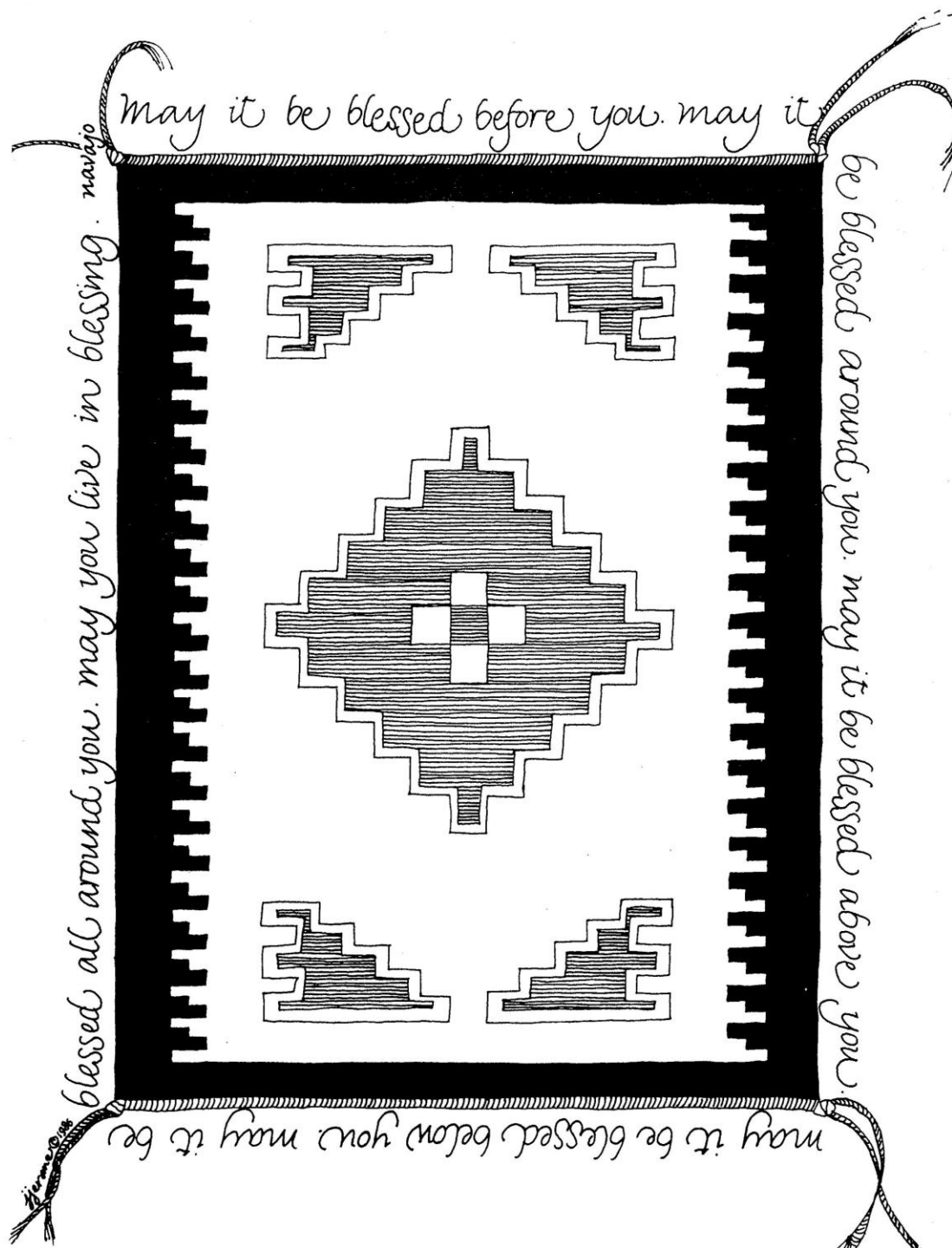




THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A United Church of Christ

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
and
INDIAN MARKET SUNDAY

August 16, 2026
10:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

WE GATHER

(May the first note of the Prelude be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship.
Also because all of worship is offered to the glory of God, please hold applause.)

Prelude

Exiles
Veni Creator Spiritus

Amy Beach
Kathleen Ryan

*Introit

Heleluyan (2x)
(*Please rise in body or spirit.)

