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

April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday

\*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

CALL OF THE PSALMIST

Psalm 118: 1 – 2

Marcia Byrd

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever! Let the people of Israel say, "God's love endures forever." Open the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; God's people shall enter through it.

# \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

No.213 (vs. 1-3)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" Remain standing if you are able

# \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Marcia Byrd

Pastor: The day has arrived. Open the gates!

**People:** Give us courage to walk through them! Pastor: The time is now! Lay down your cloaks.

People: Give us strength to mark the journey of God's love.

Pastor: Be bold and unashamed of our faith.

People: Let us boldly proclaim God's peace!

ALL: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in highest!

\* GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:17 (from The Message)

And then Jesus began to preach, "Change your ways! The kingdom of heaven is already here, with and among us."

# Please be seated

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM "Let the Rocks Cry Out!" Lloyd Larson

CRR Chancel Choir

**GOSPEL LESSON** John 12:12 – 15, 19 Marcia Byrd

The next day, the crowd at the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem (from Bethany). So, they took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!"

As he was entering the city, Jesus came across a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."

The Pharisees watching this grand celebration, said to one another, "This is getting us nowhere. Look at how all the people are following him!

# **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

SERMON "Like a Blooming Flower"

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

#### GIFT OF MUSIC

"Lord of the Dance/Were You There?" arr. Joel Raney

# **ENTERING HOLY WEEK**

Redeeming and loving God, as we begin our journey to the cross, give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to embrace you with every step. May we receive insight and strength on how to follow Jesus more closely.

# **MOMENT OF SILENCE & CONTEMPLATION**

Abigail Fischer Earthshine Sit in silence and allow the vibrations of the bowls to carry you deeper in contemplation of God.

#### 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

# MOMENT OF MISSION

Dr. Stephen Canipe

# INVITATION TO GIVING

**OFFERTORY** 

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

arr. Don Wyrtzen

# \* 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

O God, we give today because we can; because our hearts are full of gratitude; because it is a hopeful act of our faith. Bless these gifts and help them strengthen your church. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

# \* PARTING HYMN

No. 539

"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"

\* BENEDICTION

# CLOSING TIME OF CONTEMPLATION

Exit in silence

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Please welcome Abigail Earthshine, our guest meditation and prayer leader. She is a local musician who uses the vibrations of the Himalayan Singing Bowls to help people go deeper in their meditation and prayer.

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

John M • John & Antonia S. • Davis H. • Helene L• Chuck G. • Flaine G. •

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

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

# THE CHURCH OF THE RED ROCKS

We are what you've been searching for...

Socially Responsible
Liberal and Progressive
Spirit Filled
Loving

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE APRIL 13 9:30 AM

# **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE APRIL 17**

5:30 PM Soup Supper Communion

# **GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18**

2-4 PM Church Open for Prayers

# **EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE APRIL 20**

6:30 AM Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at the Sedona United Methodist Church on Hwy 179

8:30 AM Easter Service

10:30 AM Easter Service with CRR Handbell Choir Performance

54 Bowstring Drive

Sedona, AZ86336

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEREDROCKS.COM

For more information about what is happening at the church visit our website, subscribe to the Canyon Echo, our weekly newsletter, or 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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# 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

# **OUR MISSION**

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



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We appreciate you!