

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY 10:30 AM

From the Pastor

March 8 was International Women's Day. The plight and progress of women the world over will be highlighted and lifted up in prayer. The scripture is Psalm 107 — it was used by our spiritual ancestors as a litany for worship. God's people shared the full range of their emotions with God. This refrain is repeated in similar ways: "Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and God saved them from their distress; God sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction. Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy." We will cry out for safety and justice for women, men, and children worldwide. We will share the cries of our hearts also. Alter-Notes provides music; Anna is liturgist; and JJ & Ziggy model that it is ok to cry.

WELCOMING MINISTRY NEWS

The Church is having a Potluck on Sunday March 24 (Palm Sunday). The congregation is asked to note their intended contribution to this event on the sign-up board in Perkins Hall.

Those planning to attend the Maundy Thursday service March 28 and light meal are asked to bring the food (soup, chili, sub sandwiches) to share together in Perkins Hall. The Welcoming Ministry committee will not be providing food for this event.

Come one, Come all, to our FCC COFFEE HOUSE! Last Friday of every month - TODAY! February 23 - 4 to 6 pm - Perkins Hall - Serving: good conversation, light beverages and snacks, lots of games, music of all kinds, dancing if you want it, and any other creative ideas you can come up with. Please use the Alarcon St door to enter. See you then!

CONTINUING A SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

Sundays, 9:15-10:15, during Lent (Feb 18 – Mar 24, Palm Sunday) in the meeting room downstairs, **up to 3 more participants are invited** to join us to view and discuss

selections from the "Living the Questions" video series.

Topics:

February 25 - - Cherokee Creation Story

March 3 - - Incarnation

10 - - Prayer

17 - - Creative Transformation

24 - - Embracing Mystery

Each session is self-contained, come for one, a few, or all of them!

Questions? and child care needs: Pete Norum at handle32pan@gmail.com.

VIDEO SERIES

"When Black Female Preachers Speak - Seven Important Discussions with Black Female Theologians" A part of our decentering whiteness efforts
(not to mention patriarchy)

The next gathering will be March 22 at noon in the church office conference room. Bring your own lunch / snack and drink.

When black female preachers speak, we should all listen. The insight and intention provided by black theologians illustrate their ability to bring the history of black culture and religious experience into the life of Christians and the liturgical life of the church. For centuries black mothers have passed on wisdom – in the white world, in the black community, and with men. This wisdom has illustrated how God reveals prophetic word and action for Christian living.

We have brought together some important themes coupled with visionary insights from Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglass, Rev. Traci Blackmon, Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, and Bishop Yvette Flunder.

SCAM ALERT! THE PASTOR WILL NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, EVER ASK YOU FOR GIFT CARDS OR MONEY IN ANY FORM!!!!!!

MINISTRY OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES NEEDS ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO HELP TAKE CARE OF OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS – SEE ED ZNETKO FOR DETAILS

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING
RECEIVED IN MARCH**

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

CARING FOR CREATION EVENTS

**ARIZONA POWER AND LIGHT – SACRED EARTH, COMMON GROUND
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 6:00 PM**

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Local artists and musicians celebrate the beauty of creation and inspire our own stories of sacred connections.

Sacred Earth: Common Ground

A Storytelling Event that Connects Us with the Earth and with Each Other.

Sacred Earth: Common Ground is a creative, engaging way to bridge the cultural-political-religious divides that threaten democracy, devastate Creation and divide communities. Our strategy is to take advantage of the bridge-building capacity of the ancient art of STORYTELLING. We believe that “the shortest distance between two people is a story” and “you cannot hate someone whose story you know.”

We invite you to join us as we create a Sacred Earth: Common Ground event in your community. With your help we will invite people from a diversity of perspectives together for a time of personal storytelling about experiences we’ve had standing on Holy Ground. Our definition of Holy Ground is simple: any time or any place where you have felt DEEPLY CONNECTED with yourself (body, mind spirit), with your neighbor, with the wider natural world, with the Divine.

