A Service of the (virtual) Word
for
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 17, 2022

The United (even apart) Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ

WE GATHER

Introit
Over My Head

Welcome and Breathing in God’s Gifts

Musical Call to Worship
There Is a Balm in Gilead

The Call to Worship (congregation in bold)

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

Praise God, who gathers up 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
O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

WE PREPARE

A Prayer of Invocation from Howard Thurman

O Holy God,
open unto us
light for our darkness,
courage for our fear,
hope for our despair.

O loving God,
open unto us
wisdom for our confusion,
forgiveness for our sins,
love for our hate.

O God of peace,
open unto us
peace for our turmoil,
joy for our sorrow,
strength for our weakness.

O generous God,
open our hearts
to receive all your gifts,
to be the people you need us to be,
to do the work you need us to do. Amen.

A Time of Silent Prayer

Our Song of Praise
Ubi Caritas

Taizé
WE ENGAGE

The First Story of Jesus Healing Someone

Mark 1:21-28, 32-34

Then Jesus y los cuatro discípulos went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered la sinagoga and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the religious leaders. Just then there was in su sinagoga a man with an espíritu inmundo (unclean spirit), and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesús de Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, el Santo de Dios.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Silencio, and come out of him!” Y el espíritu inmundo, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “¿Qué es esto? (What is this?) A new teaching—con autoridad (with authority)! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once su fama (his fame) began to spread throughout the surrounding region de Galilea. . . .

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him todos los que estaban enfermos (all who were sick) or possessed with demons. Y toda la ciudad (And the whole city) was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out muchos demonios (many demons); and he would not permit los demonios to speak, because they knew him.

Sermon

What Does the Bible Really Say about . . . Mental Illness and Suicide?

Silent Reflection

A Musical Response

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Moses Hogan

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Prayer of Our Savior

(In the time of silence after each intercession, you are welcome to lift up—aloud or in your heart—the names of those you hold in prayer.)

God of all mercy,
From whose love nothing can separate us, we pray this day for all persons dealing with mental illness and those who love and care for them.

Especially this day, we pray for all whose lives have been touched by suicide, for those who have died by suicide and those who have attempted it.

(silent prayer)

We pray for those who, because of mental health challenges such as depression, PTSD, or bipolar disorder, live with thoughts of suicide.

(silent prayer)

We pray for those in despair or without hope because of poverty or discrimination.

(silent prayer)

We pray for families and friends, colleagues and co-workers, who have been touched by the suicide of a loved one.

(silent prayer)

We pray for counselors and therapists, psychologists and psychiatrists, for social workers and lifeline volunteers, for pastors, rabbis, priests, and imams, and for all who seek to help.

(silent prayer)

And we pray, too, that you might give us the courage and wisdom to be there for others in distress, to offer your love and our care, to help break the silence and change the conversation about suicide, to be your listening ear, your hands, and your heart for others.

(silent prayer)

We ask all this in the name of the One who reached out to those who were hurting and offered healing and hope, comfort and courage, your love and understanding—and who taught us to pray together with boldness, courage, and most of all, trust, saying . . .

(Please pray any version of the Lord’s prayer)
WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH!

We’re glad you’ve joined us for worship and invite you to join in other ministries and programs of the church. Please go to our website (unitedchurchofsantafe.org) for more information. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister; Louise Cavatta, Liturgist; a host of musicians, and Media Technician Elijah Marquez.

We Invite Your Offerings

We invite you to offer your tithes and gifts by going to unitedchurchofsantafe.org and clicking on the “donate now” button. Your financial support of United makes possible this church’s work in the community and the world.

UNITED CHURCH YOUTH GO TO CAMP!

In the in-person service, we will bless four United Youth as they leave for Senior High Youth Camp with the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ in La Foret, Colorado. Please keep them (Derek Darby, Makayla Darby, Bailey Gordon, Jace Gordon) and United’s Director of Youth Ministries Kate Murphy in your prayers this week!

Resiliency and Hope: What Does the Bible Really Say about . . . All Kinds of Things?

