



Sunday Worship
April 20th, 2025

Easter Sunday



Oro Valley United Church of Christ

Our Mission

We are enthusiastic,
spiritual followers of Christ
practicing inclusive worship of God.

Our Vision

Through covenantal relationships
we promote:

- Benevolence
- Mission and Outreach
- Justice for all

Phone: 520-742-7333

office@orovalleyucc.org

www.orovalleyucc.org

Joyfully an Open and Affirming Congregation

Rev. Drew Terry
Pastor/Teacher

Jose Solórzano
*Music Ministry
Director*

Council Members:

Jose Solórzano
– *Moderator*

Paul Oslund
– *Vice Moderator*

Myra Downing
– *Secretary*

Pari Foster

Charles Kuester

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Drew Terry

Fellowship Hour Hosts Needed - To set up, host, and clean up after fellowship hour. If you are interested in hosting a Sunday, please contact Nancy Weimer.

Usher Volunteer - Usher volunteers are needed to help Sunday mornings set up/prepare the sanctuary for worship and close the sanctuary. Please speak with Warren Weimer for more information.

Savaya Coffee! – Pastor Drew will host coffee hours on April 30 from 10AM to Noon. 11177 N Oracle Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85737.

Mission for Mobility – Join Vera Shury on Monday and Wednesday, 11:30 - 12:15 in the Church Fellowship Hall. It's cool, fun and free! Activities keep us moving and mobile. Vera is a certified coach and congregational health leader. Come try it out!

Grief & Emotional Support – Confidential, one on one, certified, “helping to heal” – submit email anytime to Pari Foster: ovpf1945@gmail.com – responses will be sent M-F / 10AM-5PM

GODLY PLAY at OVUCC (for preschool to elementary age students) - Takes place in our Sunday School Room (Library) off Fellowship Hall. Taught by Jade Terry and Karen Gatlin - Upcoming Spring Session begins April 27 and ends May 18, 2025. Students are signed in and dropped off by their parent or guardian before worship (around 9:55 AM) and remain in class until the end of worship, when they are picked up by their adult(s). Contact Jade or Karen with questions.

Fellowship Lunch – Wednesday May 14th at noon, Pei Wei at Tucson Casas Adobes 633 W Ina Rd, Tucson, AZ 85704. If you would like to join the OVUCC monthly luncheon, please RSVP by contacting Pari Foster at parifoster@gmail.com or 520-283-7662.

Hymn Sing Service – April 27th! – Join us to sing all the Easter Season favorite hymns – do you have one? Let Jose know so we may include it!

† **Passing of the Peace**

(Stand as you are able in body or spirit and wave or send signs of peace and greetings of love to those around you. If you are able, wave to our camera in the back to send peace and love to those at home. For those at home, we invite you to wave back and send a message of peace via text, email or even a phone call to someone in your heart.)

† **Call to Worship** *(Congregation will sing)*

**Surely the presence of our God is in this place.
I can feel Your mighty power and Your grace.
I can feel the brush of angels' wings.
I see glory on each face.
Surely, the presence of our God is in this place.**

Pastor & Congregation will speak responsively: Rev. Drew Terry

One: This is the day that God has made;
 Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
 Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: Out of the doom of death and despair,
 Victory comes, glory appears.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
 Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: We shall live, witness, and recount the deeds
 Of the God whose love endures forever.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
 Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

† **Opening Prayer**

O, Redeeming God,
Like Mary of Magdala weeping at the tomb,
we, too, have witnessed the wonders of Your work with our own teary eyes.
In this hour, O God,
Elevate us in Christ and with the power of the Holy Spirit,
so that others may be awakened through our
preaching and proclaiming the good news:
news of healing, peace, justice, and community for all people. **Amen.**

† **Opening Hymn**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

NCH 233

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Prayer of Transformation and Restoration

Pastor and Congregation

One: God, you call us to step out of the tombs that aim to consume us and more intentionally into the fullness of life that abounds in Your presence.
In stillness and in silence, let us acknowledge the ways we have been separated from
the richness of who You have called us to be.

Moment of silence

**All: We admit that we have not always remembered the creative power of resurrection.
In a world where dreams and joy have been entombed, and chaos is celebrated and normalized, we have not always considered the divine ingenuity at work that calls us toward the ways of peace, love, and hope. Although we may have strayed from the places where we meet You, we trust that not even death can separate us from You and the creative ways You show Your love for us.**

Assurance of God's Grace

Rev. Drew Terry

We know that You can bring us back to life, O God—
That You will meet us in the shadows and remind us that there are no limits to this life.

With the fresh breath of the Holy Spirit, we are revived.

Amen

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith: adapted by Robert V. Moss
(All will recite together with Lay Reader, Nancy Weimer)

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness, declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.

God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at His table, to join Him in His passion and victory.

God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

Order of Baptism

Welcome

P: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**C: There is one body and one Spirit.
There is one hope in God's call to us**

P: There is one Ruler, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

Address

P: Jesus said: Unless we are born anew, we cannot see the reign of God; unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter God's new order. Paul the apostle said: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ's death. We were buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life.

Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united to Jesus Christ and given part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation. Baptism is the visible sign of an invisible event: the reconciliation of people to God. It shows the death of self and the rising to a life of obedience and praise. It shows also the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on those whom God has chosen. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God's people always!

All: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

Questions of the Candidate

Congregational Assent

*(Pastor will ask for the congregation's support of Lynn.
All are invited to respond)*

All: We promise our love, support, and care.

