

**THE CHURCH NURSERY IS OPEN**

The nursery is professionally staffed by the Lullaby Guild, open Sunday mornings, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., and welcomes infants through 3 years old. Ask any host for directions to the nursery.



**Blood Drive!**

- Sunday, June 14, 2026
- 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Bloodmobile will be in the north parking lot
- Appointments are recommended!

Contact **Stephanie Espinoza** at 602-284-1258 or visit [www.donors.vitalant.org](http://www.donors.vitalant.org) (Blood Drive code: firstunited)

**Blue Prayer Cards**

As we pray, we give up control of our life and give it to God. Pray and have patience for the answer as we wait upon the Lord.

**Would You Like to Receive Text Messages from First Church?**

If you'd like to opt into text message news and updates from our church, please contact the office to be added onto the text list!

**Afternoon Book Group**

The Afternoon Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of most months at 1:30 p.m. in the Library. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 26**. The book for May is *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Woods. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.

**4-Week Book Study: *The Alchemist***

Join Pastor David for a four-week journey through *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho—a timeless story about following your dreams, listening to your heart, and discovering the deeper meaning of life's journey.

Together, we'll explore themes of purpose, faith, courage, and the ways God can work through our hopes and longings. Whether you've read the book before or are encountering it for the first time, this will be a meaningful space for reflection, conversation, and connection.

- **Duration:** 4 weeks, Wednesday, May 27 through June 17, 10-11:30 a.m.
- **Book:** *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho (available through your favorite distributor)
- **Format:** Group reading with discussion and guided reflection.
- **Register:** Call the church office at 602-263-5013.

Come ready to share, listen, and grow as we consider how this story speaks into our own lives and journeys of faith.

**Annual Conference Mission Project 2026**

**The Solidarity Fund**

Grounded in our United Methodist call to love our neighbor and seek justice, the Desert Southwest Conference has established a Solidarity Fund to support immigrants facing financial hardship amid increased immigration enforcement.

In many of our communities, detention and deportation leave family members behind. Those families still need to pay rent and other important bills, while they work to understand ways that they will continue to support themselves. Additionally, the fear of detention and deportation is keeping people from work, school, medical care, and essential services, placing immediate strain on families who are already vulnerable.

This fund offers direct, short-term assistance for basic needs such as rent, utilities, food, transportation, and medical expenses. By sharing our resources, we bear one another's burdens and offer a tangible witness to God's compassion and care for immigrants among us. Your generosity is a faithful act of solidarity with our immigrant siblings and neighbors, affirming the sacred worth of every person.

Our May Communion Rail Offering benefits The Solitary Fund to share our generosity in gratitude for God's compassion to others.

*Happening This Week*

**Today**

- 9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary
- 9 a.m. Children's Sunday School (Rooms 220, 221, 223)
- 10 a.m. New Member Class (Wesley Lounge)
- 10 a.m. Jr. and Sr. High Youth Sunday School (Room 103)
- 10 a.m. First Kids Choir (Room 106)
- 10 a.m. The Table Adult Class (Room 116)
- 10 a.m. Faith for Today Adult Class (Centennial Room)
- 10 a.m. Upper Room Adult Class (Epworth Room)
- 11 a.m. Worship - Traditional
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir (Room 106)
- 5:30 p.m. Graduation Celebration (Asbury Hall)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)

**Monday, May 18**

- 8 a.m. Men's Monday Meetup (Not Meeting, until further notice)
- 12 p.m. Admin Prep Group (Conference Room)
- 2 p.m. Covenant Sisters - Monday (Virtual)

**Tuesday, May 19**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga (Room 114)
- 6 p.m. Finance Committee (Epworth Room)
- 6 p.m. Worship Committee (Room 116)

**Wednesday, May 20**

- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)
- 2:30 p.m. Cherub Choir (Room 106)
- 6 p.m. Boy Scouts #41 (Asbury Hall)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)
- 7 p.m. Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:30 p.m. Al-Anon (Room 116)
- 8 p.m. Community Chorus

**Thursday, May 21**

- 9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team (Library)
- 1 p.m. Power Up Lounge with Pastor David (Zoom)
- 4:30 p.m. Yoga (Not Meeting)
- 6 p.m. Praise Choir (Choir Room)
- 6 p.m. Knitty Witty Chain Gang (Wesley Lounge)
- 7 p.m. Compassionate Friends - The Greater Phoenix Chapter #1157 (Centennial Room)
- 7 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)

**Friday, May 22**

- 7 a.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)

