

**A Service of Word and Sacrament
for
The Third Sunday of Eastertide
May 4, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.**

**The United Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ**

For Reflection:

What would I give you if it were mine to give? I would give you quiet courage, the steadiness beneath your feet when you face whatever lies ahead on your course through life. I would give you a glad heart, the center of joy, the sense of balance in all you say and do. I would give you the bright vision, the clear view of what you hope, the invitation to keep drawing closer to what you dream. I would give these for they are what I need as well. Quiet courage, a glad heart, a bright vision. These three gifts I will keep praying: for me, for you, for all of us who have set sail on this timeless sea together. May we each have these gifts of the Spirit, in just the right way we need them, at just the moment we need them most. And may they empower us to sail on, sail on toward the light of dawn.

Episcopal Bishop and Choctaw Elder Steven Charleston

WE GATHER

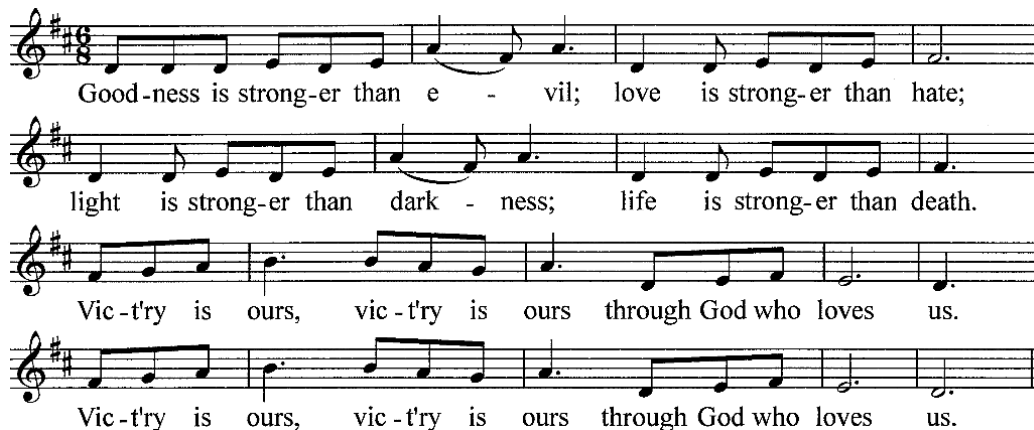
Gathering Music

La fille aux cheveux de lin
Amazing Grace

Claude Debussy
Traditional/arr. Chris Tomlin

*Introit

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil (2x) Archbishop Desmond Tutu/John Bell
(*Please rise in body or spirit.)



Good-ness is strong-er than e - vil; love is strong-er than hate;
light is strong-er than dark - ness; life is strong-er than death.
Vic-t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours through God who loves us.
Vic-t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours through God who loves us.

Tune: © 1996, Iona Community, GIA Pubs., Inc., agent. Text by Tutu; adapt. by Bell; © Desmond Tutu.
Used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-711427

Words of Welcome and Breathing in God's Gifts of Peace, Hope, and New Life

*Sharing the Easter Proclamation from Christian and Navajo/Diné Traditions

"Christ is risen!" ("Risen indeed!") "Beauty is restored again!" ("Restored indeed!")

*Regathering

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil (1x)

Tutu/Bell

Welcoming of Visitors and Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

You Have Come down to the Lakeshore

Cesário Gabaraín

The Call to Worship from the United Church of Christ

Praise God, who brings life out of death and hope out of despair. ¡Alabamos a Dios, quien da vida!

¡Alabamos a Dios, quien da vida!

Praise God, who gathers up the fragments of our lives and creates new possibilities.

¡Alabamos a Dios, quien da vida!

Praise God, who laid the foundation of the earth and all the children of God shouted for joy!

¡Alabamos a Dios, quien da vida!

People of God, come. Shout for joy and sing your praise to God!

*Hymn

332

As We Gather at Your Table (1-2)

Carl P. Daw, Jr./Beach Spring

WE PREPARE

A Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Gracious God,

**gentle in your power and strong in your tenderness,
you have brought us forth from the womb of your being
and breathed into us the breath of life.**

**We know that we do not live by bread alone
but by every word that comes from you.**

Feed our deep hungers with the living bread that you give us in Jesus Christ.

