



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

September 10, 2023

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Nob Ichishita

Welcome!

*We're glad you are here to worship with us,
whether in-person or virtually on Zoom or YouTube.*

Gathering the People of God

WELCOME

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

Please register your attendance with your mobile device by scanning the QR code to the right or by going to www.upctempe.org/fellowship, and completing the form.



Christ be with you!

⌘ **And also with you!**

PRAYER REQUESTS

(480) 256-8216

*Prayers may be texted to the above number,
or call and leave a message.*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CENTERING TIME & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

"It Is Well with My Soul"

BY PHILLIP P. BLISS ARR. BY JERRY RAY

Ted Gibson,

Pianist

We use this time to center our spirits, bring our attention to God within our breath, and remember that we are connected to all things through the Body of Christ.

Candles remind us of the light of God's love that exists within each human being and every created thing. The candles on the communion table represent the light of community. The single candle near the pulpit is the paschal candle, the light of Christ that shines on and in the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Based on Psalm 149

Sing God's praise amid the assembly of the faithful!

⌘ **Praise God!**

Rest in God who takes pleasure in the people.

‡ Praise God!

Let the faithful sing for joy!

‡ Praise God!

Let us live into the peace of God
revealed to the world through Jesus.

‡ Praise God!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Friends, may the peace of Christ be with you.

‡ And also with you.

***HYMN**

“ I Come with Joy”

#515

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

‡ Loving God,
while we were still slaves to sin,
you gifted us with salvation through Christ.
Yet we still worship the false gods of the world,
forgetting that you are God.
Loving worldly wealth,
we have not loved you with our whole heart
nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Trusting worldly strength,
we have not trusted your word
nor followed the Word-made-flesh.
Forgiving by worldly norms,
we have not shown mercy to others
as you have shown mercy to us.
Forgive us yet again,
we pray in Christ’s name.

Moment for silent reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE¹

Friends, hear the good news of the gospel:

Who is in a position to condemn?

‡ Only Christ.

And Christ died for us;

Christ rose for us;

Christ reigns in power for us;

Christ holds us in love.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

‡ in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

***RESPONSE TO GRACE**

“Alleluia!”
(Celtic Alleluia)

#587



Listening for God's Word

MOMENT FOR THE CHILDREN

Sue Schnebel

Children are always welcome in worship. We know they'll make some noise during the service—we understand and welcome their participation in their own way.

Parents, if needed, at any time during the service you may take your children into the narthex to stretch their legs or to our special children's corner in the rear of the sanctuary. We offer childcare upon request for children up to 5 years old — please speak to the Elder in Charge in the Narthex.

ANTHEM

“My Lord What a Mornin’”
ARR. GREG GILPIN

Chancel Choir

My Lord, what a morning. My Lord, what a morning.
My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

Hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall.

Hear the people shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall.

My Lord, what a morning. My Lord, what a morning.
My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING¹

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13.8-14
Matthew 18.15-20

NT pg. 162
NT pg. 20

Word of wisdom,
word of grace.
‡ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Empire Strikes Back - Part 1” Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

Responding to God’s Word

*RESPONSE

“Amen”

#600

A - men, a - men.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship

Nan Beams

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Send prayer requests by texting or leaving a message
at (480) 256-8216.*

PRAYER OF JESUS (Modern)

‡ **Our Creator in Heaven,
blessed be your name.
Your kin-dom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Keep us from temptation,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory,
are yours now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING¹

OFFERTORY

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

ARR. NEIL HARMON

Jon Sywassink,,

Organist

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"

#609

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise
God, all crea-tures high and low. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
lu - ia! Praise God, in Je-sus ful-ly known: Cre -
a-tor, Word, and Spir-it one. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

*HYMN

"We All Are One in Mission"

#733

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"A Rejoicing"

JACOB WEBER

Jon Sywassink,

Organist

*The postlude is a time of reflection
on how God has been present to us during worship,
and is present to us in our daily lives.*

*Remember you are the light of the world!
Let your light shine!*

**Sign up for our Weekly Update email at
www.upctempe.org/email.**

Today's Worship Leaders

Usher in Charge	Sue Schnebel
Ushers	Sue Schnebel & Team
Worship Techs	Bianca Osorio, Sada Reed
Trustee on Duty	Carol Rickel
Deacon of the Month	Nancy Martin
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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¹ Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013), Kindle edition loc. 2683ff.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

DEACON HONORARY PLANT: *Given this day by Brigitta Kuiper & Gil Urias in memory of Gerard J. Kuiper.*

MEMORIAL BOOK: *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Lillian Yarter, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by Mr & Mrs James Fleming, January 1986.*

The World: Prayers for peace around the world, especially in places of war, famine, strife.

All elected leaders: The President of the United States, members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, governors, county officials, mayors, and city council members, that they may all work toward peace for our cities, nation, and world.

Continued Prayers: Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Carl and Barbara Smith; Jim Phillips; Rob, Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke.

