

A SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT
Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost
and the Sunday before Indigenous People's Day

THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A United Church of Christ

October 11, 2026
10:00 A.M.

God is already here.

For Reflection:

Some of us have that empty-barrel faith. Walking around expecting things to run out. Expecting that there isn't enough air, enough water. Expecting that somebody is going to do you wrong. The God I serve told me to expect the best, that there is enough for everybody.

Bebe Moore Campbell, *Singing in the Comeback Choir*

WE GATHER

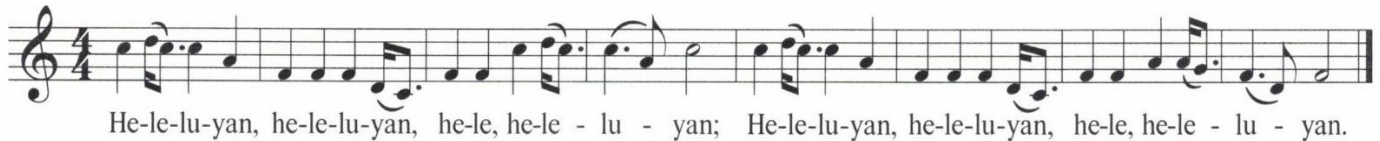
(May the first note of the Prelude be a call to silence as we prepare for worship.)

Gathering Music

Navajo Vocab No. 2 Connor Chee
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy American Folk Melody/arr. James M. Stevens

*Introit

Heleluyan (2x)



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Welcoming of Visitors and Sharing of Our Life Together

Breathing in and Sharing God's Gifts *Blessings for this Blessed Day!*

Sharing God's Peace and Regathering **Heleluyan** (1x) Muscogee

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship *"Holy" from St. Kateri Tekawatha Mass* Barbara Guenther/arr. M. Schumann

A Call to Worship from the Prophet Isaiah

Hear the vision of Isaiah:

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And God will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

The Lord will swallow up death forever.

**Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of the people God will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.**

It will be said on that day,

"See, this is our God for whom we have waited, that we might be saved.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited."

Come, people, trust God's vision and sing God's praise.

*Hymn

3

Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works Joseph Renville/Dakota Melody
(Choir begins hymn with 1st Lakota verse; Congregation joins on English verses.)

WE PREPARE

A Musical Call to Prayer

A Navajo Prayer

arr. Cary John Franklin

Prayer of Invocation (based on Psalm 23)

**You, O Lord, are our shepherd,
we shall never be in need.
You make us to lie down in green pastures;
You lead us beside the still waters; You restore our souls.
You lead us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.
Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
we will fear no evil; for you are with us;
Your rod and your staff, they comfort us.
You prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies;
You anoint our heads with oil; our cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives;
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance and Grace

*Our Song of Praise

Old Hundredth

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above you heavenly host. Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost***

Blessing of the Children (*They return for Communion.*)

WE ENGAGE

From the History of the Hebrews (cong. bold)

Exodus 32:1-8

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, **"Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."** Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me."

So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' "

Sermon

What's on Your Menu?

Silent Reflection

Musical Response 332

As We Gather at Your Table

Carl P. Daw/Beach Spring

WE RESPOND AND RECEIVE

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing the Gift of Communion

The Story of this Feast

Invitation to the Table

This table is open to all who seek to know God's love and to follow in Christ's way of love and hope.

We come to this table, not because we must, but because we may.

We come not because we are fulfilled, but because we stand in need of God's mercy and assurance.

We come not to express an opinion, but to pray for a presence.

Neighbors and friends, let us come to this table as we are. This meal is offered for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling all creation to the Creator.

Thanks be to God for this feast of new life.

Pastoral Prayer and Blessing (*We conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Please pray any version.*)

Sharing the Bread and Cup

(*All are welcome to share in Communion. As your section is called, please come down the designated aisle, receive the bread and either dip it into the chalice or take one of the small cups. Then return to your seat by the next aisle. For a non-gluten wafer, please let the server know. Again, all are welcome!*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, you called us from our lives to feast at your table. We thank you for your abiding presence and for the abundance of love and hope. Go with us now into your world to share that abundance with your people and for the sake of your creation. Then bring us back together at the end of this week to praise and thank you yet again. Amen.

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn 82

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Jaroslav Vajda/Welsh Melody

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Kyrie Eleison

Ukrainian Orthodox Chant

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We hope you'll also join in the fellowship time after the service. If you're visiting today, we're glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out the yellow visitor card. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership are the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Michelle Schumann, Director of Music/Pianist; the United Choir directed by Heather Lacy; Dana Bender, Director of Family Ministries; Sam Elkind and Bruce Turnquist Liturgists. Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator, and volunteer Frank Wilbanks, coordinated the livestream. You were welcomed by Dona Cook, Rosemary Thompson, Diane Darby, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Sunday Aide Irene Guilbeault.