Muscogee



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Welcoming of Visitors and Sharing of Our Life Together

Breathing in God's Gifts of Peace, Hope, and Love

*Sharing God's Gifts and Regathering in Song

Heleluyan (1x)

Muscogee

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

Sunrise

Connor Chee

The Call to Worship from the Tewa Tradition (**cong. bold**)

O our Mother the earth, O our Father the sky:

Your children are we and we bring you our lives.

Then weave for us a garment of brightness.

May the warp be the white light of morning,

May the weft be the red light of evening.

May the fringes be the falling rain, may the border be the standing rainbow.

Thus weave for us a garment of brightness

That we may walk fittingly where birds sing,

That we may walk fittingly where the grass is green.

O our Mother the earth, O our Father the sky.

Come, people of God, sing your praise to the Creator of all.

*Hymn

17

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing (1-3)

Lasst Uns Erfreuen (Francis of Assisi)

WE PREPARE

Musical Call to Prayer

Ave Maria

J.S. Bach/Gounod

Hail, Mary, full of grace, blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen

A Prayer of Invocation, Confession, and Assurance from the Navajo/Diné "Night Chant" (**cong. bold**)

House made of dawn, House made of evening light,

House made of rain, House made of dark mist,

House made of pollen,

Great God of the earth, I make my offering to you.

I am sorry.

A time of silent prayer

Restore my feet for me, restore my legs for me.

Restore my mind for me. Restore my voice for me.

Feeling cool may I walk. Healed, may I walk.
 With lively feelings, may I walk.
 As it was with the elders, may I walk.
Blessed with abundant showers, may I walk,
Blessed on the trail of pollen, may I walk.
Being as it was with the elders, may I walk.
 May it be beauty before me.
May it be beauty behind me.
 May it be beauty above me.
May it be beauty below me.
May it be beauty all around me.
May I always walk in beauty.

A Time of Silent Prayer

The Assurance of God's Grace

*Our Song of Praise *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing* Lasst Uns Erfreuen
To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every way, Sings your praises, alleluia!
As savory fruit and fragrant flower, show forth your glory and your power, singing praises,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(During the song, elementary children are invited to come forward for a blessing. They then leave for Kids United with Family Minister Dana Bender. Nurture Center Coordinator Tracy Church offers songs, stories, and activities for Pre-K's and Kinders. Children's Assistant Maria Navarette cares for our littlest ones (infants & toddlers).

*Blessing of the Children

SONGS, PRAYERS, AND TEACHINGS FOR THE EARTH AND FROM THE EARTH

Word of Introduction

Song

"Gift from the Creator" Tells the Good Story (Gospel of Matthew, *First Nations Version*)

Blessings of the Good Road (Matthew 5:1-8)

When *Creator Sets Free* (Jesus) saw this great crowd, he went back up into the mountainside and sat down to teach the people. His followers came to him there, *so he took a deep breath, opened his mouth, and began to share his wisdom with them and teach them how to see Creator's good road.*

"Creator's blessing rests on the poor, the ones with broken spirits. The good road from above is theirs to walk.

"Creator's blessing rests on the ones who walk a trail of tears, for he will wipe the tears from their eyes and comfort them.

"Creator's blessing rests on the ones who walk softly and in a humble manner. The earth, land, and sky will welcome them and always be their home.

"Creator's blessing rests on the ones who hunger and thirst for wrongs to be made right again. They will eat and drink until they are full.

"Creator's blessing rests on the ones who are merciful and kind to others. Their kindness will find its way back to them—full circle.

"Creator's blessing rests on the pure of heart. They are the ones who will see the Great Spirit.

"Creator's blessing rests on the ones who make peace. It will be said of them, 'They are the children of the Great Spirit!'

Dialogue Reflection

Song 472 *Precious Lord* Thomas Dorsey

Look to the Creation to See the Creator's Care (Matthew 6:25-34)

Creator Sets Free continued, "This is why I am telling you not to be troubled about getting enough to eat or drink, or what to wear. Is eating, drinking and clothing yourself all there is? Does your life not have more meaning than this?

“Look to the winged ones who soar on the wind. Do they plant seeds and gather the harvest into a storehouse? No! But your Creator from above gives them plenty to eat. Do you not know Creator cares even more for you? Can worry add even one more step to the length of your life’s journey?

“Why do you trouble yourself with what to wear? Have you seen how the wildflowers grow in the plains and meadows? Do you think they work hard and long to clothe themselves? No! I tell you not even the great chieftain *Stands in Peace* (Solomon), wearing his finest regalia, was dressed as well as even one of these.

