

COMMUNITY CHURCH
of the Verdes



Easter Worship
April 5, 2026
8:30 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Time for Centering

Easter Sunday — “I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

This morning we gather to celebrate Easter—the day that stands at the very center of our faith and hope. Throughout this season of Lent, we have been reflecting on the “I Am” statements of Jesus, listening carefully to the ways he reveals his identity and his mission. Week by week, these words have invited us to trust him more deeply: I am the Bread of Life... I am the Light of the World... I am the Good Shepherd. Each statement has drawn us closer to the heart of Christ and prepared us for this moment.

Easter is not simply the conclusion of a story; it is the beginning of a new reality. It is the moment when sorrow gives way to joy, when fear is met with courage, and when death itself is overcome by life. The resurrection of Jesus is God’s decisive declaration that sin and death do not have the final word.

In this message, we will explore what it means that Jesus is not only risen, but that he is resurrection and life itself. What does it mean to follow a living Savior? How does the resurrection reshape our fears, our griefs, and our hopes? And what might it look like to live as people of the resurrection in our daily lives?

Anthem *I Am He!* (McDonald)

Sermon *"I Am the Resurrection and the Life"*

**Closing Hymn* *Thine Is the Glory* # 218

**Charge and Benediction*

**Closing Response* *Hallelujah Chorus from "The Messiah"* (G.F. Handel)
All are invited to join in singing the Hallelujah Chorus

****Postlude***

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord,
And of His Christ, and of His Christ;
And He shall reign for ever and ever,
For ever and ever, forever and ever!

King of kings, and Lord of lords,
King of kings, and Lord of lords,
And Lord of lords,
And He shall reign,
And He shall reign forever and ever,
King of kings, forever and ever,
And Lord of lords,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And He shall reign forever and ever,
King of kings! and Lord of lords!
And He shall reign forever and ever,
King of kings! and Lord of lords!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!

Music for today's worship includes:

Prelude: Fantasia for Easter Morning (arr. Whitworth), Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (Neander), Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Beethoven)

The Postlude: Crown Him with Many Crowns (#234)

Volunteers assisting with worship today:

Badge Table: Patrick and Susan Walsh

Fellowship Hosts: Spencer Butts and Lita Hitchcock

Flower Committee: Sharon Severson, Jennifer Ristau, Linda Paulos, Deb Barth

Lector: Nell Bigley

Tellers: Hunter Peacock and Ina Spaeth

Ushers: Terry & Sandy Palmer and Nancy & Ron Lowe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome members and guests! If you are visiting us for the first time, please stop at the 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 immediately following worship** in Founders Hall.

Attendance at last Sunday's worship was 271 in person, 157online.

Today's flowers were donated by: Nell Bigley: In loving memory of Evie and Bill Hoffman.

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

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

PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) Meetings are held every other **Tuesday at 6:30 pm** in the library. **The next meeting will be held on April 7th.**Contact Greg and Weezy Smith at lift5800@gmail.com.

BIBLE STUDY: Thursday Bible Study with Ed Carpenter is held in Founders' Hall at 7:30am and 4:00pm. Both sessions are covering the same material. The subject is Gospel of John. All are welcome.

SPIRITUAL THEMES IN LITERATURE

The Spiritual Theme in Literature book discussion will be led by Winnie Leathers. The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the library@10:00am. The book for **April** is Crying in the H Mart by Michelle Zauner and **May** is Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. All are welcome.

April Mission Drive
Hope Women's Center



This month, we are collecting items for **Hope Women's Center**. They provide physical, emotional and spiritual support for vulnerable women and kids. Please help by donating: **full size, new unopened bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash.**

Items can be placed in the Blue Bin in the Narthex or in the church office doorway. **For easy Amazon ordering**, use the website link and indicate "Community Church of the Verdes" in the gift receipt. Thank you!

MISSIONS



Lunch making and delivery for our friends at the Justa Center continues on the third Thursday of each month in Founders Hall at 9:00 am.



We collect non-perishable food items for the Extended Hands Food Bank. The red wagon is just inside the office door. *No open or expired food items.*



The Pad Project Ministry meets weekly on Mondays 1-3 pm in the Sunday School Room **through May 6.** They make washable, re-usable sanitary pads for girls and women in impoverished areas around the world. These pads keep girls in school every day so they do not fall behind in education. Contact Jean Brabec 480-584-5372.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the second Friday of the month at 9:00 am in the Sunday School Room. The group makes prayer shawls for those in need of comfort. Contact Diane Bronson at 651-261-2492.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, April 06- **Administration Office Closed**

8:00am AA Meeting (Founders Hall)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
1:00pm Pad Project (Sunday School Room)
3:00pm Harmony Committee (Library)
3:00pm Mission Committee (Stephen Ministry Room)

Tuesday, April 07

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
5:00pm St. Dominic (Chapel)
6:30pm PAL Meeting (Library)

Wednesday, April 08

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
9:30am Education Committee (Board Room)
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, April 09

7:30am Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
10:00am Spiritual Theme In Literature (Library)
3:00pm TVGC Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)
4:00pm Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)

Friday, April 10

9:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Sunday School Rm)
9:00am Community Prayer w/Pastor Steve (Chapel)

Saturday, April 11

9:45am St. Dominic Centering Prayer (Sanctuary)

Sunday, April 12

8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall)
10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)

Easter Lilies 2026

Thank you to all who donated lilies to decorate the sanctuary!

