

COMMUNITY CHURCH *of the Verdes*

October 19, 2025



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Time for Centering

This week we continue our sermon series on the Psalms of Ascent—songs the people of Israel sang as they made their way up to Jerusalem for worship. Each psalm in this collection offers a glimpse of the pilgrim life: the journey of faith marked by trust, dependence, and joy in God.

Our focus this Sunday is Psalm 127, one of only two psalms attributed to Solomon. It reminds us that all our work, all our building, and even all our parenting are in vain unless the Lord is at the center of it. “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” This psalm speaks to the futility of anxious striving and the invitation to rest in God’s provision. It teaches us that true security and lasting joy come not from our effort or achievement, but from the gracious presence and blessing of God.

As pilgrims on the journey of faith, we are invited to ask: Are we building our lives around God’s purposes, or are we relying on our own strength? Psalm 127 points us back to the deep truth that every good gift—including our homes, our work, and our children—is a gift from the Lord who provides and sustains all things.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Gather Us In

#284

**Call to Worship*

Pastor: Come, let us worship the Lord our God—

People: For it is God who made us, and we are His.

Pastor: We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

People: We will enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

Pastor: Give thanks to Him and bless His name,

All: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

**Hymn of Praise*

This Is My Father's World

#59

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Prayer Response

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

#306

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

****Congregational Response***

Gloria Patri

#35

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

****Passing of the Peace***

Call to Offering

Offertory

Let Us Build a House with "All Are Welcome" (arr. Larson)

****Doxology***

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

****Prayer of Dedication***

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture

Psalm 127

¹ Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. ² It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil, for he gives sleep to his beloved. ³ Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons of one's youth. ⁵ Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them. He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem *Before You I Kneel (A Worker's Prayer)* (arr. McDonald)

Sermon *"Our Longing for Work"*

Time of Reflection

***Closing Hymn** *O for a World* #683

***Charge and Benediction**

***Closing Response** *Amen* (Walker)

***Postlude**

Music for today's worship includes:

Prelude: Simple Gifts (arr. Woods), In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found) *with* The Solid Rock (arr. Tornquist), God of Heaven (Sorenson)

Time of Reflection: God Will Make a Way (Moen)

Postlude: How Firm a Foundation #618

Trio: Debby Wojtas, Sara Bruton, Jeffrey Stevens

Volunteers assisting with worship today:

Communion Table: Pat Strachan

Badge Table: Nancy Beegle

Fellowship: Fellowship Committee

Flower Committee: Sharon Severson, Diane Spang, Jennifer Ristau, Linda Paulos

Lector: Tom Mulleady

Tellers: Terri Meyers and Ron Lowe

Ushers: Tom Reinarts and Charla Smith

Road Signs: Tom Young and Jared Reisinger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome members and guests! If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by our badge table for a welcome gift. Visit our website www.verdefaith.org for additional information. **Please complete the Fellowship Pad** at the end of each pew; pass it along, and back. **Fellowship is held following worship** in Founders Hall.

Attendance at last Sunday's service was 103; 338 joined online.

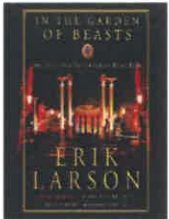
Today's flowers were donated by: Susan Pederson: In memory of her father. And for the beautiful music we hear at church every Sunday.

Stephen Ministers are trained, ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help through a crisis or difficult time. Contact one of our Leaders, Donna Angiolillo, Glenda Hage, Debbie Etcheson, John Pasnau, Dan or Judy Villanueva.

In need of prayers for you, your family, or friends? Contact Joan Brunner at 480-471-7274, or Pastor Steve with requests, or if you would like to serve on the team.

AA meetings are held weekly on Mondays at 8:00 am in the library.

PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) meetings are held every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the library. Questions? Contact Greg & Weezy Smith at lift5800@gmail.com. *Meetings have concluded for the season.*



SPIRITUAL THEME IN LITERATURE

The Spiritual Theme in Literature book discussion will be led by Winnie Leathers and will begin on Thursday, December 11 from 10am—11:30am in the library. The book for December will be *In The Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. All are welcome.



BIBLE STUDY WITH ED CARPENTER

Thursday Bible study with Ed Carpenter will begin this coming **Thursday, October 23rd** in Founders' Hall at 7:30am and 4:00pm.

Both sessions are covering the same material. The subject will be the Gospel of John. All are welcome.



MUSIC NOTES...

Choir rehearsal begins this Wednesday! Choir members and those wishing to join the choir are invited to the first rehearsal of the season this Wednesday, October 22nd from 4:00-5:30pm in the Sanctuary. No audition required. If you have questions please speak with Tom Wojtas or call him at 602-571-0023.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the following dates for Fellowship, Teller and Flower Donations.

