The Church of the Palms

God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 15, 2026 **Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost** 10:00 AM

Fear Can Bury Us

Our Church Life		Pastor Mark
Welcome		Pastor Paul
Prelude	*Above All*	Jennifer Hoppe
Call to Worship		Donna Meadows
*Hymn 276	*We Gather Together*	Congregation
Spiritual Reading		Donna Meadows
Anthem	*Put Peace into Each Other's Hands*	Sanctuary Choir
Scripture Reading	*Matthew 25: 14-30*	Pastor Paul
Message	*Faithful, loving service is what is valued*	Pastor Mark
*Hymn 619, vs.1,2,4	*My Life Flows On*	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Paul
Recognition of Clergy		Pastors Paul and Mark
Recognition of Ministry	*Social Justice Team*	Pastors Paul and Mark
Offertory Sentences		Pastor Mark
Offertory Music	*There Is a Redeemer*	Jennifer Hoppe
Benediction		Pastor Mark
*Hymn 354	*Seek Ye First*	Congregation

*Please stand as you are able.

**Communion is available after Worship. Please come forward as you are able; if you are not, please remain seated as we will come to you. The bread for all Communion Services is gluten-free.

Our services are video recorded thanks to a gift in memory of Ramona Schenk. They are posted on social media and our website.

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Our W.I. S. E. Covenant

The Church of the Palms is a WISE Congregation for Mental Health Therefore:

- We commit to create a **WELCOMING** environment for people with mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities and to their families and support persons.
- We commit to **INCLUDE** people with mental wellness issues, challenges, or individuals with disabilities in their life, in the work and leadership of this congregation.
- We commit to **SUPPORT** people with mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities and their families.
- We commit to **ENGAGE** with other organizations that work at the intersection of mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities persons. This includes, but is not limited to: Not-for-profits, Natl/ST organizations, faith/spiritual/religious organizations. We also commit to ENGAGE in continued education for our congregation on these topics.

The Church of the Palms commits to train individuals interested in The **Mental Health First Aid**, a course developed and accredited by the **National Council for Behavioral Health.** Individuals successfully completing this training will wear identifying badges when at church or on church sponsored excursions or events.

Our Open and Affirming Statement

The Church of the Palms, United Church of Christ, welcomes all people into the full life and ministry of our church, regardless of age, race, or gender; personal, mental or physical ability; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; ethnic, cultural or religious background; marital, social, or economic status; or life history. We believe that God loves all People and offers us gifts by our diversity. We affirm families and relationships built on love, respect, responsibility, and trust.

Church Staff and Leadership

Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul A. Whitlock
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Associate Pastor - Rev. Mark Makowski
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Exec Board Chair - Victoria McWilliams
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Faith Community Nurse – Jayne Peak
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8a-1p; Fridays-Office Closed
Address: 14808 North Boswell Blvd
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Please pray for our fellow church families:

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Marlys Davenport, Doris Gott
Lynda Chubbuck, Donna Stenberg
Nancy Tsuchiya, Bonnie Adrian
Andy Jordan, Shari Kanehl
Herbert Turner,
Jane (Everett Leff's sister)
Jennifer Charyk (Ken Barberi's friend)
Sara Shettlesworth (Georgia Feiste's sister)
Alexia Hale, Don Zoss, Richard Campbell
Marcia Hollingsworth
Cyndie Klein (Brandenbergers' friends)
Bob Thompson (John Durbin's brother-in-law)
Eileen (Patti Sutherland's sister)
Danette Jenkins, Mark Miskell
Emily & Kyle Rowe (Chuck & Carrie's children)
Bob Carlson, Heidi Saupe
Robert (Ellen Merchant's son)
Mary Evers, Betty Teeson
Ruth Humes, Anthony Park
Charlie Albrecht (Meri Waddell's brother)
Robert Krazel (David Krazel-Cook's Brother)
Kathy Sanborn
Sue Wilson and her family
Paul Farris (Kay Klinkenborg's brother)

Remember, you can watch today's service again on our website, **thepalms.org** or our **YouTube channel @thechurchofthepalmsaz8373**. If you are interested in becoming a member, our next Visitor Information Session will be on the 4th Sunday of the month, **Sunday, November 22,** right after worship in the boardroom. Your presence with us—whether in person or online—is truly valued and deeply appreciated. We are grateful you chose to spend part of your day in community and worship with The Church of the Palms.

__Pray__ for churches working with migrants and asylum seekers. __Pray__ for our homeless. __Pray__ for our pastors and their families. __Pray__ for the leaders and staff of the Southwest Conference and the National Setting of the United Church of Christ. __Pray__ for the Tent of Nations.



