

**A SERVICE OF THE WORD**  
for  
**THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

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

**September 22, 2024**  
**10:00 A.M.**

*God is already here.*

**For Reflection:**

Jesus has been hijacked. The very Jesus who stood in his hometown and proclaimed, “The Lord has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor.” The very Jesus who told 5,000 hungry people that all people—not just those in the box seats—would be fed. The very Jesus who challenged the religious orthodoxy of the day by feeding the hungry on the Sabbath, who offered kindness to the prostitute and hospitality to the outcast, who raised the status of women, and who treated even the despised tax collector as a citizen of the kingdom. . . .

The struggle for a just world goes on. It is not a partisan affair. God is neither liberal nor conservative, Republican nor Democrat. To see whose side God is on, just go to the Bible. It is the widow and the orphan, the stranger and the poor who are blessed in the eyes of the Lord; it is kindness and mercy that prove the power of faith, and justice that measures the worth of the state. Kings are held accountable for how the poor fare under their reign. Prophets speak to the gap between rich and poor as a reason for God’s judgment. Poverty and justice are religious issues, and Jesus moves among the disinherited.

Journalist and Ordained American Baptist Minister Bill Moyers  
accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Baptist Churches

**WE GATHER**

*(May the first note of the Prelude be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship.)*

Gathering Music

*Nocturne in E-flat major, Op. 9, No. 2*

Frédéric Chopin

\*Congregational Introit

***Salaam, Salaam***

Manal Samir (adp.)

*(\*Please rise in body or spirit.)*



Sa - laam, sa - laam, the peace of God to ev-ery race. Sa - laam, sa - laam, the peace of God in ev-ery place.

***2. Shalom, shalom, the peace of God to every race. Shalom, shalom, the peace of God in every place.***

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Sharing Our Life and Ministry and Breathing in God’s Gifts

\*Sharing God’s Blessings and Regathering in Song

***Salaam, Salaam*** (1x)

Manal Samir

Breathing in God’s Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

*Jesus Loves Me*

Anna B. Warner/Willaim B. Bradbury



Silent Reflection

Musical Reflection

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*  
(Text: Albert F. Bayly/Daniel Bechtel)

Welsh Melody/arr. Karen Marolli

*Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We your servants bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.  
Still your children wander homeless, still the hungry cry for bread.  
Still the captives long for freedom, still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.  
Though as children oft we've wandered, placed our trust in power and might,  
Left behind our brothers, sisters, God still calls us into life.  
As we worship, grant us vision 'till your love's revealing light,  
In its height and depth and greatness, dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving, your abundant life to share.  
When we offer food and comfort, grasp our neighbor's hand in love,  
Tread the path of truth and justice, God still walks with us in life.*

### WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer and the Prayer of Our Savior *(Please pray any version of the Lord's Prayer.)*

### WE GO IN PEACE

\*Hymn 391

*In the Midst of New Dimensions* (1, 3-5)

Julian Rush

\*Benediction

\*Musical Benediction

*Kyrie Eleison* (3x)

Ukrainian Orthodox Church

*Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie Eleison.*

*Soli Deo Gloria—To God Alone the Glory.*

### WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We're glad you've joined in worship this morning and hope you found both the service and community engaging and enriching. Please join in the weeks ahead as together we "love God, Neighbor, and Creation." For more information about United, please visit our website [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Again, welcome!

### We Invite Your Morning Offering

Your morning offering, along with regular pledges, makes possible the abundant life and ministry of the United Church. As you leave, please take a moment to leave your offering in the Community Room plates. Thank you!

Sharing worship leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Dr. Jacquelyn Helin, Guest Pianist; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; the Sanctuary Choir; Elizabeth Young, Violinist; Blanca Surgeon, Liturgist; Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez and volunteer Frank Wilbanks. You were greeted by Louise Cavatta, Blanca Surgeon, Alan Surgeon, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Sunday Aide Luis Zapata.

### Children's Ministry

Guided by Andrea Gonzales and Maria Navarette, children are invited to check out the Children's Garden, harvest produce for Santa Fe Shelters, and then explore God's psalms of praise. They can also stay with their parents in the Pray-ground at the back of the Sanctuary.