Fellowship: All Sundays in November

Teller: One person for November 30th

Flowers: November 2nd and December 28th

Please sign up on the clipboard in Founders Hall, email Tami Burke, Office Manager at officemanager@verdefaith.org, call the office at 480-471-7239 or stop by the office if you are available any of those days. Our church wouldn't be as wonderful as it is without the help of volunteers! Thanks so much!

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS ❤️



This week features our Justa Center volunteers.



MISSIONS

Lunch making and delivery for Justa Center: The third Thursday of the month at 9:00am.

FHCMA Food Closet: toothpaste, canned fruit, Saltine, and Ritz crackers.

Extended Hands Food Bank: non-perishable food items.

Pad Project Ministry: *will resume in the Fall.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry: *will resume in the Fall.*



**save the
family**
FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA

October Mission Drive

This month, we are collecting items for **Save the Family**. Their mission is to help families overcome homelessness and build a secure future in their journey to self-sufficiency.

Please help by donating:

Granola bars

Canned soup

Canned tuna

Canned chicken.

Place items in the Blue Bin in the Narthex or in the church office doorway. Thank you.

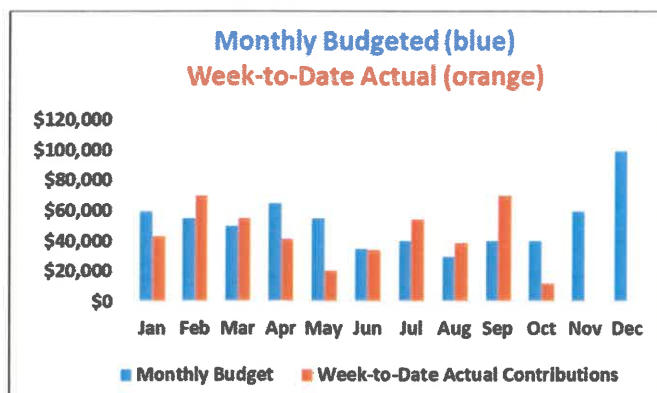


Every
Donation
Makes A
Difference

OPERATING FUND

YTD Actual contributions
through October 19 were
\$442,259

YTD Budgeted contributions
through October 19 were
\$450,000



Thank you for your continuing support!

Please consider these other funds open to special giving in your estate planning...

Legacy Endowment Fund – current balance \$366,320

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to expand and enrich the mission of the congregation, to initiate new ministries or significantly change the scope of existing ministries. No more than 5% of the three year average fund assets may be distributed in any one year.

Memorial Garden Fund – current balance \$480,296

The purpose of the Memorial Garden Fund is to provide for the perpetual operation and maintenance of the Memorial Garden. Established in 1990, the Memorial Garden provides a resting place for the interment of the ashes of loved ones. It is open to current and former members and residents of Rio and Tonto Verde.

Scholarship Fund – current balance \$15,153

The Scholarship Fund promotes scholarships among young people involved in institutions we support through Mission giving. Recipients are chosen from applicants who are demonstrating academic excellence, commitment, and service in or to one of the following non-profit institutions or community: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), NPH (formerly Friends of the Orphans), Sunshine Acres. The Scholarship Fund's sole support is contributions from our members. Donors cannot be related to recipients.

Did you know?... If you are age 70 1/2 or older, you can make a gift from your IRA to support the church. It will not add to your federal taxable income; It counts toward your required minimum distribution, and allows you to experience a tax benefit, even if you do not itemize deductions. You should discuss any such gifts, before making them, with your financial advisor.

The church is very appreciative of gifts from trusts, foundations, and stocks. Occasionally, these gifts are received with no indication of who the donor is. So that we may properly recognize and record the gift, we ask that you either notify the church office or have your financial representative document the donor {and intent} when it is sent to us.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, October 20

8:00am AA Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, October 21

No activities scheduled

Wednesday, October 22

4:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 23

No activities scheduled

Friday, October 24

No activities scheduled

Saturday, October 25

1:00pm Annetta Haack Service (Memorial Garden)

Sunday, October 26

8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary)

9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall)

10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)

11:00am St. Dominic Fellowship (Founders Hall)

