

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

February 9, 2025

\*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

**TO PONDER AS WE GATHER**

*Your greatest strength is knowing who you are.*

*~ Oscar de la Renta*

**THE WELCOME**

You made it here, despite all the reasons not to come.

You made it here, for all the reasons to come.

Be part of the joy and know that

Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.

**PRELUDE**

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

Alec Wilkes, piano, arr. John Carter

**\* THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Barbara Peterson

O God, we stand in awe of Your glory...

**... even though we have been told we are not worthy.**

There is a pollution of negativity, corrupting our soul.

**Burn away, O God, all that is impure. Make us clean again.**

Fill this house of faith with purpose and love.

**Grant us the strength to be bearers of Your light.**

**May we lead, knowing we are the ones who are called to love  
our neighbor here and now. Praise be to God.**

**\* THE OPENING HYMN No. 31**

*“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

**UNISON PRAYER**

**God of the large and the small, of the wise and the innocent, open our hearts and minds to live with grace and love that our lives might promote peace wherever we are. In Christ’s name we pray these words.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung)**

*Our father, which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done.*

*On earth as it is in Heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread*

*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*

*For thine is the Kingdom,*

*and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

**THE PAULINE READING**

Barbara Peterson

Romans 9: 19 – 21

You may say to me: “Then why does God still blame us if we are not able to resist God’s will?”

Who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’” Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

**THE ANTHEM**

**THE PROPHETIC READING**

Barbara Peterson

Isaiah 6:1-7, 9:1-2, 5- 7

**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

*"Give Me a Clean Heart"*

**SERMON**

*"The Machine"*

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

**OFFERTORY**

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

arr. Larry Shackley

**\* DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen*

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**We thank you, O God, for you have given us the power of choice, and on this day we choose to give with love. Bless these gifts that they might strengthen our church and her ministries. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN**

**\* PARTING HYMN No. 454**

(vs. 1,2)

*"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

**\* BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

arr. John Carter

We want to keep our beloved members and friends in our prayers. Please pray for:

***Davis H. • John & Antonia S. • John M. • Diane VM. • Helene L • Chuck G. • Elaine G. •***

If you know anyone in need of prayers, please contact the church office.

### ***BIBLE STUDY***

#### ***Meet the Prophets: It's now every THURSDAY at 1pm***

Jesus was very familiar with the scriptures and the prophets who saved Judaism from extinction. Can we see how the prophets influenced Jesus and his ministry? Join Pastor Guillermo for four weeks in February as he presents a brief overview of the Old Testament prophets, their artistic side, their sense of righteousness and the Jewish people they were trying to save from themselves.

**Small Group** with Pastor Guillermo on Tuesday, February 11 at 2pm. This is the last meeting.

**SUUF** Movie discussion meets this Wednesday, February 12 at 10:30am. The next movie is **“The Six Triple Eight”**.

We will celebrate **Wendell VerPloeg's life** next Sunday, Feb. 16 after the worship service. Please plan to attend as we honor his beautiful and blessed life.

### **Stephen Ministry - A Ministry of Presence and Care**

The new Stephen Ministry divides caregiving into smaller, user-friendly roles. You can be on the Care Card Team, or the Friendly Visits Team, or be a classic Stephen Minister. A new class begins February 20 and orientation in next Sunday, February 16 after coffee hour.

### **Church Council Retreat**

Will be on Friday, February 28 from 9am to 3pm. All members of the 2025 Council are invited to attend. More information as the date gets closer.

### **Ushers Training**

Will take place Monday, March 3 at 1pm.

### **Second Sunday Lunch**

Will be March 9. Bring a main dish, side dish, salad or dessert that will serve eight (8). Leave them in the kitchen before the worship service. Congregational Care Ministry will provide beverages, plates, utensils and napkins. NO SIGN-UP SHEET. Let's come together in friendship and share a good meal.

### **OUR MISSION**

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

## What's Going On

<b>Mon:</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Game ON!</b>
<b>Tue:</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Bible Study at Sedona Winds</b>
		<b>2:00pm</b>	<b>Small Group Meeting with Pastor Guillermo</b>
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Faith in Action Ministry Meeting</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Movie Discussion by SUUF</b>
		<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Finance, Endowment &amp; Administration Ministry Meeting</b>
<b>Thu:</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Stephen Ministry Meeting</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Craft Club</b>
		<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Meet the Prophets Class (2/4)</b>
		<b>3:30pm</b>	<b>Handbell Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>(14)</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Yin Yoga</b>
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>(16)</b>	<b>11:15am</b>	<b>Stephen Minister Orientation</b>

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)

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**Regular Office Hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays from 9am to 4pm**

The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

Dr. Ryan Holder

Mr. Alec Wilkes

NAU Choral Interns

Mrs. Suzanne Moore

The Rev. Dr. George Ault

Settled Pastor

Director of Music

Pianist

CRR Choir

Musician Emeritus

Pastor Emeritus