

November 23, 2025



ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### Time for Centering

#### Sermon Preview - 1 Samuel 1:1-11

This Sunday we look at the story of Hannah, a woman who brings her deepest sorrow and longing before God in earnest prayer. In her vulnerability and trust, Hannah shows us what it means to pour out our hearts to the Lord. As we near Thanksgiving, her example invites us to bring both our gratitude and our burdens to the God who hears, cares, and responds in compassion.

We can always be grateful because we what we have in Jesus can never be taken away. Jonathan Edwards' first sermon, "Christian Happiness" (preached at age 18), is famous for its three assurances — the three things that can never be taken away from a believer:

#### Your bad things will work together for good.

Because of God's sovereignty and love, even suffering and hardship are used for your ultimate good.

#### Your good things can never be taken away.

Your union with Christ, God's love, your salvation, and your eternal inheritance are secure.

#### The best things are yet to come.

The fullness of joy, resurrection, and life with God await in the world to come.

# Order of Worship

#### Prelude

#### Welcome & Announcements

Introit Here We Gather as God's People

#294

\*Call to Worship

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with

gladness; come into His presence with singing.

People: We come with thankful hearts, for the Lord is God.

Pastor: It is He who made us, and we are His—we are His people and the

sheep of His pasture.

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

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord; bless His name.

People: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His

faithfulness to all generations.

Pastor: Come, let us worship God with gratitude and joy.

\*Hymn of Praise For the Fruit of A

For the Fruit of All Creation #714

Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)

Gracious God, You have called us to live in peace, to pursue holiness, and to wait faithfully for Your return. Yet we confess that we are often distracted and impatient. We seek comfort more than righteousness, and we avoid the hard truths of Your Word. Forgive us for the times we have ignored Your call to be blameless, and for when we have twisted Your grace into excuse. Teach us to count Your patience as salvation, and to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. In His name we pray. 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

A Jubilant Thanksgiving

(arr. Drennan)

\*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

1 Samuel 1:1-11

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Every Day Is a Gift from the Lord

(Besig)

Sermon

"Giving Thanks"

Time of Reflection

\*Closing Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

#715

#### Charge and Benediction

#### \*Closing Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

#446

#### \*Postlude

Music for today's worship includes:

Prelude: The Ash Grove (arr. Wood), Thanks Be to Thee (G.F. Handel), Give Thanks (arr. Hayes)

**Time of Reflection:** There Is a Redeemer (Green) **Postlude:** For the Beauty of the Earth (#56)

Volunteers assisting with worship today:

Communion Table: Elaine Betsch

Badge Table: Julie Dadlani

Fellowship: Vickie Turner and Sue Cole

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

Lector: Rockee Coalson

Tellers: Marilyn Perry and Jerry Baldwin

Ushers: John Pasnau, Carolyn Pasnau and Donna Angiolillo

Road Signs: Ric Doerflinger and Bill Hickman

#### **Ever thought about Becoming a Stephen Minister?**

Community Church of the Verdes will be training another class of Stephen Ministers on January 12—January 23, 2026. Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as grief, hospitalization, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider whether you might want to be a part of this exciting ministry. Watch for a special announcement on <u>Sunday December 7th</u>. If you think you might be interested, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Donna Angiolillo, Debbie Etcheson, Glenda Hage, John Pasnau or Danny and Judy Villanueva.



#### 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 <a href="www.verdefaith.org">www.verdefaith.org</a> 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 258; 79 joined online.

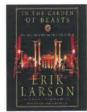
Today's flowers were donated by: Barbara & Steve Rago: Reminiscent of 60 years of marriage.

**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 8:00am 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 <a href="mailto:lift5800@gmail.com">lift5800@gmail.com</a>. Meetings will start again in December.



#### 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 be 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.

#### FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE ...

Call for Board of Trustees Nominations

Dear Church Family,

We are prayerfully seeking dedicated and spiritually grounded individuals to serve on our Board of Trustees. This is a vital leadership role that helps steward the mission, vision, and resources of our church. If you feel called to serve, or know someone whose gifts and character would bless our congregation—we invite you to submit your bio.

Trustees play a key role in:

- Overseeing church finances and property
- Supporting long-term planning and decision-making
- Upholding the values and integrity of our church community

#### Nominees should be:

- Active members of the church
- Committed to our faith and mission
- Known for wisdom, integrity, and collaboration

Deadline for nominations: December 31, 2025 Submit bios/nominations to: Tami Burke, Office Manager at: officemanager@verdefaith.org

Let us continue to build a strong and faithful foundation together. Thank you for being part of this journey!

10 Serve as a board of	irustees wiember, i recommena:

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please tear off page and put in the offering basket or drop off at the office to Tami.



#### 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: Monday's at 1:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry: 2nd Friday of the month @ 9:00am

# November Mission Drive Where Hope Lives



This month, we are collecting items for Where Hope Lives.

They take a Christ-centered approach to addressing the needs of girls aged 4 to 26 who are victims of human trafficking, providing trauma-informed therapy, housing and 24/7 care. They are the largest human-trafficking rescue and recovery operation in North America.

