A Service of the Word
For the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 14, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.

The United Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ

For Reflection:

Faith is not the clinging to a shrine but an endless pilgrimage of the heart.
Abraham Heschel, Rabbi and Scholar

WE GATHER
(As you enter the Sanctuary, please turn off your cell phone and enter into a time of silence so that you and others can let the music lead us into communion with God’s beauty and power.)

Gathering Music
 Theme from Liebestraum No. 3 in A-flat Major
Franz Liszt

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
Jamaican Folk/arr. John Carter

*Introit

Come All You People
Alexander Gondo

(*Please rise in body or spirit.)

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker.
Come now and worship the Lord.

Come all you people, come and praise the Most High . . .

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Words of Welcome and Breathing in God’s Gifts

Blessing of Students and Educators

Musical Call to Worship

Come All You People (vs. 1)
Alexander Gondo

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!

¡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 4

Joyful, Joyful (1-3)
Henry van Dyke/Hymn to Joy

WE PREPARE

*Prayer of Invocation

Eternal One,

Silence from whom our words come;
Questioner from whom our questions arise;
Lover of whom all our loves are hints;
Disturber in whom alone we find our rest;
Mystery in whose depths we find healing and ourselves;

Enfold us now in your presence;

restore to us your peace;
renew us through your power;
and ground us in your grace. Amen.
*A Time of Silent Prayer

*Our Song of Praise

Joyful, Joyful

Henry van Dyke/Hymn to Joy

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began.
*Boundless love is reigning o’er us, reconciling race and clan.
*Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
*Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.

WE ENGAGE

What Does the Bible Say about Sex? (Part 2)

Readings from the Hebrew Bible

Deuteronomy 22:5

Una mujer (A woman) shall not wear la prenda de un hombre (a man’s garment), nor shall un hombre put on the cloak de una mujer, for whoever does these things is una abominación to the Lord your God.

Isaiah 56:1-5

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain la justicia, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.
Do not let el extranjero (the foreigner) joined to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely separate me de la gente (from the people);” and do not let el eunucos (the eunuch) say, “I am just a dry tree.”

To los eunucos who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast mi pacto (my covenant), I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and un nombre (a name) better than sons and daughters; I will give them un nombre eterno that shall not be cut off.

Readings from Christian Scripture

Paul’s Letter to Galatians 3:28

There is neither judío ni griego (Jew nor Greek), there is neither esclavo ni libre (slave nor free), there is no masculino o femenino (male and female,) for you are son uno (all one) in Jesucristo.

First Letter to the Corinthians 14:33-36 [attributed to Paul, but modern scholars dispute that]

[As in todos las iglesias (all the churches) of the saints, mujeres (women) should be en silencio in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate, as la ley (the law) also says. If there is anything they desire to know, let them ask sus maridos (their husbands) at home. For it is shameful for una mujer to speak en la iglesia (in church). Or did the word of God originate with you? Are you the only ones it has reached?]

Paul’s Letter to the Romans 16:1

I commend to you nuestra hermana (our sister) Phoebe, un diácono (deacon) of the church at Cenchreae.


Then un ángel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (Este es un camino salvaje.) (This is a wilderness road.)

So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunucos, a court official of the Candace, reina of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated en su carro (in his chariot), he was reading el profeta Isaías.

Then el Espíritu said to Philip, “Go over to this carro and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading el profeta Isaías. Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.... As they were going along the road, they came a un poco de agua; and el eunucos said, “¡Mirar! ("Look! ¡Agua! What is to prevent me from being baptized?

Sermon What Does the Bible Say about . . . a Whole Passel of Questions about Sex?

Silent Reflection

Musical Reflection Jazz Improvisation Andy and Nathan Kingston
WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer

Gracious God, Creator of heaven and earth and our Creator,
your hands formed the first stars and the tallest mountains,
your hands carved out the depths of the sea and filled it with life,
your hands shaped the canyons and the deserts, and every plant and animal,
your hands fashioned and made us,
We thank you for the blessing of all creation and our creation.
God in your grace,
hear our prayer.
You clothe us with skin and flesh,
knit us together with bones and sinews,
and give us senses to delight in the taste, touch, smells, sounds, and sights
of this world and our own being.
We thank you that we are wondrously made.
You give us also the gift of sexuality and of intimacy.
We thank you for such gifts, and we pray your guidance to use them wisely,
with care and love for others and for ourselves. God in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
We pray this day for all whose sexuality is used against them,
for those who are oppressed or excluded because of their sexual orientation or identity,
for children and adults who are trafficked and exploited by the greed and abuse of others,
for those who live in places where it is not safe to be who they are.
Protect all your children, whatever their orientation or identity, age or race.
Let them know they are created in your image. God in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
Hear all of our prayers, O Lord, spoken and unspoken. Remind us that you are the One who listens and
hears. Help us to be a people who also listen and hear. Help us listen to one another as kindred in your
human family. Help us listen to your Creation. Most of all, help us listen to your Word in our lives, a word
made flesh in the life of the one we know as Jesus the Christ, in whose name we offer our lives and prayers
to you, speaking to you with boldness, courage, and trust the prayer that he has taught us. . . .
(Please pray any version of the Lord’s Prayer)

