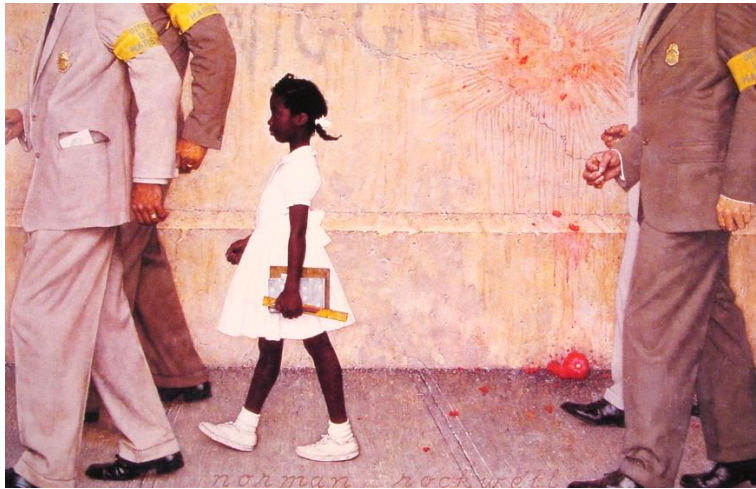


**The Second Sunday of Epiphany**  
**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday**  
**and the Eve of the Inauguration**  
**January 19, 2025**



On the first day of school, Ruby and her classmates entered the building surrounded by Federal Marshals to protect them from the angry crowd that had gathered. The police could keep the crowd from using physical violence, but they couldn't protect the children from verbal abuse. Day after day, the six-year-old Ruby walked through a crowd that called her every profanity imaginable. Threats against her and her family were an everyday occurrence. Ruby quit eating for a while because one heckler threatened to poison her and her family.

Every evening when she went home, Ruby would pray for those abusing her. She would even pray for them while she was walking to school, through the crowd. She did this, she told me, because "Christ told me to do it. Christ told me to forgive these people because they don't know what they're doing."

A Story from the desegregation of New Orleans public schools, 1958

**Children of Crisis, Robert Coles**

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**THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE**  
**A United Church of Christ**

**For Reflection:**

I still believe that standing up for the truth of God is the greatest thing in the world. This is the end of life. The end of life is not to be happy. The end of life is not to achieve pleasure and avoid pain. The end of life is to do the will of God, come what may.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Sermon preached in Montgomery, Alabama,  
during the Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1957

**WE GATHER**

*(May the Prelude be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship. Please silence your cellphone and/or watch.)*

Gathering Music

\*Congregational Introit

***This Little Light of Mine***  
*(\*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

African American Spiritual

***This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. . . .***  
***Shine it all around the world, I'm gonna let it shine. . . .***

Sharing of Our Lives and Breathing in God's Gifts

\*A Song of Regathering                      *This Little Light of Mine* (st. 1)                      African American Spiritual

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

The Musical Call to Worship                      *Let Justice Flow Like Streams*                      Jane Parker Huber/St. Thomas

The Call to Worship from Trinity United Church of Christ (Chicago, Illinois)

Beautiful are the works of God!

**Beautiful also are the skins of God's people!**

Beautiful is the mind of God!

**Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!**

Beautiful is the heart of God!

**Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!**

God made the heavens and the earth!

**To God be the glory for the things God has done.**

\*Hymn                      2                      *Glory, Glory* (1-2, 5-6)                      African American Spiritual

**WE PREPARE**

A Prayer of Invocation from the United Church of Christ

Jesus said, "You ought always to pray and not faint."

God of grace and glory, help us not to pray for easy lives;

**but pray to be stronger women and men.**

Help us not to pray for tasks equal to our powers,

**but for power equal to our tasks and your work.**

So that the doing of your work in our world will be no miracle—

**but our openness to you and your power will be the miracle.**

And every day we will wonder at ourselves and the richness of life

**that has come to us by the grace of God.**

A Time of Silent Prayer

The Assurance of God's Presence

\*Our Song of Commitment    454                      *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* (st. 1)                      African American Spiritual  
*(During the hymn, children through the 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to Children's Ministry.)*

**WE ENGAGE:  
GOD'S WORD, MARTIN'S WITNESS**

A Word of Introduction

The Gospel of Love                      The Evangelist Matthew 5:43-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Lord in heaven; for God makes the sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same?"