This week, let's pray for the members & ministries of:

All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church
9502 W. Hutton Dr.

Solidarity for Our Indigenous Siblings

The Church of the Palms, United Church of Christ, acknowledges the communities of Indigenous People who first lived in the land of this valley we call home. The particular land on which this building stands was honored and managed with stewardship by Hohokam, the O-odham Jewed and the Pima-Maricopa as well as the diverse vibrant Native communities who make their home here today.

Social Justice Prayer

With sober hearts and ever-deepening breath, we know there's a way for us to hold fast to the shared humanity that crosses time and space. May this conviction in our bellies teach us new ways to pray without ceasing, de-escalate our rage, and turn our hearts towards occupied Gaza yet again. Loving God, remind us of the radical compassion that's ours to share.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER THIS WEEK:

Sunday, November 15
9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR
10:00a Worship Service SA
11:00a Fellowship Hour KH
1:30 p Neighborhood Meditation group CHP

Monday, November 16

Tuesday, November 17
9:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast @George's Café OS
2:00p InSpirit Sacred Reading/Scripture Gathering BR
5:00p AA Big Book Study (closed meeting) BR

Wednesday, November 18
9:00a Needles and Pins Craft Group BR

Thursday, November 19
10:00a Social Justice Leadership Meeting BR
1:00p Choir Rehearsal MR

Friday, November 20—OFFICE CLOSED
9:00a Labyrinth Walk – Transgender Day of Remembrance. LB

Saturday, November 21
2:00p Transgender Day of Remembrance SA

Sunday, November 22
9:00 Choir Rehearsal MR
10:00a Worship Service SA
11:00a Fellowship Hour KH
11:00a New Member Information Session BR

SA=Sanctuary; B2L=Bridges to Learning; HY=Hybrid; KH=King Hall;
BR=Boardroom; OS=Offsite; A=Narthex; CHP=Chapel;
PP=Pastor Paul's Office; MR=Music Room; LB Labyrinth
BRC=Behle Resource Center; MG Memorial Garden



Transgender Day of Remembrance — Saturday, November 21 at 2:00pm

You are invited to gather with us on **Saturday, November 21 at 2:00pm** for **Transgender Day of Remembrance**. This annual observance is a time to honor and remember our transgender brothers and sisters whose lives were lost to violence in the past year.

As a community, we come together in grief, in love, and in commitment to justice. Your presence is a meaningful act of solidarity and care. All are welcome to join in this time of remembrance.

Thanksgiving Day Community Meal

Join us for a free Thanksgiving meal on Thursday, November 26, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to enjoy good food, fellowship, and gratitude as we gather together on this special day.

If you would like to donate a food item or volunteer to help serve, please stop by the sign-up table in the narthex. Volunteer opportunities are filling quickly, so if you'd like to be part of this meaningful ministry, we encourage you to sign up soon!

Perryville Mommy and Me Christmas Party

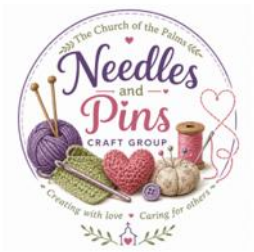


You already donated a lot of wonderful gifts for the children of Perryville women. THANK YOU! If you didn't get a chance to shop for gifts OR want to help provide treats for the party, you still have a chance to help! The prison will allow us to bring small candy canes (4 inches or less--Dollar Store type) and fun or snack size chocolate bars. So please put any of these treat donations in the Christmas wrapped box in the hallway past the narthex. The children will love to celebrate Christmas with sweet treats! Thank you for being the church for these children during this holiday time without their mothers.

Come help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas
Saturday, November 28



Come join in the fun on Saturday, November 28, starting at 9:00 AM. There will be trees to trim, garland to hang, nativities to place, and wreaths to hang. If you are unable to stand for long periods of time, we can find you jobs that you can do sitting down. We will crank up the Christmas tunes and have a great time. Hope to see you there!



As the weather cools, the **Needles & Pins** group has lovingly created several shawls for anyone who may feel chilly during worship. If you would like a little extra warmth, please feel free to borrow a shawl from the basket in the narthex before the service begins.

For the benefit of others, we kindly ask that you return the shawl to the basket in the narthex at the conclusion of worship. Thank you to the talented members of Needles & Pins for this thoughtful ministry of comfort and care.



The flowers today are given by Herbert Turner in honor of the one-year anniversary of the passing of beloved wife, Anneslia Turner.

A place for Notes...

