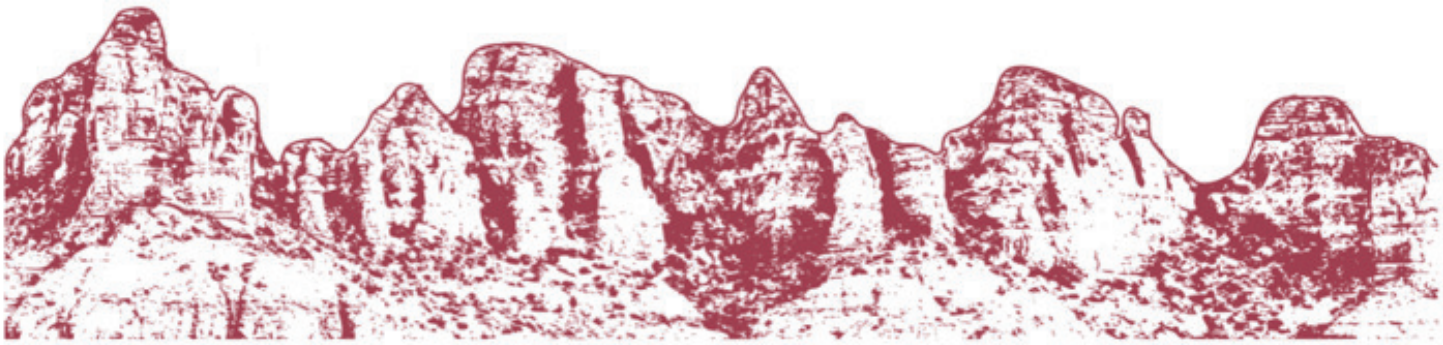

Church of the Red Rocks

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Hope Lives Here

October 4, 2026

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

World Sunday Communion

ORDER OF SERVICE

When the power of love overcomes the love of power,
the world will know peace. ~ Jimi Hendrix

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whoever you are or wherever you
might be on life's journey.
You are welcome here.

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *"Amazing Grace"* arr. Anthony Giamanco
Charis Mitchell, bassoon
Alec Wilkes
Please refrain from applause

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God plants a seed, a persistent dream, of joy despite the sorrow.

People: It is a dream that seeps into our daylight, shining light when all is dark.

Leader: God plants a seed, a dream for a new way of life, for new community.

People: This is the dream, made real on this day, a community of hope and joy.

Leader: God plants a dream, of apples bursting forth from an apple seed, of love bursting forth from every one of us.

People: We praise our Creator God, who gave us the dream for hope, faith and love. Praise be to God!

* OPENING HYMN *"O God, by Your Mercy, We Come to This Place"*

Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
(tune of "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise")
Specifically arranged for World Communion Sunday 2026

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Peace is a core value of our faith and the outcome of loving our neighbor. As a community of faith, we seek to live in peace with our

loved ones, neighbors and other communities. Please turn to those nearest you and extend a word of peace, ***"Peace be with you."***

CONTEMPORARY THOUGHTS ON PEACE (insert)

Alice Walker
Kofi Annan Ghana
Tenzin Gyatso (The 14th Dalai Lama)
Bishop Oscar Romero
Eleanor Roosevelt

GIFT OF MUSIC *"Peace Be Still"* Hope Darst
Rylie Rafferty, soloist
Please refrain from applause

MOMENT OF MISSION Neighbors in Need
Janet Wells

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 21: 33 – 46

MOMENT OF SILENCE

SERMON Pro-Human

ANTHEM *"A Communion of Compassion"* Victor C. Johnson
CRR Chancel Choir

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our communion table is open to all. Everyone is invited to partake in the goodness of the sacrament. Gluten free bread is available.

Today, we join Christians around the world who gather at Christ's table. Although we come from many places, we are all children of God. As the gathered church, we are the Body of Christ, united in the sharing of bread and cup in Christ's name.

Leader: Like a Sower, God scatters and gives growth.
People: God scatters life across the earth.

Leader: Like a Shepherd, God gathers people into communities of love.
People: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

Leader: From east to west, north to south, God calls us all to the table.

People: We come from many regions and cultures, many perspectives and traditions, yet we are one body in Christ.

Leader: God calls us to break down divisions and welcome each other into a shared household of grace.

People: We come to this table, fully aware of how we have kept others apart. Forgive us, O Lord, and make us worthy of your love.