### Sunday Forum: *What Did We Learn from Roots? And Where Do We Go from Here? Today (11:15 am)*

Over the course of seven different events last weekend, over 400 people in person and another 400 online heard the story of Roots, the Palestinian Israeli initiative in the West Bank committed to non-violence, understanding, and transformation. In the Sunday Forum today, let's take time to share what we learned from Mr. Noor A'wad and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger—and where their witness and wisdom might lead us. All welcome!

### **Summer Food (and Finance) Drive for the Food Depot – LAST DAY!**

Another way to “love neighbor” is to make a monetary donation to the Santa Fe Food Depot today! Every dollar donated enables the Depot to buy \$4 worth of food. Leave a check in the offering plate (memo: Food Depot) or go online to [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Today is the deadline for donations. Thank you!

### **HELP OUR FELLOWSHIP TIME BE ECO-FRIENDLY**

The paper goods we use for the fellowship time are compostable, so when you’re done, please put them in the compost bin in the Community Room. Reunity Resources turns them into great compost. Thanks!

### **MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE “ROOTS” VISIT AND PROGRAMS!**

Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who made last weekend with Roots such a rich and impactful time—and to all of you for welcoming our guests so warmly.

### **Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday (10:30 am)**

We say the Lord’s Prayer on a regular basis, which means it can become just rote—but scholar John Dominic Crossan challenges us to engage the prayer’s revolutionary message. The Pretty Good Guys welcome all men to join them in their exploration of Crossan’s *The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Lord’s Prayer*. (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 10:30 - 12:00)

### **Resiliency and Hope: Strengthening Our Souls – Thursday Mornings (8:00 am) via Zoom**

Explore *The Gospel of Mark* with Talitha Arnold and United members and friends across the country. Sign up at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com) or speak with Talitha for more information.

### **JAZZ PIANIST ANDY KINGSTON – NEXT SUNDAY IN 10:00 WORSHIP**

We welcome jazz pianist Andy Kingston as our guest in the 10:00 service next Sunday for a service of gospel, jazz, and spirituals. It’s a great day to invite friends and neighbors to United!

### **WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – Next Sunday, September 29**

Next Sunday, 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 or Moderator Sarah Sawtell. Thank you!

### **Next Sunday Forum – Kits for Gaza and Ukraine**

Take time after next week’s worship services to help assemble 100 hygiene kits to send to Church World Service for persons of all ages who have been impacted by the wars in Gaza and Ukraine. All welcome!

### **LOVE CREATION**

#### **United’s Carbon Offset Program Addresses Climate Change (and Climate Disasters)**

Mitigate the carbon you put into the air through United’s “Carbon Offset Program” that supports climate advocacy of *NM Interfaith Power and Light* and hands-on work of *Tree New Mexico*. When you fly, donate \$4 for every hour in flight. If you drive, it’s \$4 per 1,000 miles. More info at: [unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care).

#### **Compost Collection—It’s a Miracle!**

United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (food waste, meat scraps, etc.) into rich, life-giving compost. Pick up compostable garbage bags at the church (**NO** standard plastic bags, please), fill them at home, and bring them back to put in the green bin by the Children’s Garden. More things in compost bins means less in landfills. Thanks!

#### **Ask the Animals – Pet Blessing and Outdoor Worship**

##### **St. Francis Sunday – Oct. 6**

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you,” Job told his friends who had come to help him in his troubles. (Job 12:2) Given the less-than-helpful advice those friends offered (i.e., that his suffering was due to his sin), it’s no wonder Job turned to God’s other creatures for solace and wisdom. It’s a perfect text for our annual Pet Blessing. Bring your critters (on a leash, in a carrier, or as a picture). Invite your friends and their critters, too!

#### **Adult Forum: A Solar Tour – Sunday, October 6 (11:15 am)**

From the adobe Trombe wall in United’s original sanctuary to the multitude of windows throughout the building to the solar panels and EV car charge outside, United Church has relied on the power of the sun to reduce our carbon footprint and “love God by loving Creation.” We invite you to take a “solar tour” inside and outside United, as we join in the “Great American Solar Tour!”

### **Christian Nationalism: Is It Sacred or Secular? And Its Implication for America**

#### **Zoom Webinar – Tuesday, September 24, 7:00 pm**

Christian nationalism weaves its way through the fabric of American identity, influencing contemporary debates on governance, community, and inclusivity. Understanding its origins and impact is a critical endeavor. The Santa Fe Distinguished Lecture program presents an opportunity to explore the historical underpinnings and current implications of Christian nationalism. All welcome. Register: [tolerancestudies.org](http://tolerancestudies.org).