



LEADER

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

November 12, 2023

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Nancy Franz

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

"Near to the Heart of God"

Ted Gibson,

BY CLELAND B. MCAFEE ARR. BY JERRY RAY

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 78.4
& 1 Thessalonians 4.13-14*

People of God, listen:
God has done incredible things among us!

‡ **In Christ, God has blessed us
and equipped us for a ministry
of hope and healing!**

Teach others what God has done
so that they may live in hope and peace.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

‡ **And also with you.**

***HYMN**

“There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

#824

(Near to the Heart of God)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

‡ **Holy and gracious God,
you are all light
and wonder
and glory.**

**You are our strength and our delight;
you give us everything we need to live.
Yet, somehow, despite your generosity,
we are distracted by all that glitters,
always grasping for more
at the expense of those who have nothing.**

**Rather than trusting in your provision,
we chase after our own happiness.
Forgive us, dear God, and help us turn back to you.
Overwhelm us with your goodness
and cover us with your grace,
for we know that you are the source of life,
the fount of all that is good.
Hear our prayers, O God,
and continue to open our hearts and minds
to the hope you have given us in Jesus, our Christ.**

Moment for silent reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE¹

Hear the good news, siblings in Christ:
Nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God
revealed in Jesus, our Christ.

Rom. 8.38-39

⌘ **We believe the good news of Christ!**

It is in and through Christ
that we are forgiven!

⌘ **It is in and through Christ
that we are made new again and again!**

Alleluia! Amen!

***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

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

ANTHEM

"Jesus, Be With Us"
BY DAVID GAMBRELL

Chancel Choir

Refrain Je - sus, be with us. Help us each day to fol - low the
 gos - pel and live as we pray. Send us your Spir - it and
 show us your way. Je - sus, be with us to - day.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, shatter the systems of greed.
 Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.

Where there is hatred because of our skin, break down the walls of our fear.
 Jesus, be with us to save us from sin. In, your great love, draw us near.

Where there are valleys of bones, dry as dust, build up the body of Christ.
 Jesus, be with us, and help us to trust. Teach us a new way of life.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING¹

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25
 Matthew 25.1-13

OT pg. 215
 NT pg. 28

Word of wisdom,
 word of grace.

⌘ **Thanks be to God.**

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

“PW Thank Offering”

Suzanne Niemann

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

Presentation

Profession of Faith

Renunciations by Those Being Received

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin
and renounce evil and its power in the world?

⌘ **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus, our Christ,
and accept him as your Lord and Savior,
trusting in his grace and love?

⌘ **I do.**

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciples,
obeying his word and showing his love?

⌘ **I will, with God’s help.**

Profession of Faith

The Apostles Creed

* You may also say Creator or Mother.

‡ I believe in God the *Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the *Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Question of Membership:

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
share in its worship and ministry
through your prayers and gifts, your study and service,
and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?
‡ I will, with God's help.

Welcome

With joy and thanksgiving,
we welcome you to the community of faith here at UPC!
‡ Alleluia! Amen!

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

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

OFFERTORY

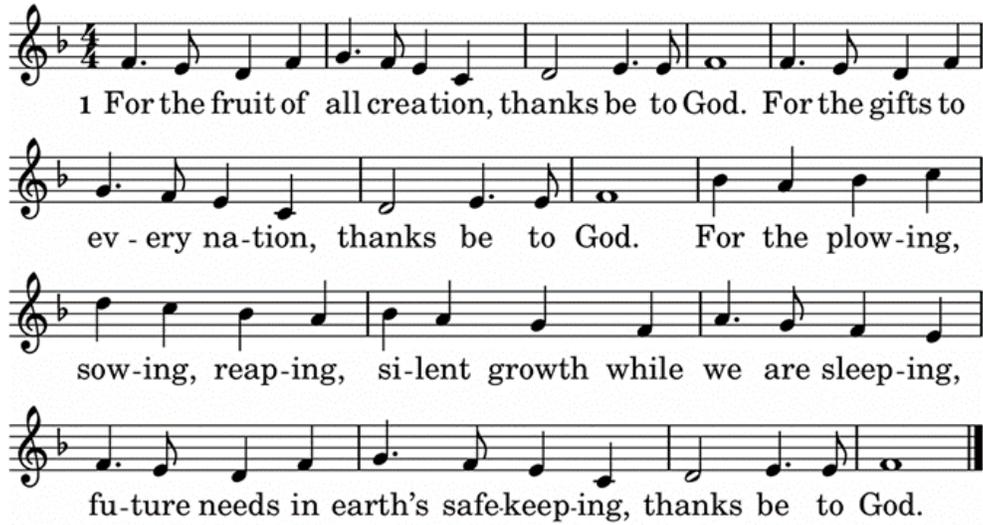
“Sleepers, Wake!”
(A Voice Astounds Us)
ARR. AARON DAVID MILLER

Jon Sywassink,
Pianist

***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 safekeep - ing, thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

***HYMN**

“Christ Be Beside Me”

#702

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

“Christ Be Beside Me”
ARR. FRED BOCK

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

Elder in Charge	Sue Schnebel
Ushers	Sue Schnebel & Team
Worship Techs	Jim Niemann, Sada Reed
Trustee on Duty	Pete Godfrey
Deacon of the Month	Laura Green
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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¹Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013), 238ff.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

DEACON HONORARY PLANT: *None given this day.*

MEMORIAL BOOK: *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Jessie Baird, a memorial perpetuated in Handbells by Jan Beal, 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, Kaycee, Catherine May's niece.