**Saturday, May 23** - no church events

**Next Sunday, May 24**

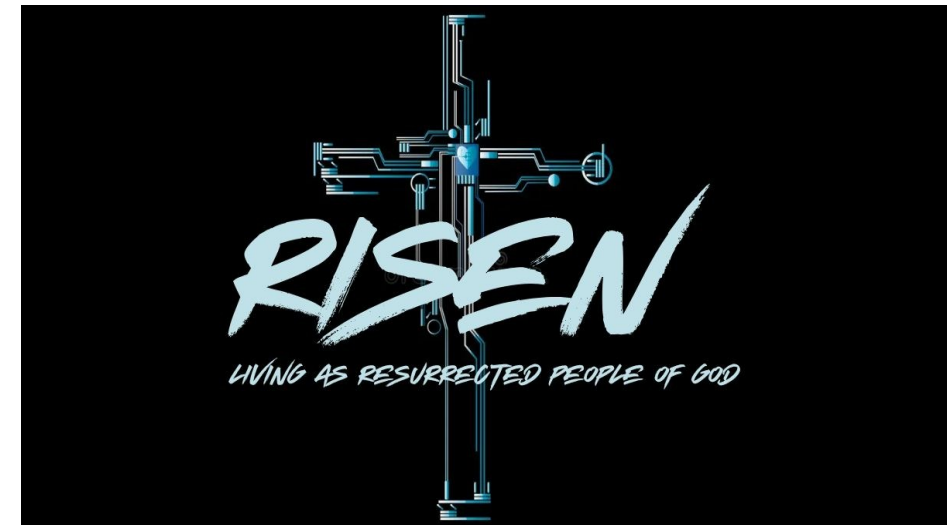
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First United Methodist Church of Phoenix  
5510 N Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
602-263-5013  
[www.firstchurch.church](http://www.firstchurch.church)

First Church is an inclusive community of faith where **ANYONE** can experience the goodness and grace of God.

**May 17, 2026 • 11 a.m.**



\*If you need assistance at any time, please notify a host (usher). They are here to help ensure you feel welcomed and supported.

**Thank you for silencing phones before the service begins.**

**Our Ministry Together**

The ministers of this church are its members; those who assist them are:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Carlo A. Rapanut - Bishop  | Beckie Humphrey - Director of Weekday School |
| Javier Olivares - District Superintendent                                | Russ Morrow - Business Administrator         |
| David Rennick - Senior Pastor  | Cathy Fuentes - Office Manager               |
| Don Campbell - Lay Leader  | Christine Kyhn - Organist                    |
| Joshua Elder - Minister of Music   | Dr. Elizabeth Leyva - Children/Youth Choirs  |
| Sammi Burkhardt - Director of Church Communication, Growth and Marketing | Dan Hawkins - Campus Superintendent          |
| Julie Cochran - Children's Ministry                                      | Geoff Barkley - Morning Custodian            |
| Patricia Magyar - Congregational Care Coordinator                        | Karissa Morales - Evening Custodian          |
|  | Ryan Newberry - Media Booth                  |

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Church Sonata no. 11* W.A. Mozart  
First Church Community Concert Orchestra and Organ

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist: Don Richardson

One: In the presence of God,  
**All: Toes tap to some heavenly chorus.**

One: Tears emerge from a hidden ache.  
**All: Silence descends like a gentle mist.**

One: Joy ascends like a rocket in the sky.  
**All: God is here ...**

One: Glad hearts are refreshed.  
**All: Sorrowing hearts find comfort.**

One: Broken hearts discover healing.  
**All: Searching hearts find home.**

One: Here in the presence of God,  
**All: We are made whole and sing our joyful songs of praise.**

\*OPENING HYMN - No. 68 *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. David Rennick  
(Please register your attendance on the **Church Center** card found in your pew or **Online**.)

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECOGNITION

**Freshman:** Abby Goodman, Colby Rynders, Blake Standridge; **Sophomore:** Christopher Boadu; **Junior:** Ian Elder, Skye Goodman; **Senior:** Josh Boadu, Grace Cooper, Mattie Cork, Morgan Pinkerton, Mary Ellen Shaver; **Graduate Student:** David Whitaker

SPECIAL MUSIC *Te Deum* W.A. Mozart  
First Church Community Concert Choir and Orchestra

PRAYER FOR TODAY Liturgist: Don Richardson  
**Ascended Lord Jesus, you opened the minds of your disciples and filled them with joy as you blessed them and returned to heaven. Open our hearts today to trust your promises and follow where you lead. When we feel uncertain or weary, remind us that you reign with power, mercy, and love. Bless your church with courage to be witnesses of hope and grace in the world. Lift our eyes toward your kingdom and fill our lives with joy, worship, and peace. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Missa Brevis in C* W.A. Mozart  
First Church Community Concert Choir and Orchestra  
Soloists: Katherine Rosenfeld, soprano; Jessica Elder, alto;  
Zachary Stoddard, tenor; Mark Thomas, bass

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 24:50-53* Rev. David Rennick

REFLECTION *Witness to the World* Rev. David Rennick

OFFERTORY *Laudate Dominum* W.A. Mozart  
Dedicated to the memory of Bob Young  
Katherine Rosenfeld, soprano

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. David Rennick

THE 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN - No. 715 *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

\*BENEDICTION Rev. David Rennick

POSTLUDE *Toccata per il Deo Gratias* (Thanks Be to God) G. Martini  
Christine Kyhn, organ

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\*For those who are able, please stand.

### PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION

#### PRAYER QUILT IN THE NARTHEX

A prayer quilt displayed in the narthex this morning is for **Susie Salyers**. Susie is a friend of Susan Sneathen. We invite you to stop, tie a knot, and pray for healing, grace and comfort.

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE

Bonnie Rheame, Susan Secrest, Jim Unsworth, Elizabeth Vick, Selena Alderman, Carolyn Allen, June Becker, Bill Carpenter, Ruth Clark, Mary A. Cooper

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (Celebrating 50 or more years of marriage)

Grier and Carolyn Cooper 5/13 William and Dana Devine 5/22

#### SENIOR MILESTONES (Celebrating 80 or more birthdays)

Jack Sneathen 5/16 Gael Edwards 5/19

Jean Hamsher 5/21 Bonnie Rheame 5/22

#### HOSTS

Stephanie Grainer, Audrey Clayton, and Geoff Boadu

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES

First UMC, Yuma; Fort Yuma UMC; Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma

### WELCOME GUESTS!

Thank you for visiting First Church today. We are so glad you chose to worship with us! Please stop by our **Welcome Table** in the narthex and take a gift bag. We also encourage you to share your contact information so we may formally welcome you. Please complete the **Online** attendance form or the **Church Center** card found in your pew.

### NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON

Sermon Series: *Risen*

Sermon Title: *Spirit-Filled Life*

You're invited to read *Acts 2:1-21* each day in preparation for next Sunday.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE VAN DRIVERS NEEDED

Van drivers are needed during the Annual Conference in Sun City to shuttle delegates to and from parking and the conference. If you are interested in learning more, please email [info@firstchurch.church](mailto:info@firstchurch.church). Various times Thursday through Sunday, June 18 - June 21.

### Pentecost Sunday, May 24

Please join us in wearing **red** to celebrate Pentecost.

### POWER UP LOUNGE WITH PASTOR DAVID

(Online Zoom Gathering)

Join Pastor David each Thursday, **1:00–2:00 PM**, through June 11.

This is a time to connect for support and care, share and prayer, getting a head start on Sunday, and more.

Join the gathering using the link below:

[https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/88689272753?](https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/88689272753?pwd=CR2R5vLbgObdtDbBxfrEL6Z6PhTsT.1)  
[pwd=CR2R5vLbgObdtDbBxfrEL6Z6PhTsT.1](https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/88689272753?pwd=CR2R5vLbgObdtDbBxfrEL6Z6PhTsT.1)

Meeting ID: 886 8927 2753

Passcode: Pastor

## First Church Music Department

Joshua Ian Elder, Minister of Music  
Christine Kyhn, Organ and Piano

### First Church Community Choir

#### Sopranos

Carol Ayraud

Jennifer Barkley

Quinn Bohannon

Carolyn Cooper

Marie Morais Garber

Vicki Hale

Sally Hineman

Nadia Jasso

Nancy Barrett Kaplan

Joanne Lynch

Colleen Lyons

Helen Mark

Mikayla McIntosh

Colleen McManus

Katherine Rosenfeld

Diane VanDyke

#### Altos

Jocelyn De Vries

Emma Jean Elder

Jessica Elder

Katy Fielder

Pamela Goodnight Long

Ellen Hand

Pat Jones

Stephanie Mahan

Deborah McClennen

Brenda Schrader

Jennifer Schwarz

Marilyn Seese

Blake Standridge

Karen Turner

Valarie Vousden

#### Tenor

Nathan Byce

Larron Horton

Crane McClennen

Don Richardson

Jesse Schwarz

Ernie Shaver

Zachary Stoddard

Kate Tinghitella

David Whitaker

#### Bass

Ulises Estrada

Jerry Harbin

Scott Holcomb

Peter Kyhn

Bruce Magata

Don Newsom

Mark Thomas

John Vousden

### First Church Community Orchestra

#### Violin 1

Daga Suchon

Katrina Becker

Luke Hill

Violin 2

Spencer Ekenes

Rebecca Joslin

Jamilyn Richardson

Maria Simiz - cello

Daniel Stotz - bass

Derek Sanchez - trumpet

Malachy Rodriguez - trumpet

Liz Guzman - timpani