**May Jesus' promise, "Where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I in the midst of them" be fulfilled in us.**

**Make us a joyful community of your people
so that with the faithful in every time and place
we may praise and honor you, God Most High. Amen.**

A Time of Silent Prayer and the Assurance of Grace

*Our Song of Praise

As We Gather at Your Table

Carl P. Daw, Jr./Beach Spring

*Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.*

*(During the song, children through 6th grade are invited to Children's Ministry
with Education Aides Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz.)*

WE ENGAGE

The Good News of John

John 21:4-17

Hymn 173

Tu has venido a la orilla (You Have Come down to the Lakeshore)

Pescador des Hombres

(1st English, 1st Spanish, 2nd English)

Sermon

Seeing with Our Own Hands

Silent Reflection

Musical Response 173

Tu has venido a la orilla
(3rd English, 3rd Spanish, 4th English)

Pescador des Hombres

WE RESPOND

Offering the Gifts God Has Given Us

Offertory

Now the Green Blade Rises

arr. Bradley Ellingboe

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Bless our tithes and offerings, O God, returned to you. Multiply and use them for the sake of our
neighbors, kindred, and all creation. Amen.**

Sharing the Gift of Communion

The Story of this Feast

Welcome to the Table

Body of bread entrusted to us, may we be nourished.

May we share bread so the hungry might be fed.

Cup of life entrusted to us, may we be satisfied.

May we share the cup so the thirsty might be refreshed and renewed.

Jesus' memory entrusted to us, may we be disturbed.

May we share bread and cup so the world may know peace.

The Prayer of Thanks and Blessing

Holy One, God of all peoples and places, God of this table and all tables, we thank for calling us to this feast once again. Through this bread and cup, and through your gifts of community and all creation, you feed our deep hungers, quench our thirst, and give us the courage to do what you call us to do. Hear our prayers of thanks for all your gifts.

(silence)

Ever-present One, you promise to be with us always—in times of joy and sorrow, faith and doubt, when we feel strong and when we need your healing and guidance. We thank you for that abiding presence. Hear our prayers to be open to your wisdom and care.

(silence)

Loving God, you call us out of loneliness into life together. We thank you for this church community, for colleagues and coworkers, friends and family, and all who bless our lives with your love. Hear our prayers for those in need of healing of body, soul, or mind, and those who love and care for them.

(silence)

Compassionate God, your heart is greater than we can imagine. Hear our prayers for this suffering world, for refugees and immigrants, for those caught in the violence of war and those ensnared in the violence of poverty and injustice.

(silence)

God, you see beyond violence to peace, beyond heartache to hope, even beyond death to new life. Hear our prayers to have the courage to see your vision and the commitment to love your world and your people as you so love.

(silence)

Bless now by your Word and Spirit this bread and cup that they might become for us signs of your love and hope for us and for this world. As you offer us these gifts, may we accept your call to offer our lives for the sake of your people.

We pray in the name of the One who gave us the miracle of this feast, who showed us your ways of life over our ways of death, and who taught us to pray to you with boldness, courage and trust saying, . . .

(Please pray any version of the Lord's Prayer.)

The Bread and the Cup

Let All Things Now Living

Irish Folk Hymn/arr. John Helgen

(As your section is called, please come down the aisle to your right. Receive the bread and either dip it into the chalice or take one of the small cups and return to your seat. If you would like a non-gluten wafer, please let the server know. All are welcome to share in the feast.)

Prayer of Thanks

God, we thank you that we are gifts, entrusted to share life; that we are grace, entrusted to be gentle; that we are hope, entrusted to face injustice; that we are holy, entrusted to nurture souls; that we are powerful, entrusted to love and to cherish; and that we can take the journey to new life with confidence in the name of Christ to share, challenge, love, and hope. Amen.

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn	347	<i>Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ</i> (1-2)	Linstead (Jamaica Folk)
*Benediction			
*Musical Benediction	347	<i>Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ</i> (st. 3)	Linstead (Jamaica Folk)

Welcome to the United Church of Santa Fe!