From "Loving Your Enemies" (Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, 1957)

Silence

Hymn                      454                      *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* (st. 2-3)                      African American Spiritual

The Gospel of Witness (the lives of the Hebrew Prophets and the Apostle Paul)

From "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (Alabama, April, 1963)

Silence

Hymn                      454                      *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* (st. 4)                      African American Spiritual

The Gospel of Hope

The Prophet Amos 3:28

Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

The Prophet Isaiah 40

Every valley shall be lifted up and mountain and hill made plain,  
And all flesh shall see it together.

Galatians 3:28

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.  
There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;  
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

From "I Have a Dream" (March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, August 28, 1963)

Silence

Musical Response

*We Shall Overcome*

U.S. Traditional

The Gospel of Peace

The Prophet Isaiah 2:1-1-4

In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.  
Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us the way  
and that we may walk in God's paths." . . .

And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

From "A Christmas Sermon on Peace" (Ebenezer Baptist Church, Christmas Eve, 1967)

Silence

Hymn

*We Shall Overcome*

U.S. Traditional

*We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace, we shall live in peace someday.  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall live in peace someday.*

The Gospel of Humility

The Evangelist Mark 10:37-38

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

From "The Drum Major Instinct" (Ebenezer Baptist Church, February 4, 1968)

Silence

Hymn 409

*Give Me Jesus*

African American Traditional

Silent Reflection

Musical Response

*This Little Light of Mine*

African American/arr. Moses Hogan

## WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Gracious God, we thank you for leading us to this time of worship, here to experience your Word through scripture, song, and poem, here to remember how it has blessed us throughout our lives.

We thank you for the ways your Word has guided us and empowered us to do your work in the world. In this time of prayer, we ask again for your guidance and power to do that work.

*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.*

We thank you for all the people—poets, preachers, and prophets, friends and family, teachers and colleagues, our kindred in this faith community—who have offered us your Word, sharing your story with us, teaching us to sing your songs, calling us to your service, reminding us always of your love—for us and for this world.  
*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, . . .*

We pray for those who need your Word for the healing of body, soul, or mind, and for those who need your Word and our care as they walk through the valley of the shadow.  
*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, . . .*

We pray for those who need your Word of justice and mercy to overcome greed and indifference.  
*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, . . .*

We pray for our nation—for your Love to drive out our fear, your Light to dispel our clouds of anger and violence, your Word to overcome the discourse of hate and division. We pray, too, that all who aspire to leadership might have Rev. King's vision of a nation healed and infused with hope.  
*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, . . .*

And we pray for ourselves that you might strengthen our commitment to let your Word become flesh in our lives and throughout your world.  
*It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, . . .*

We pray all this in the name of Jesus the Christ, your Word made flesh, who showed us your ways of life and taught us to pray to you with boldness, courage, and most of all trust, saying. . . .  
*(We conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Please pray any version.)*

Sharing our Gifts

*Piano Offertory*

## WE GO IN PEACE

Blessings and Godspeed

Makayla Darby

\*Closing Hymn

*We Shall Overcome*

U.S. Traditional

*We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome someday.  
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall overcome someday.*

*We'll go hand in hand, . . .*

*We are not afraid, . . .*

\*Benediction

\*Musical Benediction

*We Shall Overcome*

U.S. Traditional

*Our God shall see us through, . . .*

*We shall overcome, . . .*

\*Postlude

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

We're glad you're here! Your presence enriches worship for all. Thank you for turning off your cell phone. Again, welcome!

We welcome jazz pianist Andy Kingston in worship! Also sharing leadership; Rev. Talitha Arnold, Minister; Bradley Ellingboe, Dir. of Music; Yasmeen Lookman, soloist; Sanctuary Choir; Liturgists Pam Hyde and Ken Bordner; Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator, with Frank Wilbanks; Greeters Louise Cavatta, Blanca Surgeon, Kimberly Zeilik, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Luis Zapata (Sunday Aide).