Affirmation of Faith

Prayer of Baptism

Act of Baptism

Question about Participation in the Church

Welcome and Reception

P: Let us, the members of Oro Valley United Church of Christ
 express our welcome to Lynn
 and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**C: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this
 church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we
 share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ.
 By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow
 together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of
 our risen Savior.**

Prayer for Reception of New Member and Community

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Drew Terry

*(If you are writing a check, Payee must read: "Oro Valley United Church of Christ" –
no initials or abbreviations accepted.)*

**The gifts that we bring to this community compound and create
resurrection power, helping us to awaken wholeness in the
broken, strength in the weakened, and liberation for all living in
the midst of injustice. Let us share our generosity with each other
and the community.**

† **Doxology**

Tune No. 809

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving¹

Nancy Weimer, Lay Reader

One: For the wondrous ways this offering will bless this community,
help us nurture caring relationships with our neighbors, and do
our part to liberate all who are experiencing oppression, we
dedicate these gifts.

All: **Let this offering, and the works of our hands and feet, be
the resurrection we need to see in the world.**

† **Scripture Reading:**

Nancy Weimer, Lay Reader

Luke 24:1-12 – P 1642

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Drew Terry

The Mystery and Power of Easter Living

Prayer

*Including prayers you have requested and a Minute of Silence
(During special music time today, you may participate in the post-it prayer request
exchange. You may do so by writing down a prayer on the post-it note provided in
your bulletin, bringing it forward during the special music time, and exchanging it for a
prayer already posted on the board. After prayers are brought forth, we shall join in
singing The Lord's Prayer.)*

¹ <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-c-april-17/>

Special Music “Bethlehem...Galilee...Gethsemane” Jose Solorzano, piano

The Lord’s Prayer

(Congregation sings)

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.

Communion²

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love,
You are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description.
Parent, Beloved Child, and Holy Spirit;
Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,
You are creative and self-giving, generously moving
in all the near and distant corners of the universe.
Nothing exists that does not find its source in You.
Through fear-filled days and aching nights
when the powers of death have done their worst,
Your love has never deserted us.

² From the United Church of Canada

Even when we turn away from You, You are with us;
Your presence never fails us,
Your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise You for Jesus Christ, risen to life, eternal as Your love.
With the women at the tomb, we raise the strain of gladness.

Hallelujah! Life is stronger than death!
The day of resurrection has come, scattering fear and gloom.
And so we rejoice with all Your people of every time and place,
and with angels and archangels,
to proclaim the glory of Your name.

Sung Response *"Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy)"* NCH #793
 Traditional Brazilian

Santo, Santo, Santo, mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: santo eres Dios.
Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores You!
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, God.
(repeat)

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ,
who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers:
 loving what Christ loved
 living what Christ taught, and
 striving to be faithful servants in our time and place.
In this meal we remember Jesus's promises,
and the price paid for who Jesus was, said, and did.

On the night before Jesus died,
he took a loaf of bread,
gave thanks, broke it, and said:

"Take and eat, whenever you do this, remember me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,

"This is my blood, poured out for all in a new covenant, drink this and remember me."

We do remember.

We remember Christ's life of love, friendship, teaching, dying, and rising to life again.

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith.

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit,
we call on You to transform these familiar things,
as You continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community,
we may taste and see Your goodness.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is Yours, God most holy,
now and forever.

All: Amen

Sharing the Meal

Prayer after Communion

**All: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.
We are fed by your love;
we are strengthened by your life.
We are sent forth into this world to live your way and
share your joy.
We are now commissioned to:
feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

† Hymn "Lord of the Dance"

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

REFRAIN:

**Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on. **REFRAIN**

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they
hung me on high,
And they left me there on a cross to die. **REFRAIN:**

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance, and I still go on. **REFRAIN**

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the dance, said he. **REFRAIN**

Benediction³

Rev. Drew Terry

As we go forth, may you be reminded of the creative renewing energy of God.
May you be witnesses of the wonders of God's work in the world through Christ.
May you be reminded of the possibilities of victory and glory
amidst death and despair.
And may God be gracious to you and give you peace.

All: Amen

P: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

P: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

P: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Halleluiah!

† Congregational Response:

Tune No. 840

**God be with you till we meet again,
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you,
God be with you till we meet again.**

³ <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-c-april-17/>

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1 Christ the Lord is - risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

The unknown editor of *Lyra Davidica* wanted music with more movement and spirit than found in the grave, slow-paced psalm tunes, with one note to a syllable. Easter Hymn was among the first of a new popular style.

Tune: EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with alleluias
 Arr. from *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708

Lord of the Dance

Sydney Carter, 1963

19th Century Shaker Tune

Unison G Em Bm Em Am

1. I danced in the morn - ing when the world was be - gun, and I danced in the moon and the
 2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they would not dance and they
 3. I danced on the sab - bath when I cured the lame, the ho - ly peo - ple
 4. I danced on a Fri - day and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that - 'll

D7 G Em

stars and the sun, and I came down from heav - en and I
 would not fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for
 said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they hung
 dev - il on your back; they bur - ied my bod - y and
 nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll

Bm Em Am D7 C *Refrain* G G Bm

danced on the earth, At Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.
 me high; and they left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -
 they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.
 live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Em G Am D G C G D7 G

- ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be, And I'll

C D7 G C G

lead you all in the dance, said he.

19th Century Shaker tune, adapted by Sydney Carter, 1963
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