Today, on this World Communion Sunday, God gathers us at this table, to remember the cost of discipleship and rejoice in the richness of Christ's blessings.

Words of Institution
Prayer of Blessing
Sharing the bread and the cup
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, loving God, for the presence of the Spirit, and for the gift of grace in this renewing feast. Take your gathered people and scatter us into the world—renewed and invigorated—that we may take the bear the life-giving fruit of hope to world thirsty for it. Amen

COMMUNION MUSIC *"Prayer"* Willard Zirk
Charis Mitchell, bassoon

MOMENT OF GIVING

Consider your generous giving as an expression of your faith, and your belief in the importance of the church in today's world. There are baskets in the rear of the church for you to place your offering. You can also make a donation via our QR code below.

* **CLOSING HYMN** *"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"* No. 347

* **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *"Great is the Lord"* arr. Jack Schrader
Alec Wilkes, piano

CONTEMPORARY THOUGHTS ON PEACE

War will stop when we no longer praise it or give it any attention at all. Peace will come wherever it is sincerely invited.
~ **Alice Walker**

There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace.
~ **Kofi Annan Ghana**

Peace does not mean an absence of conflicts; differences will always be there. Peace means solving these differences through peaceful means; through dialogue, education, knowledge; and through humane ways.
~ **Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama**

Peace is not the product of terror or fear. Peace is not the silence of cemeteries. Peace is not the silent result of violent repression. Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all. Peace is dynamism. Peace is generosity. It is right and it is duty."
~ **Bishop Oscar Romero**

It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it.
~ **Eleanor Roosevelt**

Neighbors in Need

Walk in love, as Christ loves us Ephesians 5:2

Advocating for Change

In 1999, General Synod affirmed four Special Mission Offerings for the United Church of Christ. Out of the four, the Neighbors in Need offering was highlighted as the offering for justice and compassion. The offering was tasked to help the church "advocate for a society where all people have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives."

Today, this legacy continues as we follow the mandate for the offering to create justice not only through direct aid, but also through advocating for change. These advocacy efforts take place in partnership with the Washington, D.C. Office of Public Policy and Advocacy, the Education for Faithful Action Team, and recipients of the Neighbors in Need grants. Together, folks across the UCC work together to affect policy change guided by our faith.

When you give to Neighbors in Need, you make sure the United Church of Christ continues to be a leader for justice. Two-thirds of the offering supports justice projects across the church, and one-third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries.

Thank you for your gifts!

There is an inherent connection between the Gospel call to respond to the hungry — the thirsty, the stranger, those in prison, and those who are sick — and the policy decisions that determine funding for issues such as school meal programs, global peacebuilding programs, standards for clean air, sentencing for nonviolent offenders, and health care access for all. Advocacy is essential to participating in God's mission in the world.

-From Building A Just World For All: A Toolkit For Faithful Advocacy

www.ucc.org/nin

Scan QR Code to Donate Now

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church of the Red Rocks

Weekly Schedule

Week of October 4 - October 11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
October 4	**October 5**	**October 6**	**October 7**
9:30 am - Worship Service World Communion Sunday Neighbor in Need Sunday	11:00am - AA - Lower Level	11:00am - Bible Study at SW	8:30am - PMM 10:15am - Nominating Committee Meeting 11:00am - AA - Lower Level 5:30pm - Private Memorial 4:00pm - acappella sedona Rehearsal

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 8	**October 9**	**October 10**	**October 11**
9:30am - Stephen Ministry 1:00pm - Bible Study CRR 2:30pm - Just Peace Team Meeting 3:30pm - Handbell Choir Rehearsal	9:00am - Yin Yoga 10:30am -Historian Committee 12:00pm - Private Event Preparation 12:30pm - Watercolor Class	10:30am - Picasso Club Lower Level 3:00pm - Private Event 4:00pm - AJAX Cleaning	9:30 am - Worship Service Handbell Choir Performance 10:30am - Just Peace Information

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Leading today's worship service

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling	Pastor
Dr. Ryan Holder	Choir Director
Ms. Karen Barrow	Liturgist

To give in a way that is not only simple and safe, but also efficient and cost-effective for the church, please scan the QR code.

To learn more about our church, visit our website at
www.churchoftheredrocks.com

To speak with the pastor or lay leader,
call the church office at (928) 282 -7963
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