Thursdays at 8:00 am – Zoom (please register at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)

Join in the exploration of the scriptures for the upcoming Sundays and help inform the sermon 😊. All welcome!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
(Youth Minister Kate Murphy: unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com)

JULY LIVE! 2022
(Thursdays 5:30 to 7:00 pm)

United’s weekly outdoor evening program includes a simple supper and a lot of fun:

July 21 – Bubbles, Bubbles, Bubbles  August 4 – Outdoor Games

Come each week or just when you’re in town. Grandchildren and friends always welcome!

Middle and High School Youth
Thursday, August 11 at United (7:15 to 8:30)

Encourage your kids to join with other United Youth—and friends—for summer fun! Led by Kate Murphy and volunteers, they’ll play ice breaker games, then have a music night (create/update a youth songbook).

“Lightning Boy Hoop Dancers” at United – Friday, July 29 (7:00 pm) – For All Ages!
The event features tribal youth from northern New Mexico. The Hoop Dance continues to be known as a healing art form and is said to have its origins in the Pueblos of Northern New Mexico. Bring a lawn chair, a friend, and enjoy this unique New Mexico offering! You can also pack a picnic supper and come early. It will help if you sign up, too :-) (unitedchurchofsantafe.org)
Pushing the Re-set Button
Small Group Opportunities this Summer

At this point in the pandemic, says church consultant Jerry Henry, “local churches are way past pivoting.” Instead he affirms, congregations all across the country “have to push the re-set button and determine what their life and ministry will look like going forward. What do they need to do and be in order to be faithful to God’s call in this time and in this world?”

Jerry Henry, a former Methodist minister and graduate of Yale Divinity School, has worked with churches of all denominations and all locations, so he knows what he’s talking about. He’s also a good friend of United’s, who helped us develop a major endowment campaign a decade ago that enabled us to weather the financial upheaval of the last two years.

This summer, we’ll use Jerry’s wisdom as a plumbline for looking to United’s future. In the coming weeks, we invite you to join in one of multiple small gatherings (10-12 people) United is offering through August to share what have learned from the past 2½ years—and what God might be calling us to be about as a church as we look the future.

All gatherings will be outdoors or in the Community Room or Education Wing. For persons who aren’t comfortable meeting in person, we’ll also offer a Zoom alternative. United’s covid protocols will continue. We’ll also provide childcare as needed.

Several dates and times are listed below. We hope you’ll join in! Please register through the office (505-988-3295, unitedchurchsf@gmail.com), and when you register, if you are flexible in your dates, please give us the possible ones. Thank you!

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, July 31</td>
<td>11:15 to 12:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 3</td>
<td>4:00 to 5:30</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 7</td>
<td>11:15 to 12:45</td>
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<td>Wednesday, August 10</td>
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<td>Thursday, August 11</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 14</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 16</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 23</td>
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Summer Drive for the Food Depot

The Food Depot supplies schools, shelters, and agencies throughout Northern New Mexico with healthy food year-round. To help, bring any (or all) of these items to the church and we’ll do regular deliveries: jumbo-size containers of canned vegetables and fruit, pasta, and rice for group meals; family-size packages, especially high-protein foods (dried beans, canned meats, meat-containing foods such as chili con carne, soups, stews); baby foods (powdered formula, dry cereal, jars of baby food); and diapers. Monetary donations also welcome. The Food Depot stretches every dollar! Make checks to United Church or go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org (memo: Food Depot). Thank you!

At United, we seek to “LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION” in a whole lot of ways.

From supporting our Diné/Navajo sisters and brothers to providing relief resettlement for Afghan, Central American, and Ukrainian refugees to feeding hungry people in Santa Fe and helping persons recovering from New Mexico’s devastating fires to composting waste into life-giving compost, United seeks to love our neighbors and God’s creation in all kinds of ways. Go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to find out more!

As you take to the hills or desert or wherever you go this summer, please take time to update your pledge! We may go on vacation, but the electric and water companies don’t. Your up-to-date pledge helps keep the church in the black through the summer. (Prepayment on your pledge would be even more appreciated.) Thanks!