Homebound: Elaine Murray, Helen Alderson

Birthdays this coming week: Jo Lewis, Kara Asher, Nan Beams, Catherine May, Jim Hershauer, Lori Saager, Sam Ledermann, Allie Youngs

*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: Celebration of Life Presbyterian, Mesa, who is without a pastor at the moment, and their clerk of session, Ellie Scheman.

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.

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

- **Nov. 5 - 12** - Thin Places - Iona, with Catherine May and Dan Abbott
- **Nov. 19 - NO CLASS** - *Congregational Meeting for the election of officers and voting on the pastor's 2024 terms of call, followed by the MSJP World Market*
- **Nov. 26 - NO CLASS** - *Thanksgiving holiday weekend*

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.

XERISCAPE DESIGN PLAN: AN INVITATION TO VIEW AND OFFER FEEDBACK (Thursday, Nov. 16, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary): The moment has arrived! Our landscape designer PJ has completed the final xeriscape plan. We have set up a meeting for all to see the plan, ask questions, and offer feedback. You are invited! Slides will be made from all eight plots of the various areas of campus to

be projected on a screen. One hard copy of all eight plots will be available for a closer look—each print is 24" x 36". Join us as we continue in this very worthwhile endeavor.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Sunday, Nov. 19, 10:45 a.m., Sanctuary): Session has called a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing officers, receiving the budget for 2024, and voting on the session-recommended 2024 terms of call for the pastor. All formal members in good standing are asked to be present, either in person or on Zoom. The meeting will happen immediately following worship.

GREENING OF THE SANCTUARY (Sunday, Nov. 26, 11:00 a.m.) : Please join us for the "greening of the sanctuary" for the Advent and Christmas seasons following the worship service.

FALL CONGREGATIONAL WORK SEASON (Nov. 4-Dec. 10): Thank you for the help with our Fall Congregational Work Day. There are some more tasks that we weren't able to finish. Check out the list of remaining tasks to be completed by going to www.upctempe.org/congregationalworkday. Each task has a trustee who can be contacted for additional information or if supplies are needed. Most tasks will take 1 to 2 hours and can be completed at your convenience. Tasks range from washing windows to weeding and pruning. The trustees are hoping to have everything completed by the end of the day on Dec. 10th. So find a friend and choose your contribution! Sign up at: www.upctempe.org/congregationalworkday.

226th GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS (June 25-27, 2024, and June 29-July 4, 2024, Salt Lake City, UT): Next year Salt Lake City will be hosting the 226th General Assembly of the PC(USA). For each assembly the Presbytery of Grand Canyon invites particular churches on a rotation to recommend ruling elder commissions and Young Adult Advisory Delegates (YAADs). ***UPC is part of the rotation to nominate commissioners and delegates for the upcoming assembly,*** which will be hybrid, with committees meeting virtually June 25-27, 2024, and the assembly meeting in person June 29-July 24, 2024. If you would like to be considered, please contact Pastor Eric or Brigitta Kuiper, clerk of session, for an application. **Forms are due Nov. 27, 2023.** Commissioners will be elected at the Dec. 7, 2023, presbytery meeting. GA is a wonderful way to witness the amazing work the PC(USA) does around the world. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity!

DINNER FOR EIGHT: Would you like to get better acquainted with others from UPC? Join the next group of DINNER FOR EIGHT which will begin in January of 2024. What is Dinner For Eight? Groups of 6, 7, or 8 people take turns hosting a gathering once a month for four months for a meal and conversation. The emphasis is on fun and friendship, so you don't have to be a great cook to participate! During a four-month period you will host only once, and will be a guest on three occasions. When it is your turn to host, you decide when and where. Visit the sign-up table in the courtyard after worship, or contact Margaret Branson at (224) 406-1507 or mlherbst90@gmail.com.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUPPLIES AVAILABLE: The Christian Education Office and Storage Room, next to the Meeting Room, is sorted and reorganized. The CE Committee would like to share our

abundance with all UPC ministries. Before you buy office or craft supplies, check this room first and take what you need.

TEACHERS URGENTLY NEEDED: The Bible Time Team is mighty, but small. Class is ably taught each Sunday by Jan Felton, but our policies require a second adult. This role is currently filled by Katie Ranes, Vicki Jacobs, and Joni Jacobs. Joni's recent injury has temporarily taken her out of our rotation, through January at least. Katie and Vicki have the December dates covered, but could use a hand for January classes. If this is something you might be able to help us out with, please call Vicki at (602) 315-4295.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 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.

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, 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.***



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., Nov 12

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Family Promise Departs (MR, K, L. Rm 2-3)

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., Nov 13

8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue., Nov 14

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

Wed., Nov 15

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)
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu., Nov 16

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

Fri., Nov 17

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

Sat., Nov 18

7:00 am I-HELP guests depart
8:30 am Officer Training (FH, K)

Sun., Nov 19

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Christmas Global Market (Patio)
9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
10:30 am Congregational Meeting (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.*