2025-2026

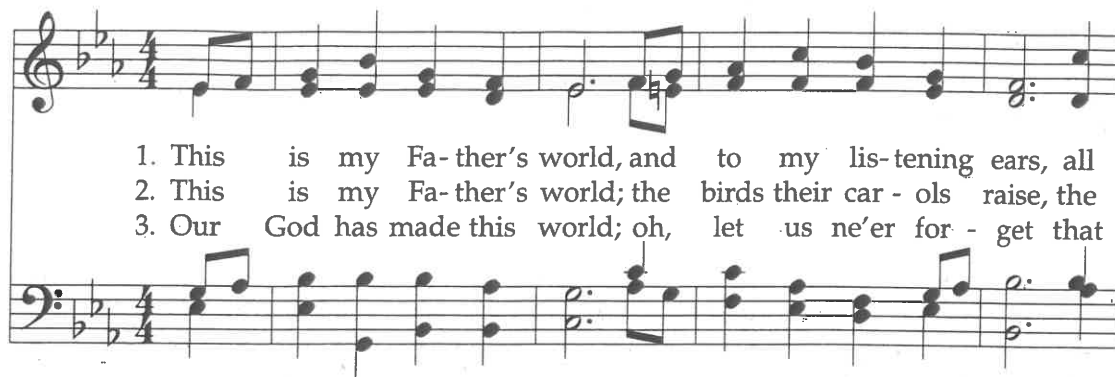
Schedule of Events

- Nov. 17 4pm** “Understanding Both Sides of the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict”
Mike Bussey, Speaker
- Nov. 17 5pm** Fall Dinner
- Jan. 16 7pm** Concert- - Scott Keo Big Band Show
(Michael Buble’ Tribute) ******ticketed event***
- Jan. 26 4pm** “Kindness and the Good Life”
Stephen Swensen MD, Speaker
- Jan. 31 9am** Men’ Retreat – Speaker Pastor Joel Johnson
- Feb. 2 4pm** “How PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Saved My Life”
Kim Humphrey, Speaker
- Feb. 20 7pm** Concert – Yachtzilla
(Hits from the 60’s and 70’s) ******ticketed event***
- Feb. 23 4pm** “Choose Joy: Three Keys the Investing Your Time in Retirement”
Babs Plunkett, Speaker
- Mar. 8 4pm** “Fly Fishing Around the World”
Amy Hazel, Speaker
- Mar. 13 7pm** Concert - Crystal Stark
Celebrating Legendary Women Artists ******ticketed event***
- Mar. 16 4 pm** “The News Media; An Insider’s Secrets to How It Works”
Kerry Sanders, Speaker

