

**A Service of the Word
for
PENTECOST SUNDAY
and
MEMORIAL DAY SUNDAY**

May 24, 2026 – 10:00 A.M.

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

For Reflection on Pentecost Sunday

My ancestors said that the Spirit gave every creature on Earth a special gift. Bears have great strength, eagles can soar to great heights, deer can run at great speed through the forest. And what about us, what about human beings, what is our gift? Vision, the ancestors said, the ability to see both what is now and what is coming to be. We can see the future and adapt to it: that is our gift. The tribe of the human beings survives because we adapt to change. We do not have to fear the future. We only have to adapt to it to live in safety. Thanks to the Spirit that is our gift, that is our skill, and that is our hope during these days of a new and emerging reality.

Choctaw Elder and Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston

WE GATHER

Gathering Music/Prelude

*Sonata in D
Holy Spirit*

Baldassare Galuppi
Torwalt/arr. Keveren

*Congregational Introit

Every Time I Feel the Spirit (2x)
**Please rise in body or spirit.*

African American Spiritual

***Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.***

Welcome and Breathing the Gifts of God's Spirit

*Sharing the Gifts

*Regathering in Song

Every Time I Feel the Spirit (1x)

African American Spiritual

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

Come, O Holy Ghost

Andreas Osiander

The Call to Worship from the Prophet Joel

Hear the word of God: In these last days, I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh,
and our sons and our daughters shall prophesy!

Our young people shall see visions, and our old ones shall dream dreams,
and our sons and our daughters shall prophesy!

And whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved,
and our sons and our daughters shall prophesy!

*Hymn

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Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Doris Akers

WE PREPARE

Musical Call to Prayer

Come Holy Spirit

Rabanus Maurus (9th c.)/arr. M. Mauldin

A Prayer for the Spirit of Pentecost

Come, Holy Spirit, renew the whole creation. Send the wind and flame of your transforming life to lift up the church in this day. Give wisdom and faith that we may know the great hope to which we are called. Grant us the power to dream dreams and see visions. Give us the courage to turn our dreams into deeds and our visions into life for all creation. Amen.

Silent prayer

Affirmation of God's Grace

*Our Song of Praise

From All That Dwell below the Skies

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, by every tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*(During the hymn, children in 5th grade and younger are invited to Kids United.
Childcare is also offered for Pre-K's, toddlers and infants in the Nurture Center.)*

WE ENGAGE GOD'S WORD

The Story of the First Pentecost (**cong. bold**)

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-18, 43-47

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were devout people from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages, we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "**What does this mean?**" But others sneered and said, "**They are filled with new wine.**"

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: "People of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old ones shall dream dreams.
Even upon those enslaved, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.'

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number.

Hymn 289

Come Forth, O Love Divine

Bianco da Siena, 1400's/Down Ampney (Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906)

Sermon

What Does This Mean?

Musical Reflection

Holy Spirit, Rain Down

Fragar/arr. Keveren

WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (*please pray any version familiar to you*)

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Come Holy Ghost

Lambillotte/arr. DeVries

Prayer of Dedication

God of all peoples and places, when you pour out your Spirit, amazing things can happen. So we pray, pour out that powerful Spirit upon these gifts and upon our lives so that the miracle of your love and compassion can be made real in this world. Amen.

WE GO IN PEACE

*Hymn 181

You Are Salt for the Earth (v. 1-3)

Marty Haugen/Bring Forth

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

You Are Salt for the Earth

Marty Haugen/Bring Forth

*We are a blessed and a pilgrim people: bound for the reign of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland: love is the City of God!
Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace;
Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!*

Soli Deo gloria – To God alone the glory

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. Your presence enriches the experience of us all. We also invite you to join in our education and service offerings in the week ahead. Again, welcome!

We welcome Rev. Benjamin Larzelere as our guest preacher this morning. Ben is a retired Lutheran Pastor, who served Santa Fe's Christ Lutheran Church for almost 40 years. He and his wife, Bev, have both been leaders in the wider Santa Fe community through their commitment to Jesus' way of justice and love. They joined the United Church of Santa Fe in 2013 but had been supporters and encouragers of this congregation since United first gathered in 1979.

In addition to Rev. Ben Larzelere, sharing leadership are Michelle Schumann, Pianist/ Director of Music; the Sanctuary Choir, directed by André García-Nuthmann; Dana Bender, Director of Family Ministry. Liturgists to be announced. You were greeted by Ministers of Hospitality Dana Hollifield, Marcia Gardner, Louise Cavatta, and Pam Hyde. Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez does the livestream with assistance from volunteer Bill Whitney.

Kids United – Today

Children of any age are invited to join in a science experiment/lesson about Pentecost to learn about the Holy Spirit using dry ice(!) with Family Ministry Director Dana Bender and Children's Ministry Assistants Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz.