Please help by donating:

New towels: body, hand and washcloths Toothbrushes, floss and body wash

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

#### **Church Directory Show and Tell**

Members, if you would like a step by step slideshow demonstration of how to access our new directory, you are invited to join on <u>Dec 1, 3-4pm</u>. Please register in the office so we are sure to have enough support. Location will be based on response.



Let's decorate the church for Advent and Christmas! **December 5th @ 9:00am.** Volunteers needed to help decorate the Sanctuary and Founders Hall. Sign up after church in Founders Hall. For more information contact: Donna Angiolillo at 845-416-3445.

Email: donnaangiolillo@gmail.com

#### OPERATING FUND

YTD Actual contributions through November 16 were \$520,064

YTD Budgeted contributions through November 16 were \$506,000



Support CCV Ministries & Missions with Online Giving

#### Thank you for your continuing support!

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

#### Legacy Endowment Fund – current balance \$378,952

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 \$482,645

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 \$20,153

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, November 24 8:00am AA Meeting (Library) 2:00pm Art Tour

# **Tuesday, November 25**No activities scheduled

#### Wednesday, November 26 Office Closes at noon 4:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, November 27 THANKSGIVING DAY

# Friday, November 28 No activities scheduled

#### Saturday, November 29 No activities scheduled

#### Sunday, November 30 8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall) 10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary) 11:00am St. Dominic Fellowship (Founders Hall)



# COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Performing Arts Committee** 

Presents

Concerts

All Concerts at 7pm

\$40 Cott Po

Scott Keo Michael Bublé Tribute January 16, 2026



Yachtzilla Classic Soft Rock February 20, 2026

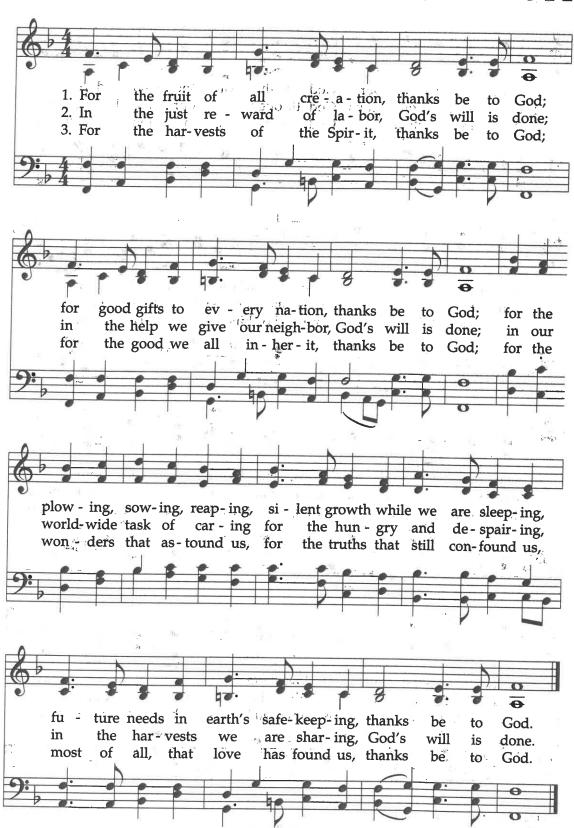
> 3—Concert Bundle \$100



Crystal Stark
Iconic Women Artists
March 13, 2026

Scan for more details

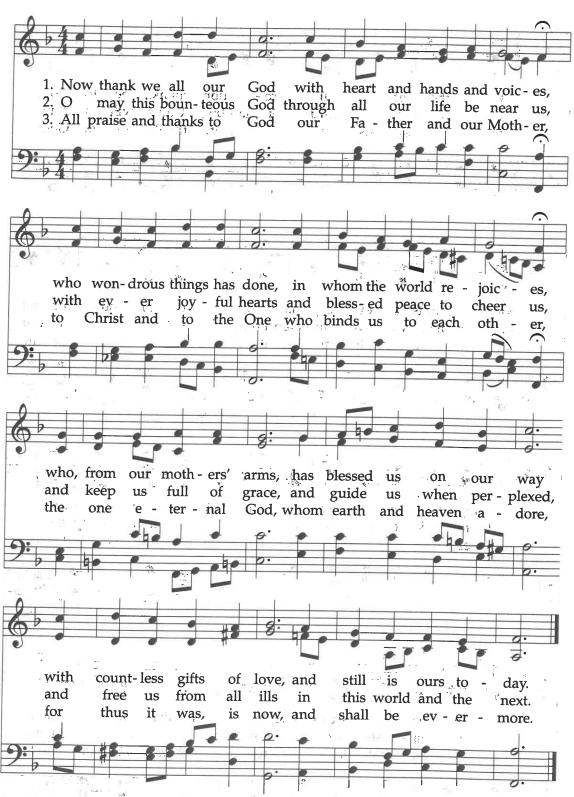




WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970

MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906

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WORDS: Martin Rinkart, 1636; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt. MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

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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

Class of 2026 Jody Anschutz (Fellowship) Gary Etcheson (Facilities) Dan Larson (Finance) Class of 2027 Karla Lalim (President) Nancy Lowe (Mission) Jared Reisinger (Technology) Class of 2028
Pat Peterson (Education)
Nancy Sheppard (Worship)
Julie Peacock (Membership)



Affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Find us on Facebook "Community Church of the Verdes"