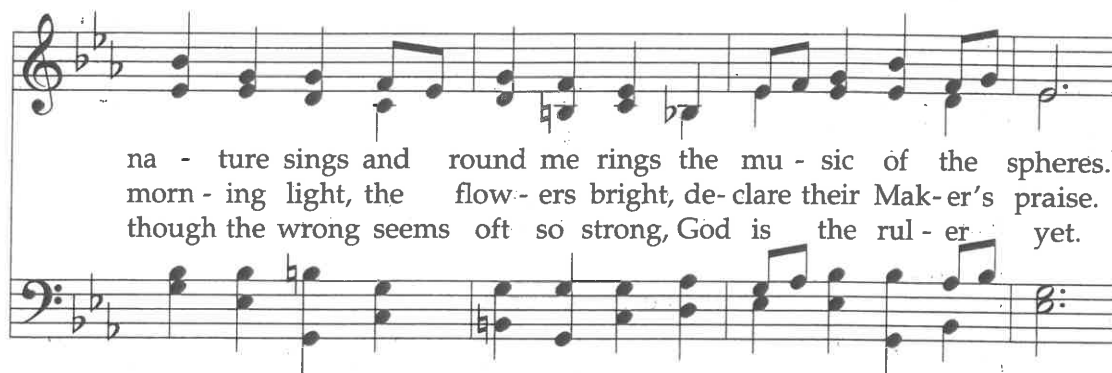
******* All events are in the Sanctuary

This Is My Father's World

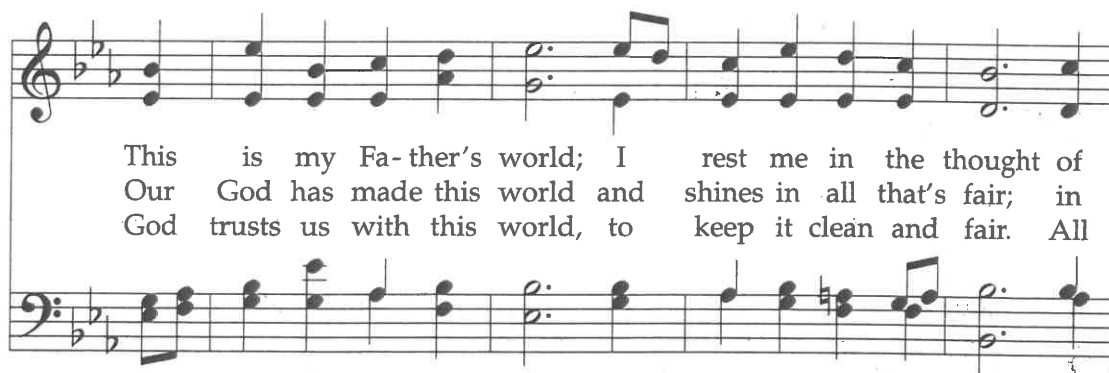
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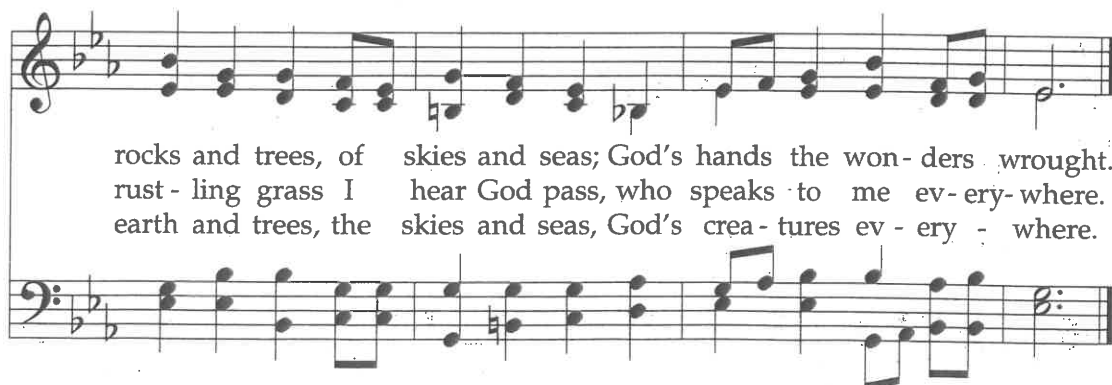
1. This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears, all
 2. This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise, the
 3. Our God has made this world; oh, let us ne'er for - get that



na - ture sings and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the flow - ers bright, de - clare their Mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 Our God has made this world and shines in all that's fair; in
 God trusts us with this world, to keep it clean and fair. All



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; God's hands the won - ders wrought.
 rust - ling grass I hear God pass, who speaks to me ev - ery - where.
 earth and trees, the skies and seas, God's crea - tures ev - ery - where.

WORDS: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901, alt.

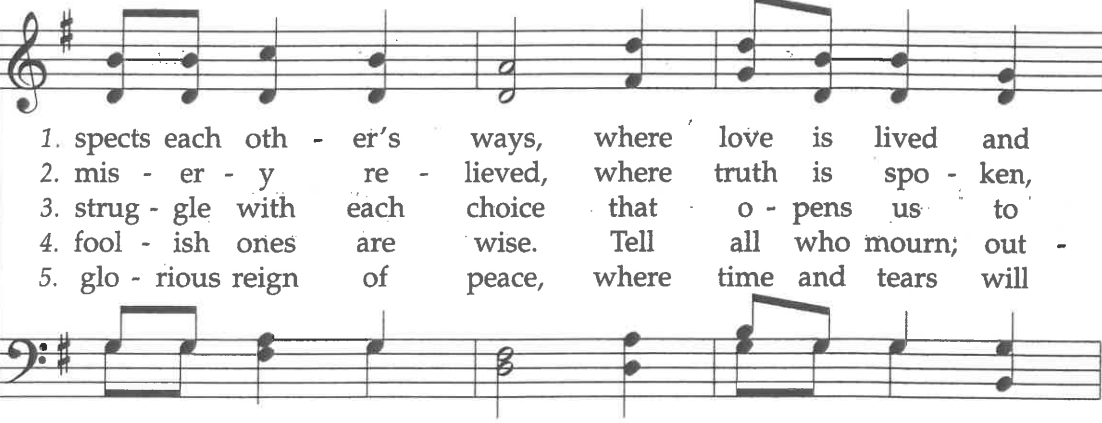
MUSIC: Traditional English melody; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

TERRA BEATA
 SMD

O for a World



1. O for a world where ev - ery - one re -
 2. O for a world where goods are shared and
 3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and
 4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the
 5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's



1. spect each oth - er's ways, where love is lived and
 2. mis - er - y re - lieved, where truth is spo - ken,
 3. strug - gle with each choice that o - pens us to
 4. fool - ish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn; out -
 5. glo - rious reign of peace, where time and tears will



1. all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 2. chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 3. u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 4. casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 5. be no more, and all but love will cease.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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Vision Statement

***To be a Christ centered church that inspires individuals to grow closer to God
and to serve others with loving and compassionate hearts.***

Faith Statement ~ The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Community Church of the Verdes

25603 Danny Lane, Suite 1

Rio Verde, Arizona 85263

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

Friday — 9:00am — 12:30pm

Telephone: (480) 471-7239

www.verdefaith.org

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Beard

Pastor's cell: (732)546-5332

Pastor's email: pastor@verdefaith.org

Director of Music: Tom Wojtas

Office Manager: Tami Burke

A/V Operator: Skyler Evans

Vocalists: Debby Wojtas, Jeffrey Stevens, Sara Bruton

Board of Trustees

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Affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches



We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation



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