We’ll invite “community artists” to spark our imaginations with a poem, a song, a dance, or a work of art on the theme of “Sacred Earth.” Then we divide people into small, mixed groups, and invite them to tell a 3-minute story about sometime when they stood on Holy Ground.

**INTERFAITH CLIMATE ACTION TEAM
CARING FOR CREATION EVENT – APRIL 25 – 5PM
TEMPLE BRITH SHALOM
PASTOR JAY IS ONE OF THE SPEAKERS**

PASS - PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES

PASS, our local women's shelter, serves as a place for women and children experiencing homelessness. The third Wednesday of every month (**March 20**) our church provides dinner for the guests at the shelter. Meal items are brought to the church parking lot at 5:00 pm and then taken by one of our members to the shelter. Carolyn Christians has taken over this role from Patty Gard. We need new members to sign up to help each month. The sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE ON OUR WEBSITE
FCCPRESCOTT.ORG
UNDER THE RESOURCES TAB – PASSWORD PROTECTED
EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR PASSWORD
fccprescott@gmail.com**

**SATURDAY FAITH FORUM OPEN TO ALL
SATURDAYS AT 10AM ON ZOOM
A NEW TOPIC EACH WEEK - BIBLE, CURRENT EVENTS,
THEOLOGY, ETC.
A LIVELY DISCUSSION
EMAIL PASTOR JAY TO BE ADDED TO THE ZOOM INVITE**

Saturday Zoom Faith Forum... Each Saturday during Lent True Freedom - A New Global Course for Lent 2024

A new global resource from The World Council of Churches and The Clewer Initiative, True Freedom is a six-week course for Lent. It draws on themes from the book of Galatians and encourages individuals and churches to respond to modern slavery in their communities.

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

MARCH MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project. For the month of March, we're supporting **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity**. Seeking to put God's love into action, **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity** brings people together to build houses, communities, and hope. Every donation helps a family build a safe and affordable home and fosters strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

Your contributions are so helpful for these families in need! If your own family has the ability and desire to provide a donation, checks can be made payable to the church with the memo: **PAHFH**.

Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members.

In February, due to your generous support, the Mission Outreach team distributed \$475 to Prescott Community Cupboard from our January collection focus. Thank you! As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Mission Outreach Committee members for 2024 are Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, Roxanne Matthews, Bill Bryant, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – MARCH 28 – 5:30 PM

We will gather on Maundy Thursday for our traditional observance of the Lord's Supper along with a communal meal.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – MARCH 29 - NOON

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31

ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP COMING MAY 18

We did this workshop back in 2016. Participants enjoyed getting to know themselves better and understanding others better. An Enneagram instructor will be leading the workshop. There will be a fee for attending – scholarships will be available if needed.

From The Enneagram Institute:

What is the Enneagram?

Don Riso has defined the Enneagram as “a geometric figure that delineates the nine basic personality types of human nature and their complex interrelationships.” While the Enneagram suggests that there are nine basic personality types of human nature, there are, of course, many subtypes and variations within the nine fundamental categories. Nevertheless, the assertion of Enneagram theory is that these nine adequately map out the territory of “personality types.”

The Enneagram is also a symbol that maps out the ways in which the nine types are related to each other. This is the aspect of the Enneagram most people are familiar with because it offers them a framework for understanding themselves and everyone they deal with. As a psychospiritual typology, the Enneagram helps people to recognize and understand an overall pattern in human behavior. External behaviors, underlying attitudes, one’s characteristic sense of self, conscious and unconscious motivations, emotional reactions, defense mechanisms, object relations, what we pay attention to, our spiritual potentials and much more—are all parts of a complex pattern that forms each personality type. Therapists, business counselors, human resource directors, and spiritual seekers from around the world are all finding the Enneagram to be immensely useful for self-understanding and personal growth. Always remember however, that the Enneagram does not put you in a box; it shows you the box you are in and the way out!

What use is the Enneagram? How can it help me?

