



## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

September 17, 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Lawn Griffiths

*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](http://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

*"My Jesus, I Love Thee"*

BY ADONIRAM J. GORDON ARR. 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 WORSHIP

We gather to remind one another  
of God's love through which we were created.

**⌘ We gather to remind ourselves  
of God's forgiveness through which we are renewed.**

We gather to be reminded  
that God is within us.

**⌘ Praise be God!**

May we live into God's peace  
revealed to the world through Jesus.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Friends, may the peace of Christ be with you.

**⌘ And also with you.**

**\*HYMN**

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

#65

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**⌘ Gracious and Loving God,  
though Christ lived for us,  
too often we fail to live for you;  
though you forgive us freely,  
too often we fail to forgive one another;  
though you love us,  
too often we fail to live into your love.  
Help us to live more fully!  
Help us to forgive more freely!  
Help us to love more deeply!  
Hear our prayers, O God,  
and renew our spirits  
for such a time as this.**

*Moment for silent reflection and confession.*

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE<sup>1</sup>**

People of God,  
trust in the good news of Jesus, our Christ:  
we are forgiven!

**⌘ God is merciful and gracious.**

Reconciled to God, who loves us,  
may we live and love in the Way of Christ!

**⌘ Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*RESPONSE TO GRACE**

**"Alleluia!"**  
(Celtic Alleluia)

#587



## Listening for God's Word

**MOMENT FOR THE CHILDREN**

Pastor Eric

*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**

**"O Love"**  
BY ELAINE HAGENBERG

Chancel Choir

O love that will not let me go  
I rest my weary soul in thee.  
I give thee back the life I owe  
That in thy ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O joy that seeks me through pain  
I cannot close my heart to thee.  
I trace the rainbow through the rain  
And feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be

**PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING<sup>1</sup>**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 14.1-12  
Matthew 18.21-35

NT pg. 163  
NT pg. 20

Word of wisdom,  
word of grace.

⌘ **Thanks be to God.**

# Responding to God’s Word

\*RESPONSE

“Amen”

#600

A - men, a - men.

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship

Nathalie Rennell

## 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 OFFERING<sup>1</sup>

### OFFERTORY

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

Jon Sywassink,

ARR. ALBERT TRAVIS

*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

*"In the Midst of New Dimensions"*

#315

(vv. 1, 3, 4, 5)

### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

### \*POSTLUDE

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

Jon Sywassink,

ARR. DAVID CHERWIEN

*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](http://www.upctempe.org/email).

## Today's Worship Leaders

Usher in Charge	Kathy Wagner
Ushers	Kathy Wagner & Team
Worship Techs	Chris Trella, Bianca Osorio
Trustee on Duty	Carol Rickel
Deacon of the Month	Nancy Martin
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013), Kindle edition loc. 3264ff.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**DEACON HONORARY PLANT:** *None given this day*

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Lillian Yarter, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by Norma Raby, February 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:** Hazel Davidson, Scott Horne

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

**Elders:** Paul Green, Catherine May, Joan Grey

**Deacons:** Nan Beams, Patty Griffiths, Cathy Richardson, Jey Young

**Trustees:** Helen Griffin, Pete Godfrey, Chris Trella

**Presbytery:** Gilbert Presbyterian, Gilbert, their pastor, Rev. George Prohaskae and their clerk of session, Frank Walmsley

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## 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](mailto: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
- **Oct. 8** - "Music of the '70s" 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](http://www.upctempe.org/rcl)).

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## 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](mailto: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.*

**WANTED:** To the person who has been donating lip balm for the refugee hygiene kits. We have reduced our number of kits from 200 to 150. I have lip balm to last me a few months. Can you call me to adjust the volume? 480-570-0450. Holly Herman

**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 Stewardship Committee chose a verse from Psalms for our prayer and reflection during this season. "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" You should have received a letter from the committee and the 2024 pledge form in the mail. If you did not receive one, contact the church office or pick up a form at worship this week. Please consider how you can contribute to our work together in unity and return your pledge by September 24th. Your response will be helpful for our leaders as we plan for 2024.

**CONSECRATION SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON (Sep. 24, 10:45 am, Fellowship Hall):** The theme this year for Consecration Sunday and Stewardship Season is "Connecting Community". You are invited to a food-friendly "connection" with your UPC "community" on Consecration Sunday, September 24, after the church service. Please bring a dish to share. The Stewardship Committee will provide drinks and desserts. Please do not bring your pledges to this connecting time. Instead, place them in the offering plate, mail or email them to the church office or utilize the online option at [www.upctempe.org/pledge](http://www.upctempe.org/pledge).

**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](mailto: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](http://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.***

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## UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Find Zoom links and calendar updates at  
[www.upctempe.org/events](http://www.upctempe.org/events).*

*Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links:  
[www.upctempe.org/email](http://www.upctempe.org/email)*

### **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)



**Mon., Sep 18**

7:00 pm Board of Deacons (Z)  
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

**Tue., Sep 19**

6:30 pm CIO Committee (Z)  
7:00 pm Board of Trustees (Z)  
8:00 pm Stewardship Committee (Z)

**Wed., Sep 20**

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (Z)  
12:30 pm Chinle Circle (MR)  
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 21**

8:00 am TOPS (MR, Rm 7)  
11:00 am Tempe Interfaith Fellowship (Z)

**Fri., Sep 22**

3:00 pm I-HELP –Meal: St. Augustine (FH, K)  
7:00 pm Friday Night Book Club (Z)  
8:30 pm A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

**Sat., Sep 23**

7:00 am I-HELP guests depart

**Sun., Sep 24**

*25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Consecration Sunday*

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
10:45 am Consecration Sunday Potluck Luncheon (K, FH)  
6:00 pm Nominating Committee (CR)

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](http://www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule).*