Homebound: Elaine Murray, Helen Alderson

Birthdays this coming week: John Asher, Nancy Martin, Sue Legg

*If your birthday is missing, please contact the church office
to let us know the date so we can celebrate with you!*

Elders: Vicki Jacobs, Katie Ranes, Sara Trower

Deacons: Jo Lewis, Roann Monson, Jan Felton, Holly Silcox

Trustees: Diane Watkins, Kathleen Davison, Ryan Kemp

Presbytery: Ganado Presbyterian (Navajo), Ganado, their supply elder: Custer Lowe and their clerk of session, Vivian Manning

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 3): In-person Bible Time explores themes such as peace, joy and diversity through music, stories, and hands-on activities. All children grades K-3 are welcome.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Youth Room): We have a great group of youth in grades 6-12 who are excited for our upcoming events. Be on the lookout for monthly service projects as part of our regular Sunday fellowship. All middle schoolers (6th-8th grades) and high schoolers (9th-10th grades) are invited to join us on Sunday mornings after worship at 11 am! If you have questions or would like more info, contact Ted Gibson, Christian Education director, at tedgibson@upctempe.org.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Sanctuary):

- **Sep. 10, 17** - Overview of *Sacred Encounters: The Power of Jesus Christ in Luke and Acts*, the 2023-2024 Horizons Bible Study, written by Olive Mohair, led by Chris Casanova and Rev. Beverly Phillips.
- **Sep. 24, Oct. 1** - "Music of the '60s" with Rev. Ken Moe

LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Zoom): Join us as we read, reflect upon, and study the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary. The new year, Year A, of the Revised Common Lectionary is available for download: List Form (www.upctempe.org/rcl).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement for our weekly emails and bulletin, submit it to the church office no later than Wednesday of each week. Send it to upc@upctempe.org.

Note: All Zoom meetings may be accessed online via the links provided, or by calling (602) 753-0140 and entering the Meeting ID (the numbers in the weblinks below) and the password, "139." Long distance rates may apply.

CALLING ALL MEN OF UPC (Saturday, Sep. 9, 8:00 am, Meeting Room): The first meeting of the Men's Breakfast is coming up. Breakfast will be served. Lots of information and decisions to make. We hope to see you there!

FRIDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB (Friday, Sep 22, 7:00 p.m., Zoom): *"The Covenant of Water"* by Abraham Verghese. Spanning the years 1900 to 1977, *The Covenant of Water* is set in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast, and follows three generations of a family that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning—and in Kerala, water is everywhere.

STEWARDSHIP SEASON: The theme for this Stewardship Season is "Connecting Community". During our hymn sing we all sang together:

*"We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love."*

Reflect on your actions to connect at UPC and with others. How can you contribute? How can you share your financial resources? Return your pledge form by Sep. 24th or submit it on-line at www.upctempe.org/pledge. Plan to join us for Consecration Sunday when we will dedicate our time, our skills, and our financial resources to our work together.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON (Sep. 24, 10:45 am, Fellowship Hall): The Stewardship Committee is looking forward to sharing this year's "Stewardship Season" with you. Our theme this year is "Connecting Community" and will culminate during worship on Consecration Sunday, Sep. 24th, which will include a potluck lunch afterward. The Committee will provide drinks and dessert; please plan to bring a dish to share. All are welcome! If you have questions contact Katie Ranes, at kranesupc@yahoo.com or (480) 458-7432.

RISE SHINE BREAD: We have delivered 4,874 mini-loaves and 3,925 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. Please contact Andrea White at info@riseshinebread.org or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view! <https://youtu.be/Go5llLLjTuw>.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP PAD (www.upctempe.org/fellowship, or scan the QR code):

If you are attending worship either on Zoom or YouTube, remember to complete the online Fellowship Pad and include your prayer requests. Also, if you have new contact info (phone, email, etc.), include that info as well and check the "New contact info" box.



If your contact info has not changed, you do not need to include your address or phone number.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFN's BOOK DISCUSSION: *The Man in the Dog Park* by Dr. Cathy Small (September & October, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm): Join the Arizona Faith Network's Hunger and Housing Committee for a 4-part book discussion series as a part of our Housing 101 series that seeks to explore varying aspects of housing in our great state so that we can build understanding among people from different faiths. The series is broken down in 4 segments and explores Coming To Terms & Engagement with homelessness, Stigma and Time Spent, Impact of Capitalism, and Coming Home. The series dates are Sep. 14, Sep. 26, Oct. 10, and Oct. 24. Hear from local NAU professor emeritus, Dr. Cathy Small, with a guest presenter during our last session (the co-author of the book). RSVP at <https://form-usa.keela.co/the-man-in-the-dog-park>.

UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Find Zoom links and calendar updates at
www.upctempe.org/events.*

*Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links:
www.upctempe.org/email*

Sun., Sep 10

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Family Promise Departs (MR, K, L, Rm 2-5)

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Youth Room)
11:00 am Adult Christian Education (S)

Mon., Sep 11

8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue., Sep 12

7:00 pm Finance Committee (Z)
7:00 pm Worship Committee (Z)

Wed., Sep 13

PGC Montlure Adult Mission Experience

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (Z)
3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (Z)
5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (K, FH)
5:15 pm Online Social Hour (Z)
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu., Sep 14

PGC Montlure Adult Mission Experience

8:00 am TOPS (MR, Rm 7)
7:00 pm MSJP Committee (Z)

Fri., Sep 15

PGC Montlure Adult Mission Experience

3:00 pm I-HELP -Meal: UPC (FH, K)
8:30 pm A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat., Sep 16

7:00 am I-HELP guests depart

Sun., Sep 17

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Youth Room)
11:00 am Adult Christian Education (S)

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room
(FH)-Fellowship Hall (MG) Memorial Garden (HSR)-High School Room
(MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen
(L)-Lounge (MR)-Meeting Room (PO)-Pastor's Office
(Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary
(Z)-On Zoom (See Weekly Update or UPC Calendar for links)



Open and Affirming to All, Glorifying God, Growing in Love

139 E. Alameda Dr. • Tempe, AZ 85282 • 480.966.6267

www.upctempe.org • e-mail: upc@upctempe.org

Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministers	All Members
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Ledermann
Clerk of Session	Brigitta Kuiper
Director of Music & Christian Education	Ted Gibson
Organist	Jon Sywassink
Administrative Assistant	Lori Saager
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Andrea White
Attendance Secretaries	Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller
Custodian	Carrie Miter

Pastor's Office Hours:

Available by appointment Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

Contact the church office or the pastor to schedule,

or go to www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule.