



## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

October 22, 2023

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Dan Abbott

*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

*"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

ARRANGED 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 WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

Holy One, you have welcomed us saying, *Exodus 33.12*  
"I know you by name."

‡ **Creator, you have promised us,** *Exodus 33.14*  
**"My presence will go with you,**  
**and I will give you rest."**

O Great "I AM," you have blessed us, saying, *Exodus 33.19*  
"I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you."

‡ **Lover of All Things, you have humbled us, saying,** *Exodus 33.19*  
**"I will proclaim my holy name in your presence."**

God, the Holy One, our Creator,  
the Great "I AM" of the universe,  
the lover of all things,  
is with us, inviting us, calling within us.  
Are we listening?  
Are we ready to live into God's peace?

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

‡ **And also with you.**

**\*HYMN**

*"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*

#645

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

The God of all things reigns!

‡ **Majestic One, do we tremble in awe before you?**

The God of all things reigns!

‡ **Worthy God, have we held your name up in praise?**

The God of all things reigns!

‡ **Sovereign God, have we executed compassionate justice?**

The God of all things reigns!

‡ **We gather in your presence, Holy God.**

**Forgive us of lack of compassion.**

**Cleanse us of our selfishness.**

**Free us from our fears.**

Hear our prayers, O God,  
and, once again, create clean hearts within us.

*Psalm 51.1*

*Moment for silent reflection and confession.*

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

*Psalm 96.1, 11-12*

The psalmist writes:

“O sing to God a new song! ...

Let the heavens be glad,  
and let the earth rejoice!

Let the sea roar with laughter,  
the fields shout in celebration,  
and the forests sing with joy.”

Trust in the goodness of God’s creation.

⌘ **We are part of God’s good creation.**

**Through Christ, God shared abundant love  
and forgiveness.**

In Jesus Christ, we have been shown the Way!

⌘ **Through Christ we are forgiven**

**and are forever being made new!**

Thanks be to God!

**\*RESPONSE TO GRACE**

*“Alleluia!”*  
(Celtic Alleluia)

#587

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**Listening for God’s Word**

**MOMENT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN**

Dan Abbott

*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 do offer childcare upon request—please speak to the Elder in Charge in the Narthex.*

**ANTHEM**

*“City Called Heaven”*  
JOSEPHINE POELINITZ

Serena Bhatnagar

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow.  
I’m left in this wide world, this wide world alone!  
Ain’t got no hope, no hope for tomorrow  
trying to make it, make heaven my home.

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord.  
Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn.  
I heard of a city, a city called heaven  
trying to make it, make heaven my home.

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

Holy God,  
you have made us in your image,  
and we belong to you alone.  
Therefore, we offer ourselves to you,  
in service, love, and praise.  
Help us to hear your eternal Word,  
calling us forward, inviting us to your Way.  
Use us for the glory of your realm  
and the good of your people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Exodus 33.12-13  
Matthew 22.1-22

OT pg. 80  
NT pg. 4

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Eric O. Ledermann

*“Hi, I’m a Recovering Christian - Part 3”*

# Responding to God’s Word

**\*RESPONSE**

*“Sanctuary”*

#701

Lord, pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and  
 ho-ly, tried and true. With thanks-giv-ing, I'll be a  
 liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*“I-HELP”*

Dan Abbott

**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>**

*Offerings may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed,  
mailed or dropped off to the church office,  
or through our website at [www.upctempe.org/giving](http://www.upctempe.org/giving).*

**OFFERTORY**

*“Christ Jesus, Be with Us Now”*  
JOHANN GOTTFRIED WALTHER

Jon Sywassink,  
*Organist*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*“For the Fruit of Creation”*  
(v. 1)

#36

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to  
 ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God. For the plow - ing,  
 sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.

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

**Sent Out in Jesus' Name**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNITY**

**\*HYMN**

*“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”*

#435

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*“Sing Praise to God”*  
Arranged Paul Laubengaye

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

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Elder in Charge	Kathy Wagner
Ushers	Kathy Wagner & Team
Worship Techs	Bianca Osorio, Sada Reed
Trustee on Duty	Cheri Hardy
Deacon of the Month	Patty Griffiths
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), 208ff.

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**DEACON HONORARY PLANT:** *Given today by Celia Whitehead in memory of her mother, Symia Whitehead.*

**MEMORIAL BOOK:** *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Lillian Yarter, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Dean, 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; Diane Watkins; Carl, Sue Coleman's nephew-in-law; Louisa and Lyle Starkey; Joni Jacobs

**Homebound:** Elaine Murray, Helen Alderson

**Birthdays this coming week:** JoAnne Dahlmeier, Beckie Burke, Mara Trella, Bianca Osorio, Soheila Rouhani Maryani, Rev. Ken Moe, Jan Felton

*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:** Gila Crossing Presbyterian (Pima-Maricopa), Laveen, their moderator, CRE Mary Danforth and their clerk of session, Linda Ruiz.

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 2):** Bible Time explores lessons to be learned from Old and New Testament scriptures through music, hands-on activities, and stories. All children grades K-4 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):**

- **Oct. 22** - Bill Brown on Poverty with the Rev. Shelly Moe
- **Oct. 29** - Reformation Sunday: Hunger in America with Jason Reed, CEO, United Food Bank
- **Nov. 5 - 12** - Thin Places - Iona, with Catherine May and Dan Abbott

**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.*

**STEWARDSHIP SEASON:** We continue in the season when we again commit ourselves to God's work through us. The pledge estimate is one way we accomplish our cooperative efforts. Thank you to all of you who have already submitted your form. If you have not done so, please complete your pledge estimate on-line at [www.upctempe.org/pledge](http://www.upctempe.org/pledge) or through the printed pledge form. Even if you cannot pledge financially you can pledge your support of UPC on this form, promising to



give your prayers for our collective work. Completing your pledge estimate provides information for your church leaders' planning. Expect to receive follow-up communication from the Stewardship Committee if you have not completed your form.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OFFICE/STORAGE ROOM** is sorted and reorganized. CE would like to share our abundance with all UPC ministries. Before you go out and buy office or craft supplies, check this room first. Scissors, paper punches, staplers, rulers, poster board, origami paper, crepe paper, tissue paper, colored cardstock, scrapbook pages, scotch tape, duct tape, masking tape, brads, paper clips, staples, crayons, markers, colored pencils, and sharpies. Watercolors, acrylic craft paint, tempera paint, spray paint and all kinds and sizes of paint brushes. Starch, stickers, stencils, bling and beads, feathers, stamp pads and stamps. Wood crafts, craft sticks, craft foam, bulletin board paper, boarders and letters. Storage file boxes, standing notification holders, etc. Take what you need. Indulge in our abundance.

**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** In a week or so, sign ups begin for all the worship assignments for November through January. Think about being liturgist, giving a children's talk, presenting a mission you feel passionate about, ushering, welcoming worshippers, lighting candles, serving coffee or learning to work the video and sound during the service. Please consider becoming involved in one or two of the many activities that make Sunday Mornings / Worship work. For questions or sign up, please contact Joan Grey (602) 818-1110 or [joanmg251@cox.net](mailto:joanmg251@cox.net).

**FALL MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS (Oct., 22, 29, & Nov. 5, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Church Office Conference Room):** Curious about what it means to be a member of UPC and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)? New to UPC and looking to transfer your membership from another congregation? Register for our upcoming Membership Inquiry Class. Led by Pastor Eric, this class is for those new to the church or who may be transferring their membership from another congregation. The class covers some of the basics of Presbyterianism, as well as the culture and practices unique to UPC. This is a great time to ask questions, learn, and find more ways to be involved! There is no obligation to join. This is an invitation to learn! There's still room to join us today! Register at <https://shorturl.at/eACY5>.

**9TH ANNUAL INTERGENERATIONAL FALL FESTIVAL AND TALENT SHOW (Tonight, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall):** The Congregational Involvement and Outreach Committee again will present the popular night of grassroots variety entertainment and talent show, White Elephant Giveaways, and tacos.

**FINAL ASYLUM TRIAL FOR SARA AND MEYSAM (Mid-December):** By the end of October, their attorney would like to have letters of support ready to send to the court. There are several clipboards in the Narthex asking for your signature signifying your support for their asylum. Please stop and sign one on your way in or out of worship. The judge found these letters very powerful at Farshid and Soheila's trial this past spring. If any of you would like to write a personal letter of support, that is also appropriate. Please see Holly to coordinate.

**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/Go5llLjTuw>.

**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, please include any new contact info (phone, email, etc.) 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., Oct 22

*29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:30 am           Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
11:00 am           Membership Inquiry (CR)  
11:00 am           Children's Bible Time (Rm 3)  
11:00 am           Youth Fellowship (Youth Room)  
11:00 am           Adult Christian Education (S)  
5:00 pm           Annual Intergenerational Fall Festival & Talent Show (FH)

### Mon., Oct 23

6:00 pm           Session Budget Workshop #1 (Z)  
6:30 pm           PW Kayenta Circle (MR)  
8:30 pm           AA Meeting (Rm 7)

### Tue., Oct 24

7:00 pm           Stated Session (S, Z)

### Wed., Oct 25

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

### Thu., Oct 26

8:00 am           TOPS (MR, Rm 7)  
1:00 pm           PW Online Bible Study (Z)

### Fri., Oct 27

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

### Sat., Oct 28

7:00 am           I-HELP guests depart

**Sun., Oct 29**

*30th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Reformation Sunday*

9:30 am           Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)  
11:00 am           Membership Inquiry (CR)  
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](http://www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule).*