We're glad you have joined us for the Third Sunday of Easter and invite you to join in the life and ministry of United in the coming weeks. For information, please call the church office (505-988-3295) or go to our website (unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Again, welcome and blessings for the 50 Days of Eastertide.

We are delighted to welcome renowned preacher Rev. Peter Marty as our guest this morning in both the 10:00 service and the 11:15 Sunday Forum. Rev. Marty is Editor and Publisher of *The Christian Century*, the flagship journal of progressive Christianity and ecumenical reporting. He also recently retired as the Senior Pastor for St. Paul Lutheran Church, a 3,000-member congregation in Davenport, Iowa. A graduate of Colorado College, Peter received Yale Divinity School's Outstanding Alumnus award in 2023. It is an honor to welcome him to the United Church of Santa Fe.

Peter is also our guest in today's Forum with a focus on ***Being Christian: What Does It Mean, What Does It Matter?***

We also glad to welcome John Helgen, who is Director of Music at Roseville Lutheran Church, an ELCA congregation of 2,500 members in north suburban St. Paul, Minnesota, and classmate of Bradley Ellingboe's from their college days at St. Olaf University.

Also sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Minister; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Dr. Michelle Schumann, Pianist; Louise Cavatta, Liturgist; Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez, with Audio Tech Frank Wilbanks. Many thanks also to the Sacred Space Team; Children's Aides Destiny Muñoz and Maria Navarette; and greeters and ushers Joan and Evan Bauer, Blanca Surgeon, and Pam Hyde (organized by Diane Darby).

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Kids United explore "Community and Collages" in Children's Ministry today.

What Does It Mean to Be a Christian Community in America 2025? **All Church Retreat – Next Saturday, May 10 (8:30 am to 1:00 pm)**

As United looks to the future (and deals with the present), what does our faith call us to do and be as a community seeking to walk in the ways of Jesus the Christ? Join with United Church council and other leaders to explore this question and look with faith to God's future for United. Please sign up today.

FOOD, FUN AND GAMES – SUNDAY, MAY 18

Plan to stay after the 10:00 service on Sunday, May 18 for an All Church, All Ages Lunch and Outdoor Games!
More information to come—but sign up and save the date now!

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – SUNDAY, MAY 18

On the 5th Sunday of Eastertide, we welcome new members into the United Church of Santa Fe. If you are interested in "officially" joining United, please speak with Rev. Talitha Arnold, Moderator Sarah Sawtell, or Discipleship Chair Diane Darby. Thank you!

LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION ***That's Our Goal at the United Church of Santa Fe – in a host of ways!*** More info at unitedchurchofsantafe.org.

Love Neighbor . . .

- Monthly Suppers for Interfaith Shelter, St. E's, and Casa Familia (Pat Roach, 505-988-7357).
- Ukrainian, Palestinian, and Sudanese Refugee Relief and Hygiene Kits through Church World Service
- Navajo/Diné support for Good Shepherd Church in Ft. Defiance, Arizona
- Communities in Schools (started by United Church in 1994)
- Advocacy and basic needs support for immigrants and asylum seekers through our Border Ministries

Love Creation. . .

- *Compost for Creation* (with Reunity Resources)
- *Carbon Offset Program* (with NM Interfaith Power and Light; Tree New Mexico)
- *SF River Cleanup* (with SF Watershed Assoc.) Sat., May 17 (8:30-10:00 am)

Fellowship/Study Groups

Wednesday Women's Study Group – May 7 (10:00 am)

"Faith and Resilience" Bible Study Group – Thursdays (starting again May 8) via Zoom (8:00 am)

Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday, May 14 (10:30 am)

Be the Light—SÉ LA LUZ—One Great Hour of Sharing

This spring (through Memorial Day Sunday, May 25—which is also United's 45th birthday), United invites your support of *One Great Hour of Sharing*, the national United Church of Christ offering to support refugee resettlement, disaster relief, food and small farmer programs around the world and in the U.S. Gifts can also be designated specifically for particular emergencies (e.g., Global food or medical relief, emergency needs for fire/tornado victims or refugees on the U.S./Mexico border). Donate online unitedchurchofsantafe.org, memo: OGHS. Thank you!