“If Creator covers the wild grass in the plains with such beauty, which is here today and gathered for tomorrow’s fire, will he not take even better care of you? Why is your faith so small? There is no need to say, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ This is what the Nations who have lost their way have given their hearts to, but your Creator from above knows you need these things.

“If you will make Creator’s good road your first aim, representing the right ways, Creator will make sure you have all you need for each day. So do not worry about tomorrow’s troubles. It is enough to trust Creator to give you the strength you need to face today.

Dialogue Reflection

Song *Let It Be* Paul McCartney/John Lennon

A Time of Silent Reflection

Song *Shí Naashá (Diné bizaad)* Herman and Radmilla Cody
(A song sung as the Navajo/Dine people returned in 1868 from the suffering of the Long Walk and the 4-year imprisonment at Bosque Redondo.)

Shí naashá, shí naashá
shí naashá ‘adeehózhqóǵlá ‘eyahei neiyah
ahala’ahalagoo naashá
ahala’ahalagoo naashá

I walk, I walk
I walk happily
With no hindrances, I live
With no hindrances, I live

Shí naashá, shí naashá
shí naashá ‘adeehózhqóǵlá ‘eyahei neiyah
Nahasdzaán shimágo naashá
Jónonaa’éei taa’go naashá

I walk, I walk,
I walk happily
With Earth as my Mother, I walk
With Sun as my Father, I walk

Shí naashá, shí naashá
shí naashá ‘adeehózhqóǵlá ‘eyahei neiyah
ahala’ahalagoo naashá
ahala’ahalagoo naashá

I walk, I walk
I walk happily
With no hindrances, I live
With no hindrances, I live

Shí Naashá, shí naashá
shí naashá ‘adeehózhqóǵlá ‘eyahei neiyah
Dził Diyin siniljígóó naashá
Níłstą shikee’ yildohgoo naashá

I walk, I walk,
I walk happily
Within the sacred mountains, I walk
With rain following, I walk

Shí naashá, shí naashá
shí naashá ‘adeehózhqóǵlá ‘eyahei neiyah
ahala’ahalagoo naashá
ahala’ahalagoo naashá

I walk, I walk,
I walk happily
With no hindrances, I live
With no hindrances, I live.

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Prayer of Our Savior

(Please pray any version of the Lord’s Prayer.)

Presenting Our Gifts

I Saw the Light

Hank Williams

[Refrain] I saw the light, I saw the light. No more darkness, no more night

Now I’m so happy no sorrow in sight. Praise the Lord, I saw the light

*Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn

Creating God (back page)

Jeffrey Rowthorn/Truro

*May the Lord Bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
May God give you grace not to sell yourselves short,
Grace to risk something big for something good,
Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth,
and too small for anything but love.
May God take your mind and think through it. May God take your lips and speak through them.
May God take your hands and work through them.
May God take your heart and fill it with passion for life and compassion for this world.*

(Rev. William Sloane Coffin's Annual Blessing for Incoming Freshmen at Yale University, alt.)

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Jooba' T'óó Nizhóni (Amazing Grace)

John Newton

Nizhónigo jooba' diits'a' yisdáshííltínígíí
Yóó'íiyáá nít'ée'
K'ad shéénáhoosdzin
Doo eesh'íí da nít'ée'
Jooba' shijéí shá neineeztaq'
T'áá bí shá ak'eh deesdlíí'
Ííígo bijooba' yíiltsá
T'óó yisisdláad yęędaq'

T'óó'ahayóí atí'él'í bitahdeę' shééhozin
Bijooba'íi éí shilááh neel'a
Éí bee baa nídeeshdáál
Neeznáadi mííl nááhai nidi
Bits'ádi'nílii doo
Yoolkáalii éí doo bee bi'oh da
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see.

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 we hope you found both the service and community engaging and enriching. We invite you also to join in the weeks ahead as together we "love God, Neighbor, and Creation." For more information about United, please visit our website unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Again, welcome!

We're honored to welcome soloist LaVonne Yazzie and guitarist Aaron Lee in worship this morning. LaVonne and Aaron are members of the Navajo/Diné Nation, and LaVonne is also a music leader with Albuquerque's Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church and sings with *Coro Lux*. LaVonne and Aaron have a daughter, Lily, who is a high school sophomore.

