

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

March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Come in, make space for change in your heart and mind,
for the Divine presence of God.*

PRELUDE *"For the Fruit of All Creation"* arr. Jane Holstein
Alec Wilkes, piano

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Are you restless and unsettled? This place is for you.

Let us worship God.

Are you hungry for love and hope? This place is for you.

Let us worship God.

Are you searching for direction? This place is for you.

Let us worship God.

Do you have love to share? This place is for you.

Let us together worship God!

*** OPENING HYMN** *"The Old Rugged Cross"* (vs 1, 3 & 4)

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION

**Gracious God, you hold us, yet we fear that we are all alone.
We aim for power over uncertainty, forgetting that control is
an illusion. Forgive us for choosing distraction to escape from
chaos. Bring our focus back to you, to your word, your love
and presence. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CONTEMPLATION

MOMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

Gary W. Wagner

OFFERTORY *"Moment Musicaux No. 3"* Sergei Rachmaninoff

Kyle Larsen, piano

*** DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Bless these gifts, O God, that they might strengthen our church and her ministries. Bless the hands that offer the gifts, that they may be transformed through their giving. Help us to be a blessing for others, in Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Come and Fill"

Come and fill all my life

Come and fill all my life

Each and every tender place

Holy Breath move through me

Come and fill all my life

Come and fill all my life

Pouring gently rushing strong

Holy Breath move through me

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4: 1 - 13

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CONTEMPLATION

SERMON

"God First"

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

GIFT OF MUSIC

"The Lord of the Dance"

arr. J. Rutter

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

We come to this table, believing that Jesus is with us, eager to know the Risen Christ in our daily living.

This table is set for each and every one of us. We do not wish to be separated from the love of God manifested through this bread and cup.

Eternal God, bless this bread and cup and bless us, that we may share the abundant love that is in Jesus Christ.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer (sung)

Arranged by Logan Willson for The Church of the Red Rocks

Loving God, we thank you for your unifying Spirit, felt among us during this holy feast. Take us from this table, raised and restored, ready not to be served but to serve. Amen.

*** PARTING HYMN** *"Blessed Assurance"* (vs 1 & 2)

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *"Praise to the Lord, Almighty"* arr. Joel Raney
Alec Wilkes

We want to keep our beloved members and friends in our prayers. Please pray for: ***Davis H. • Gene M • Edith Y • John M. • Diane VM. • Helene L • Chuck G. • Elaine G. • Gene & Pam M***

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

Coming up in March

March 10 -Game On!

March 12 -Faith-in-Action Retreat

-Movie Discussion by Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

March 18 -Baby Shower for migrant parents

March 26 -Journey of Aging

March 27 -Women's Interfaith Luncheon

March 30 -acapella sedona Concert

Visitors, before you leave, visit our welcome table and help us stay in contact with you by filling out the Visitor Contact Card.

Visitor Orientation Today

Do you want to know more about Church of the Red Rocks?

How familiar are you with the United Church Christ?

Are you thinking of joining this faith community?

After the worship service Pastor Guillermo will lead a brief presentation and conversation in classroom A.

New Member Sunday on March 16

If you are interested in joining the church, and being a member, please reach out to Pastor Guillermo.

OUR MISSION

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

For more information about any of our ministries, contact the church office at:

info@churchoftheredrocks.com

Visit our website at:

www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

Or visit our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/churchredrocks

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The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

Settled Pastor

Dr. Ryan Holder

Director of Music

Mr. Alec Wilkes

Pianist

NAU Choral Interns

CRR Choir

Mrs. Suzanne Moore

Musician Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. George Ault

Pastor Emeritus