<i>Karen Villa</i>	<i>In memory of Tom Villa</i>
<i>Danny Djurich</i>	<i>In memory of the Djurich family</i>
<i>Kathie Sankey</i>	<i>In memory of my father Hal Higgs</i>
<i>Kathie Sankey</i>	<i>In memory of my mother Trudie Higgs</i>
<i>Kathie Sankey</i>	<i>In memory of my sister Marcie Burow</i>
<i>Ron & Nancy Lowe</i>	<i>In memory of Antionette & Vincent Tartaglia, Ralph Lowe</i>
<i>Gloria Johnson</i>	<i>In memory of my loving husband Jim and in honor of my family</i>
<i>Mike & Shelley Peetz</i>	<i>In memory of Max & Lorraine Hanson & Connie Peetz</i>
<i>Grayce Berg</i>	<i>In honor of my husband Ron & son David</i>
<i>Nancy Adair</i>	<i>In memory of Perry Adair</i>
<i>Bucky & Suzanne Distel</i>	<i>In memory of lost loved ones</i>
<i>Scott & Diane Bronson</i>	<i>In memory of our children Julie and Reed</i>
<i>Scott & Diane Bronson</i>	<i>In honor of Jesus Christ our Lord & Savior</i>
<i>Judy Cameron</i>	<i>In memory of my husband Mike Cameron</i>
<i>Ann & Bob Bence</i>	<i>In honor of our grandchildren</i>
<i>Julie & Mark Blake</i>	<i>In memory of June & Verle Blake</i>
<i>Judy Sevier</i>	<i>In memory of my heavenly family</i>
<i>Lynne & Mike Baise/Brytt Boyle</i>	<i>In memory of John & Midge Boyle</i>
<i>Anthony & Donna Angiolillo</i>	<i>In memory of Nick Angiolillo and recognition of the Rio Verde fire department</i>
<i>Wendy Patry</i>	<i>In loving memory of Bill Patry</i>
<i>John Jones</i>	<i>In memory of Colleen Jones</i>
<i>Sharon Hoffman</i>	<i>In memory of Butch Hoffman</i>

<i>Sue & John Cole/Patti Fisher</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>David & Becky Bretting</i>	<i>In memory of Joel & Barbara Bretting</i>
<i>Mary & Mark Streed</i>	<i>In memory of Bill & Mavis Dorsey</i>
<i>Rod & Pat Muilenburg</i>	<i>In memory of Terry DeJong, John Muilenburg</i>
<i>Kim & Julie Dadlani</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>Nancy Sheppard</i>	<i>In memory of my husband Steve Sheppard</i>
<i>Terri Bunker</i>	<i>In honor of my adult children, 7 grandchildren & 4 great grandchildren</i>
<i>Julie & Mark Blake</i>	<i>In memory of Joyce & Stub Goodrich</i>
<i>Margy Lee</i>	<i>In memory of Bill Lee</i>
<i>Jan Needham</i>	<i>In memory of Bill Needham</i>
<i>Rockee Coalson</i>	<i>In recognition of Ed Carpenter's bible study</i>
<i>Joan & Tom Brunner</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>Linn & Mike Swanson</i>	<i>In memory of John J. McCarthy Jr.</i>
<i>Ron & Maggie McMillan</i>	<i>In memory of Fred, Larry and Linda</i>
<i>Donna Peterson</i>	<i>In memory of Jim Peterson, my father, mother, brother & sister</i>
<i>Carolyn & John Pasnau</i>	<i>In honor of our grandson Capt. Hunter Ahlquist USAF on his deployment to the Middle East</i>
<i>Bill & Darcy Reber</i>	<i>In memory of Bill & Betty Reber</i>
<i>Bill & Darcy Reber</i>	<i>In memory of Peter, Jeanne & Richard Warhurst</i>
<i>Bill & Darcy Reber</i>	<i>In memory of David Pless</i>
<i>Lou Gibbs</i>	<i>In memory of Don Gibbs</i>
<i>Carol Horonzy</i>	<i>Blessings of wonderful grandchildren</i>
<i>Matt & Carol Matthews</i>	<i>In memory of Shelby & John Matthews</i>
<i>Laura Spolum</i>	<i>In memory of Bob Spolum husband, father & brother</i>
<i>Rockee Coalson</i>	<i>In honor of my sister's 90th birthday</i>