We offer our blessings for Sasha Smucker, a new freshman at Pomona College (California) this fall. Through August, we've also blessed Weston Puglisi, Derek Darby, Luke Rand, and Bailey and Jace Gordon, all starting college this fall. Please keep them all in your prayers through the year ahead.

Also sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Dr. Michelle Schumann, Pianist; Dana Bender, Family Minister; Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez with volunteer audio tech, Frank Wilbanks. You were greeted by Louise Cavatta, Rosemary Thompson, Blanca Surgeon, Pam Hyde, and Karen Wilbanks.

Kids United – Singing through the Summer!

After the blessing in worship, elementary children join Director of Family Ministries, Dana Bender, to explore prayer and our love for God, Neighbor, and Creation through music (and tending the Children's Garden). Nurture Center care and ministry with infants through Kinders offered by Tracy Church and Maria Navarette.

Write Letters to Advocate for Immigrants – Today after the Service in Learning Center

The Immigration Task Force hosts a letter-writing forum, focused on urging our Congressional Representatives and national administration to close immigrant detention centers in our state and elsewhere and to work for actual immigration reform.

Adult Forum, Next Sunday — Watershed Health Is Our Health, Too

We welcome Mori Hensley, Executive Director of the Santa Fe Watershed Association, to focus on the Santa Fe River, its watershed, and how we and the rest of creation depend on its health and vitality. She'll also share what we can do, individually and as a church, to contribute to that health and mitigate global warming.

Next Sunday, August 23 (11:15) – *Calling All Parents of Youth (entering 6th through 12th grade)*

Come learn what this year's youth ministry will look like! We'll share a calendar of events and specific info about an October Ghost Ranch Retreat.. Interested? Contact Family Minister Dana Bender (unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com).

What Does the Bible Really Say about Forgiveness? – Zoom Study Group

Thursdays, 8:00 – 9:00 am (MDT) – To register, email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

Books That Didn't Make It into the Bible – Pretty Good Guys

Wednesdays, August 26 (10:30 am – Noon)

Not all Gospels made it into the Bible. What were they? What did they say? And why weren't they included? Join these lively discussions, starting Wednesday, August 26.

Wednesday Women's Study Group Starts Sept. 2 (10:00 am) --“The Lion Women of Tehran”

Through next May, we read great books and discuss them on the first and third Wednesdays of each month (10:00 to 11:30 am). We hope you'll join in! We start Sept. 2 with *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali. Info: Cheryl Morton (515-240-4523, mommorton@gmail.com); Jenn Wynn (817-219-0707, home@wynnes.us).

Sunday, August 30 – 46th Annual Meeting of the United Church of Santa Fe

We'll give thanks for our life and ministry, recognize outgoing Council members, elect the new Council, and look to the future. (The meeting will also be available by live stream.) Annual Reports will be emailed and copies also available at church.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals Begin Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7:00 pm

The Sanctuary Choir resumes its regular rehearsal schedule Wednesday, Sept. 9 and sings in the 10:00 service Sunday, Sept. 13 (9:00 rehearsal). All welcome! lease contact Music Director Michelle Schumann (unitedchurch.michelle@gmail.com).

\$1 Feeds 4 People – Summer Fund Drive for Santa Fe Food Depot

The Santa Fe Food Depot stretches every \$1 donated to create 4 meals of healthy food for people throughout Northern New Mexico. To donate, make checks to “United Church,” (memo “Food Depot”) or go online at unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Thank you! Our Children's Garden also supplies the Food Depot with fresh vegetables for food bags. To help with weekly weeding and/or harvesting, please contact Dana Bender or sign up at church.

Creating God

Jeffrey Rowthorn/Truro



1. Cre - at - ing God, your fin - gers trace the bold de -
2. Sus - tain - ing God, your hands up - hold earth's mys - teries
3. Re - deem - ing God, your arms em - brace all now op -
4. In dwell - ing God, your gos - pel claims one fam - ily

signs of fur - thest space; Let sun and moon and
known or yet un - told; Let wa - ter's fra - gile
pressed for creed or race; Let peace, de - scend - ing
of a bil - lion names; Let ev - 'ry life be

stars and light and what lies hid - den praise your might.
blend with air, en - a - bling life, pro - claim your care!
as the dove, an - nounce on earth your heal - ing love.
touched by grace un - til we praise you face to face.