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

Blessing for a New College Student (and their family)                Madelyn Kingston
*Closing Hymn                                      82               Go, My Children               Welsh Melody/Ar Hyd y Nos
*Benediction                                      *Musical Benediction

Kyrie Eleison (3x)                  Ukrainian Orthodox Chant

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WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH!

We’re glad you’ve joined us for worship this morning 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 Pastor; Jessie Lo, Pianist; Andy Kingston, Jazz Pianist; Nathan Kingston,
Saxophone; Madelyn Kingston, Liturgist; Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator.

Today we bid Godspeed to Madelyn Kingston as she heads to Carleton College (Minnesota) to start her freshman year.
Please keep her and her family (Carolyn, Andy, and Nathan) in your prayers in this time of transition.
We Invite Your Offerings
As you leave the service, we invite you to offer your tithes and gifts in the offering plate by the entrance. Your financial support of United makes possible this church’s work in the community and the world.

Children’s Ministry Sunday Mornings
United’s children and youth tend the Children’s Garden during Sunday worship and learn about God and God’s earth, water, air, and creatures. All welcome! (Adult volunteers welcome, too! Please let Talitha Arnold or Kate Murphy know.)

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<th>Push the Re-Set Button – Small Group Gatherings</th>
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<td>In the pandemic’s third year, the challenge for churches isn’t to pivot but to re-set—our understandings of our ministries and the call to be God’s church. What are the values and faith we hold fast? Join with other United members and friends in small group conversations. Sign up at <a href="mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com">unitedchurchsf@gmail.com</a>. If you are flexible in your dates, let us know that, too. Thanks!</td>
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<td>TODAY! August 14 (11:15 to 12:30)</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 21 (11:15 to 12:30)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 16 (12:00 to 1:15)</td>
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Drop-in for Choir Next Sunday!
All singers (youth and adults) are invited to come at 9:00 to rehearse a simple anthem and then sing in the 10:00 service. Interested? Please contact Dir. of Music Bradley Ellingboe (unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com).

42nd Annual Meeting of the United Church of Santa Fe
Sunday, August 28 at 11:15 am (In-person and Live-streamed)
Join in—either in person or live-stream via Zoom—the 42nd Annual Meeting of the United Church of Santa Fe Sunday, Aug. 28, after the 10:00 outdoor service. We’ll give thanks for our life and ministry, recognize outgoing Council members, elect the new Council, and look to the future. Please register for either in-person or live-stream by noon on Friday, Aug 26. Link: https://youtu.be/WYeIto6M49Y. Annual Reports will be emailed and print copies available, too.

LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION
Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!
Go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.

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: jumbo-size containers of canned vegetables or fruit, pasta, rice for group meals; family-size packages, especially high-protein foods (dried beans, canned meats, chili con carne, soups); baby foods (powdered formula, cereal, jars of baby food); diapers. Monetary donations also welcome. (memo: Food Depot)

United’s Shelter Dinners Feed Homeless Persons and Support Santa Fe Businesses
Since 2020, United has supported Santa Fe’s homeless shelters and local businesses and also kept people safe by providing weekly meals from Felipe’s Tacos and “Mucho Gourmet” for the Interfaith Shelter and monthly meals for St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia. Your donations make it possible! (memo: “Shelter Dinners.”) Thank you!

Supporting Our Diné/Navajo Brothers and Sisters
Your financial support for Covid relief work (food and cleaning supplies) and masks continue to make a difference. Donations are sent to United’s long-time partner, the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, in Fort Defiance, Arizona.

KITS FOR UKRAINE
Since February, United has raised over $20,000 and assembled 450 Church World Service hygiene kits for Ukrainian refugees. As the war continues, the need continues. You can help with monetary donations to help CWS buy supplies (food, diapers, etc.). Also, please spread the word to friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family. Thank you!

LOVE CREATION
Care for Creation and Offset Your Carbon Use
United’s “Carbon Offset Program” helps plant trees and change policies to address climate change. It’s simple to do: Track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to NM Interfaith Power and Light and Tree New Mexico. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/post/unitedscarbonoffsetprogram.

Compost Collection – It’s a Miracle!
United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (e.g., 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 back to put in the green bin by the Children’s Garden. More things in the compost bin means less in the landfill. Info at reunityresources.com or call Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700). Thanks!