<i>Weezy & Greg Smith</i>	<i>Happy Easter to all our Rio Verde friends</i>
<i>Barbara Baker</i>	<i>In memory of my husband Buzz Baker</i>
<i>Jane & Al Duffield</i>	<i>In memory of our parents and brother</i>
<i>Linda Shaw</i>	<i>In memory of my husband Gary Bryant</i>
<i>Jennifer Ristau</i>	<i>In honor of my father Allan Ristau</i>
<i>Tim & Mary Adams</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>Norm Walen & Linda Humiston</i>	<i>In memory of Dale Humiston husband & great friend</i>
<i>Tricia Wolber</i>	<i>In memory of Eric Wolber</i>
<i>Mark & Mary Streed</i>	<i>In memory of Christina Rasanan</i>
<i>Steve & Illa Alexander</i>	<i>In memory of Charlie, Verna & Tom Alexander</i>
<i>Missy Leathers</i>	<i>In memory of Cilia Vgkukal</i>
<i>Jim & Mary Ann Campney</i>	<i>In memory of deceased members of Campney/ Fickbohm families</i>
<i>John & Maureen Grazioli</i>	<i>In memory of our parents, Baker and Grazioli</i>
<i>Susan Connors</i>	<i>In memory of Bob Connors</i>
<i>Gene & Janet Baumhover</i>	<i>In honor of Fasshacht family</i>
<i>Gene & Janet Baumhover</i>	<i>In honor of Baumhover family</i>
<i>Jean & Bob Brabec</i>	<i>In memory of our son Dale</i>
<i>Elaine Betsch</i>	<i>In memory of my sister Susan</i>
<i>David & Winnie Leathers</i>	<i>In honor of our sons Derek, Christian & Zach</i>
<i>Bill & Sabra Otteson</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>Nancy Beegle</i>	<i>In memory of my parents, sister Naomi & dog Mala</i>
<i>Paul & Judy Dorwart</i>	<i>In memory of our parents</i>
<i>Diane Spang</i>	<i>In memory of my parents</i>
<i>Ann Marie Alvir</i>	<i>In memory of Gaggiano family</i>

David & Nancy Barnes *In memory of brothers and sisters now with Christ*

Jon & Jackie Williams *In memory of our parents*

Marty Teigen & Karin *In memory of Charles & Mary Chedister and*
Chedister *Charlie and Leatrice Teigen*

David & Lauren Mooty *In memory of Anne Crowley and Bob Liomek*

David & Lauen Mooty *In memory of Ginny & John Mooty*

Nicole & John Atkinson *In memory of Elsie Nelson & Bert Barrington*

Pat Woodford *In memory of Gary Woodford*

Gary & Deborah
Etcheson *In memory of our parents and grandparents*

Chuck & Lois Halberg *In gratitude to God for our children/grandchildren,*
each one a true blessing.

Kathleen & Evans
Richards *In memory of Don & Rosemary Clifford*

Pat & Mary Corrigan *In memory of John, Kay, Kate Amelse Burg*
In memory of Richard Heltne & Bob & Lorraine

Kristen & Scott Johnson *Johnson*

Pat & Mary Corrigan *In memory of Pete, Pat & Diane Corrigan and Erin*
Gaydos Carlisle

Kathleen & Mike Grazioli *In memory of Alice Grazioli, Cathy & Bob Walsh*

Susan & Gary Lundy *In memory of Nancy Miller & Dick Webb and honor*
of Lundy grandchildren/children

Linda Martens & Rob Russo *In memory of Rosemary Martens & Chuck Russo*

Sherri & Dale Roseen *In memory of Morris & Marguerite Paulson*



If you purchased an Easter Lily, you may pick it up in the sanctuary after the St. Dominic service between 11:40 am - 1:00 pm TODAY. Please leave the saucers!

216 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Descant

4. Soar we now where Christ has led, A - le - lu - ia!

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done,
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led,

Fol - low - ing our Head, A - le - lu - ia!

All cre - a - tion, join to say,
 Where, O death, is now your sting?
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,

A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Je - sus died, our souls to save,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise,
 Made like him, like him we rise,

Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.
 MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; desc. Charles H. Webb

EASTER HYMN
 77.77 w. alleluias

RESURRECTION AND EXALTATION

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, A - le - lu - ia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave?
Christ has op - ened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,

The image shows a musical score for three parts. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and melodic lines. The bottom staff is a bass line with chords and a melodic line. The lyrics are: 'Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, A - le - lu - ia! Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply, Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Christ has op - ened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,'

Thine Is the Glory

1. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son,
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb;
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.
 lov - ing - ly he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom;
 Life is nought with - out thee; aid us in our strife;

An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
 let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,
 make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love.

kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.
 for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.
 Bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

RESURRECTION AND EXALTATION

Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quiring Son,

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.



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 Ghost, 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 quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Community Church of the Verdes
25603 Danny Lane, Suite 1
Rio Verde, Arizona 85263
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm
Friday 9:00am-12:00pm
Telephone: (480) 471-7239
www.verdefaith.org

Pastor: Steve Beard
Pastor's cell: (732)-546-5332
Pastor's email: sbear@verdefaith.org
Director of Music: Tom Wojtas
Office Manager: Tami Burke

Independent Contractors:
A/V Operator: Skyler Evans
Vocalists: Debby Wojtas, Jeffrey Stevens, Sara Bruton

Board of Trustees **Class of 2027**

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Affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches



We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation



Find us on Facebook "Community Church of the Verdes"