TODAY AT UNITED

Children's Ministry

- Nursery care for **infants and toddlers** (offered by Maria Navarette) and a time of songs, prayers, and stories for **Pre-K's and Kinders** (led by Tracy Church) is in the Nurture Center Sunday mornings, starting at 9:45.
- Following the "Song of Praise and Blessing of Children," **elementary-age children** are invited to **Kids United** where they will explore ways to remember our loved ones who have died through traditions like All Saints Day and día de los muertos.

Two Sunday Forum Opportunities – 11:15

Education Wing: *Hygiene Kits Offer Dignity and Hope*

Children, youth, and adults are invited to assemble hygiene kits to send to Church World Service for distribution to refugees. Each kit contains basic essentials (toothbrush, bar of soap, comb, nail clipper, wash cloth, small towel, band aids) needed by children and adults in emergency situations. You can also help underwrite the project with your check or online donation. And please spread the word to friends and co-workers who are looking for a way to help. Thank you!

Learning Center: *Punching Out Parkinson's*

We welcome Richard White, Director of Santa Fe's "Rock Solid" program, for persons with Parkinson's to help keep them active and strong. He'll share what the program offers, how our understanding of Parkinson's has changed through the years, and also how he got involved. All welcome!

Make United's Welcome a Real Deal!

We want to be a welcoming community every Sunday—we need your help to do that! Sign up today to greet/usher. It's a great way to meet new people and make new friends. Thanks!

Love God by Loving Our Neighbors (and keeping them warm this winter) **Clothing and Blanket Drive**

Thanks to El Niño, this winter is going to be very cold and very snowy. At the same time, resources for our neighbors living poverty have been cut in federal funding. United Church is committed to loving God by loving our Neighbor(s). Starting this Sunday, we invite you to join in a Fall Clothing and Blanket Drive by bringing new and gently used jackets, sweaters, hats, mittens, and warm blankets to the Church to be distributed to St Elizabeth and Casa Familia Shelters, Interfaith Community Resources, and Nava Elementary School (where Alicia Wolfe is a counselor). Financial donations are also welcome, either by check or at unitedchurchofsantafe.org. (Please memo: "Clothing/Blankets.")

Fall is a great time to clean out closets and pass on warm clothing that we're no longer using (or no longer fit :-). The clothing drive is a great way to engage kids, too, as they can contribute—financially and also with their outgrown jackets, etc. Also, please help spread the word to your neighbors and friends and invite them to join in this "Keeping Our Neighbors Warm" drive. Using the Church as a central clearing house makes donating easy! And if you'd like to help with sorting or delivering, please call 505-988-3295 or email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

Thank you!!

The Week Ahead

Books That Didn't Make It into the Bible – Pretty Good Guys **Wednesday, Oct. 14 (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 biweekly discussions.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals – Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

The Sanctuary Choir rehearses Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm and sings in the 10:00 service Sunday (9:00 rehearsal). All welcome! Please contact Music Director Michelle Schumann (unitedchurch.michelle@gmail.com) or Choral Director John Tiranno (unitedchurch.john@gmail.com).

Forgiveness, Hope and Resilience – Zoom Bible Study Group **Thursdays, 8:00 – 9:00 am (MDT)**

We're exploring what Jesus and Christian scripture said about forgiveness. All welcome.

To register, email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

United's Shelter Supper Ministries Offer Food and Care

United provides monthly suppers (meat loaf, veggie casserole, salad, dessert) to St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia Shelters. Want to help? **Come to "Chop and Grate" Friday, Oct. 16 (9:00 am)** or deliver food to shelters that afternoon (1:00 pm) or make meatloaf at home. Interested? Please contact Cathy Garret (cathygarrett1@gmail.com). You can also support this ministry with check (memo: shelter meals) or online donations. Thank you!

NEXT SUNDAY – TWO FORUMS **October 18, after the 10:00 service**

Sending Love to Our College Students

Come and enjoy time together over food to assemble care packages and write notes to be sent to United's young adults away at college. We will meet in the Learning Center after the service.

The Midterm Elections – What's at Stake? What Should We Do?

We welcome Rev. Gary Kowalski, retired Unitarian Minister and member of Indivisible Santa Fe, for a presentation and discussion about the upcoming midterms. What's happening around the country? What are the concerns? What can we do to make a difference?

LOVE GOD BY LOVING CREATION

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 the *Santa Fe Watershed Association* for their environmental advocacy and hands-on care for God's good earth and generations yet to come. (\$8/100 miles driven; \$8/3 hours in the air). Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care.

Compost Collection – It's a Miracle! (And it helps mitigate climate change.)

United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (food waste, meat scraps, etc.) into rich, life-giving compost. Two ways to help: 1.) Please use the compost containers in the Community Room and education rooms for your coffee cups, napkins, or plates from Fellowship Time or church meals. They're all compostable. 2.) Get compostable garbage bags at church (**NO** standard plastic bags, please), fill at home, and then put in green bin in back of the church.