We gather to experience God, in peace and with love.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Creating and eternal God, bless us with the qualities we require
to change the world. Bless us with discomfort at easy answers

and half-truths. Bless us with anger at injustice, and exploitation of people. Bless us with tears for those who suffer from starvation and war. Bless us with enough foolishness to believe we can make a difference. AMEN.

***GATHERING HYMN** No. 323 *"Little Children, Welcome"*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Gary Wagner

A special offering for the victims of Hurricane Helene

OFFERTORY SONG

"On Holy Ground"

played and sung by Pamela Moore

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10: 13 – 16

Dave Norton

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

SERMON

"Dirty Bread"

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

ANTHEM

"Jesus Loves Me"

arr. Joel Raney

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Responsive Litany (People read in **bold**)

Creating and loving God, we live during strange and oppressive times. War and poverty continue to rage through the world. Yet, you speak love into our hearts, and so we praise your name and join the unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

We thank you, O God, for the gift of your son, Jesus, who also grew up in strange and oppressive times. Yet, he proclaimed the coming of a new world, defined by love, challenging us to love one another.

Around the world our tables may be different, but your table is always defined by love. Yet, we recognize that on the night of that Last Supper the table was fraught, just as ours is now.

Oh God, you gave yourself to us through Jesus, and in love, Jesus gave himself to us. He took bread, broke it and said:

“This is my body, broken, which is given for you.

You took drink from the vine, called it the Cup of the New Covenant and said:

“This is my essence, given for you. Drink from this cup in remembrance of me.”

Spirit of the Living God, pour your Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Breathe life and love into us. Knit us together. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are now ready.

We distribute the sacrament through intinction. Come forward, choose bread and dip it into the cup. Gluten free bread and individual cups of grape juice are available at the front. If you wish to remain seated, an usher will come to you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC *“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”*

Laura Ridley, harp

***PARTING HYMN** No. 82 *“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”*

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *"Go Now in Peace"* Don Besig

POSTLUDE *"Recessional in Classic Style"* Gordon Young

What's Going On

For more information about what is happening at the church visit our website or subscribe to the Canyon Echo, our weekly newsletter. If you are interested in any of our ministries or programs, contact Jussara Wagner at the church office. Here are a few of things happening this week:

ACTIVITIES OR PROGRAMS YOU MAY WANT TO JOIN:

- Bible Study: Tuesday mornings at Sedona Winds or Thursday afternoons at the church
- Book Clubs:
 - The EDGE Study - on Zoom Monday afternoons
 - Sally's Book Club - First Friday morning at the church
- Handbell Choir- Rehearsals on Thursday afternoons
- Chancel Choir- Rehearsals on Sunday mornings

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

info@churchoftheredrocks.com

Visit our website at:

www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

Or visit our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/churchredrocks

You can also walk in or call us:

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