Adult Forum: VIDA (Volunteers for Immigrants in Detention – Albuquerque) – Today (11:15 am)

Kelly McCloskey-Romero shares the work that VIDA and the Deportation Defense Team of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (NMILC) are doing at Cibola County Correctional Center in Milan and at Torrance County Detention Facility in Estancia. Kelly is the coordinator of VIDA and a legal assistant for the Deportation Defense Team at NMILC.

Rev. Talitha Arnold is away through this Wednesday, May 27, visiting family. Office Administrator Lin Raymond is away on vacation through this Tuesday, May 26. The church office is closed tomorrow in honor of Memorial Day. Family Minister Dana Bender will be in the church office Tuesday, May 26. If a pastoral need arises, please call the church office (505-988-3295) or the Caregiver on Call (Cheryl Haskin, 503-351-6561).

A Spirit-filled Creation | A Multicolored Pentecost! – May 31

Tongues of fire are one symbol of God's Spirit, but so are water, wind, doves, light, and other gifts of the created world. We continue our celebration of God's spirit being poured out on this whole world as we give thanks for a Spirit-filled Creation.

LOVE NEIGHBOR, CREATION

PRAYING IN THE DIRT AND FEEDING HUNGRY FAMILIES

United's Children's Garden has expanded, both in square footage and meaning this summer. All produce will go to the Santa Fe Food Depot that provides nutritious food to individuals and agencies throughout Northern New Mexico. You can help United kids feed other kids (and their parents) by volunteering to help the kids plant and/or take a week of watering, weeding, or harvesting during the summer. Sign up today in the Community Room. For info, please contact Dana Bender (602-570-9709).

What Are Biblical Values? – Pretty Good Guys

Wednesday, May 27 – 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

Through spring, the Pretty Good Guys invites all men to join in a study of “What Are Biblical Values?” by Yale professor John Collins. Books for purchase in the Community Room.

What Does the Bible Really Say About Forgiveness?

Zoom Study Group Starts Thursday, May 28, 8:00 – 9:00 am MDT

What does it mean to “turn the other cheek?” Is it actually a good idea to “forgive 7 times 70?” Or “forgive and forget?” What about restorative justice? Or judgement? Join people from around the country, as well as the congregation, for an in-depth look at what the Bible says about this challenging topic—and explore your own questions, too. All welcome! Email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com to register.

Friday Fun Night! (May 29) – All ages welcome! (at United) – 5:30-7:30 pm

We'll make “tongues of fire” Pentecost cupcakes (remember those?) for the Inter-generational Pentecost service, enjoy a simple supper, and play games! Sign up in the Community Room. Info: Dana Bender, unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com

United's Carbon Offset Program Addresses Climate Change

Track car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to *NM Interfaith Power and Light* and *Tree New Mexico*. Info: <https://www.unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care>.

Compost Collection for Creation!

In partnership with Reunity Resources, the church has a green compost bin for your compostable products (food waste, compostable containers, etc.). Pick up compostable garbage bags in the Community Room and bring your compost material when you come to church. (NO standard plastic bags, please.) Info: reunityresources.com.

“United Church Night” at Fuego Baseball Game!

Friday, June 5—5:30 pm (sign up by Wednesday, June 3)

Join with your United community to cheer Santa Fe's hometown baseball team, the Fuegos. We're sponsoring the game, which means we get to throw out the first pitch, meet the players, get discounted tickets, and have United Church highlighted all through the game. Tickets are \$7 (33% off!) and families with kids are free. You can also help underwrite family tickets by including a donation with your ticket purchase. Sign up at church or email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. Friends are welcome, of course!

Drop-in for Choir Once a Month this Summer (Starts Next Sunday, June 7)

Once a month this summer, United offers a “Drop-In Choir,” when youth and adults are invited to come at 9:00 to rehearse a simple anthem and then sing in the 10:00 service. The first one is next Sunday, June 7. Interested? Please contact Dir. of Music Michelle Schumman (unitedchurch.michelle@gmail.com)

Love in Action Arts Camp – United Church – June 15-19 (9:00 to 3:00)

Looking for a fun and valuable day camp for elementary-age children? Sign up for United's *Love in Action Arts Camp*! **The cost is \$125 per camper for the entire week and includes lunch and snacks.** (Scholarships also available.) Children will explore kindness, belonging, and caring for the earth through biblical stories, music, art, drama, photography, cooking, and more! We have a robust and talented group of leaders for this camp. Please go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to register! Questions? Please contact Director of Family Ministry Dana Bender (unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com).

Day Trip to Bosque Redondo Historic Site and Museum

Wednesday, July 1 – 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

In the mid-1800s, the U.S. Army rounded up the Navajo/Diné people of northern Arizona and New Mexico and marched them 400 miles from their homeland to Ft. Summer in the Bosque Redondo. The Long Walk of the Navajo is a hard truth of our nation's history. On Wednesday, July 1 United Church offers a day trip to the Bosque Redondo Historic Site and Museum. It's a 2 ½ hour drive from the church to Bosque Redondo, so we'll leave at 7:30, tour the museum and site, have lunch and then return. Sign up in the Community Room or at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. Info: Talitha Arnold.