The Enneagram can be extremely useful to everyone as a source of self-knowledge because it acts as a kind of “mirror” to reveal features of our personality that normally are invisible to us. Most of the time, people function habitually, as if on “automatic pilot,” according to the pattern of their basic personality type. Usually this allows people to get along well enough in their lives, but when their normal routines break down or the stresses of their lives increase too much, their normal way of coping also tends to break down or become dysfunctional. Seeing clearly what our habitual patterns are—seeing what we are doing and why we are doing it, and at what cost to ourselves and others—holds the key to our liberation. By knowing your type correctly, you are able to see yourself—to “catch yourself in the act”—as you move throughout the day. With this increased self-awareness, you are also able to avoid reacting in negative and potentially dangerous ways.

Once real balance has been restored to the personality structure, the Enneagram can help us to orient ourselves to the higher spiritual and psychological qualities that each type has in abundance. Thus, at its highest, the Enneagram invites us to look deeply into the mystery of our true identity. It reveals that we are not our personality, but something more—a spiritual being who has lost contact with his or her true nature. Living out of this realization shifts completely how we see ourselves, others, and the world, bringing liberation, freedom, and joy. (See pages 27-48 in *The Wisdom of the Enneagram* or pages 11-17 of *Understanding the Enneagram (Revised Edition)* for more about the psychological and spiritual context of the Enneagram.)

FACEBOOK UPDATE

"We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at bafwriter@gmail.com, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com.

SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 8

March 10, 2024

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "It is Well With My Soul"--arr. Lloyd Larson
(organ/piano duet with Carole Sue Linson)

Mark Achuff

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "We Are Singing For the Lord"

Alter-Notes

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy
(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

*Hymn: "God Weeps"

Sing! Prayer and Praise #69

O God, creator of the heavens and earth:

Empower us, move us, bring your justice and equality.

O God: We have come here to carry forward an age-old struggle: the pursuit of economic and social progress for all people, based on respect for the dignity and value of each. We are here to promote and protect human rights and to stress that women's rights are human rights.

Empower us, move us, bring your justice and equality.

O God: The faces of the women who are here mirror the faces of the millions and millions who are not. It is our responsibility to make sure that the voices that go unheard will be heard.

Empower us, move us, bring your justice and equality.

O God: No country can develop if half its human resources are devalued or repressed. Girls and boys must be valued equally.

Empower us, move us, bring your justice and equality.

O God: We want every woman to believe that there are women all over the world who care about her health, who want her children to be educated, who want her to have the dignity and respect that she deserves.

Empower us, move us, bring your justice and equality.

Litany adapted from Worship Service Resources for Celebrating the 4th UN Conference on Women and the NGO Forum by the US Ecumenical Women's Network.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn: "O God, My God"

New Century Hymnal #515

Psalter: Psalm 107 - Anna Siegfried and Alter-Notes New Century Hymnal, page 693

Sermon: "The Cries of Our Hearts"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "One Voice" Barry Manilow

Trio: Brent Argo, Tom Macy, Dave Foote

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"--arr. James Pethel

Mark Achuff

Lenten Doxology (Tune: NCH #17) by Pete Norum (2013)

Mark Achuff

Praise the Creator for each day, thanks for our Guide who leads the way.

Preparation. Meditation.

Bathe in discovery, Spirit led, and live anew in days ahead.

In remembrance. Crucifixion. Easter promise! Resurrection! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Anna Siegfried

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

*Hymn: "Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us"

New Century Hymnal #583

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "O Sons and Daughters"--arr. Lani Smith

Mark Achuff

TREASURER REPORT

Reporting on finances as of February 29, 2024:

Income: \$32,515

Expense: \$31,634

Net income: \$881

Julie McCurdy, Treasurer



Because of You our church changes lives.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PROVIDED ESTIMATES OF GIVING FOR 2024!

SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page - You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street,
Prescott, AZ 86301

Use the QR Code below:





United
Church of
Christ

T: 928-445-4555
EMAIL: fccprescott@gmail.com



First Congregational Church Prescott, UCC | 216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

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