### **Kids United – Celebrate Rev. Dr. King and Learn the Importance of Peace**

Throughout his life, Jesus showed God's light and love through his love for other people and for God's creation. United's children learn Jesus' story and how they can share God's love and light, too! All welcome!

### **Adult Forum: Somos Un Pueblo Unido Today (11:15 – Education Wing)**

United's Immigration and Refugee Task Force hosts *Somos Un Pueblo Unido* to provide information on the challenges immigrants and refugees face in the new administration—and how we can respond, individually and as a church.

### ***New to United? Like to Learn More?***

### **Newcomer Gathering Today (11:15 – Learning Center)**

All newcomers (however you define the term :- ) welcome! It's a chance to find out about United and meet new friends.

## UNITED CHURCH SUPPORTS CALIFORNIA FIRE RELIEF

The devastating fires throughout southern California have left many people homeless, destroyed thousands of schools, places of worship, and businesses. The United Church of Christ, both nationally and through local California congregations, is providing both emergency relief to those in need (regardless of faith or background) and will help rebuild communities and lives. United Church of Santa Fe invites your donations (online: [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org); by check, memo: "California Fire Relief") to be sent to the Southern California Conference of the United Church of Christ. Thank you.

### *I Have a Dream – Zia Singers Concert*

**Today, Sunday, Jan. 19 at 3:00 pm**

Cristo Rey Catholic Church, 1107 Cristo Rey St.

The Zia Singers, under the Artistic Direction of John Tirrano, present music inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. and concepts of peace and love. For tickets and information: [www.TheZiaSingers.com](http://www.TheZiaSingers.com).

### **Groups This Week – All Welcome!**

Wednesday, 10:30 am – *Pretty Good Guys* explore *The Greatest Prayer*

Wednesday, 7:00 pm – *Sanctuary Choir* ([unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com))

Thursday, 8:00 am – Zoom Study of the *Gospel of Mark* (register: [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com))

Friday, 9:30 am – *Chop and Grate* to make casseroles for Santa Fe's Shelters

### **Adult Forum Series: *Reading Bonhoeffer in 2025 America***

**Sundays 1/26, 2/2, 2/19 & 3/2 (11:15)**

This Forum series continues with a documentary about Bonhoeffer's life and work and turns to Bonhoeffer's essay, *After Ten Years*, his account of German fascism and what its resisters learned. Handout available in the Community Room.

### ***Facing the Future with Faith: United's Challenges and Opportunities Ahead***

**Sunday Forum – February 9 (11:15)**

In the Covenant of the United Church of Santa Fe, we promise to give ourselves to the "challenges and opportunities" of our life and ministry together. 2025 has a mixture of both, including the challenge of significantly increased insurance and accountant expenses and the possibility and opportunity of a full-time Director of Family, Children, and Youth Ministries. United also has a long history of building on faith, hope, and love. This forum is a chance to hear about some of those opportunities and challenges as we face the future with faith. All welcome!

**At United, we seek to "Love God, Neighbor, Creation" in a whole lot of ways. . . .**

Support for California Fire Relief, hope for Ukrainian, Gazan and Sudanese refugees, reducing our carbon impact, emergency funds for our Diné/Navajo neighbors, and more! [Unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://Unitedchurchofsantafe.org) has ways to help. Thank you!



**FEBFEST25**  
**FEBRUARY 8TH**  
**8:30AM-4:00PM**  
**Choral Worship**  
\$65 in-person/\$25 virtual  
**4:00PM**  
**Free Community Concert**

Hosted by  
**The United Church of Santa Fe**  
and  
**Coro Lux-Chorus of Light**



**DR. BRANDON BOYD**  
Conductor and  
Composer



**CECILIA WEBB**  
Host of KUNM's  
"Train to Glory"



**AMY OWENS**  
Vocal Technique  
Soprano