

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE  
and  
GRADUATION SUNDAY**

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

**May 22, 2022  
10:00 A.M.**

**For Reflection**

The story of the early church takes these first missionaries (Paul, Silas, Timothy) outside the circle of the known and the comfortable. . . the book of Acts models in its narrative a cultural openness that goes beyond the point of view of a single region or ethnic group. . . On the Sabbath when Paul and the others met Lydia, they looked for the place of prayer beyond the city gate. On this culture frontier, the only audience they found that day was outside the gate and so, outside the establishment.

Rev. Richard M. Landers, *Acts 16:9-15 in Feasting on the Word*

“To lend each other a hand when we’re falling,” Brendan said,  
“perhaps that’s the only work that matters in the end.”

Frederick Buechner in his novel, *Brendan*

**WE GATHER**

*(May the first note of the Gathering Music be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship.  
Also, please turn off your cell phone upon entering the Sanctuary.)*

Gathering Music

*Ave Maria*

Charles Gounod/J.S. Bach

\*Introit

*Easter Alleluia* (2x)

Donald Fishel

*(\*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

***Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, sing praise to Christ’s name.***

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Words of Welcome and Breathing in God’s Gifts

Sharing God’s Good News

***Christ is Risen ! Risen indeed!***

***Christós anésti. Alithós anésti!***

***Beauty is restored! Restored indeed!***

Musical Call to Worship

*Easter Alleluia* (2x)

Donald Fishel

The Call to Worship

People of God, look around and see. Gente de Dios, miren y vean.

**Gente de Dios, miren y vean.**

See the faces of those we know and love—neighbors and friends, sisters and brothers—  
a community of kindred hearts.

**Gente de Dios, miren y vean.**

See the faces of those we hardly know—strangers, sojourners, forgotten friends,  
the ones who need an outstretched hand.

**Gente de Dios, miren y vean.**

See all the images of God assembled here. In me, in you, in each of us, God’s spirit shines for all to see.

**Gente de Dios, miren y vean.**

Come and see God in all the people of God. Let us worship together.

\*Hymn

436

***God of Grace and God of Glory*** (1-3, 5)

Harry Emerson Fosdick/Cwm Rhondda

## WE PREPARE

A Prayer of Invocation (adapted from St. Brendan the Voyager, Irish Monk, 484-577)

God of all people and all places,  
as we, your people, gather in this place,  
**help us to journey beyond the familiar  
and into the unknown.  
Give us the faith to leave old ways  
and break fresh ground with you.**

Christ of the mysteries, may we trust you  
**to be stronger than each storm within us,  
to trust in the darkness and know  
that our times, even now, are in your hand.  
Tune our spirits to the music of heaven,  
and somehow, make our obedience count for you.**

A Time of Silence

The Assurance of God's Grace      *Bless to Me This Day*      St. Brendan the Voyager/arr. Cecilia McDowall

*God, bless to me this day; God, bless to me this night.  
Bless, thou God of grace, each day and hour of my life.  
God, bless the pathway on which I go; God, bless the earth that is beneath my sole.  
Bless, O God, and give to me thy love; O God of gods, bless my rest and my repose.*

A Time of Silence

\*Our Song of Praise      451      ***Be Now My Vision*** (1-2)      Ancient Irish Text and Melody

## WE ENGAGE GOD'S WORD

Word of Introduction

Paul Leaves His Comfort Zone

Acts 16:9-10

*Durante la noche* (during the night) Paul had *una visión* (a vision): there stood *un hombre* (a man) of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "*Ven a Macedonia y ayúdanos.* (Come over to Macedonia and help us.)" When he had seen *la visión*, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced *de que Dios nos había llamado a proclamarles las buenas nuevas* (that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them).

Reflection

A Wealthy Merchant Woman

Acts 16:11-15

We (Paul, Timothy and Silas) set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading *ciudad* (city) of the district of Macedonia and a Roman *colonia* (colony). We remained in *esta ciudad* (this city) for some days. *En el día de reposo* (On the sabbath day) we went outside the gate *junto al río* (by the river), where we supposed there was *un lugar de oración* (a place of prayer); and we sat down and spoke to *las mujeres* (the women) who had gathered there.

*Cierta mujer* (A certain woman) named Lydia, *una adoradora de Dios* (a worshipper of God), was listening to us; she was from *la ciudad* of Thyatira and a dealer in *tela púrpura* (purple cloth). *El Señor abrió su corazón* (The Lord opened her heart) to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, *ven y quédate en mi casa* (come and stay at my home)." And she prevailed upon us.

Reflection

One day, as we were going to *el lugar de oración*, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners *mucho dinero* (a great deal of money) by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of *el Dios Altísimo* (the Most High God), who proclaim to you *un camino de salvación* (a way of salvation)." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, *muy molesto* (very much annoyed), turned and said to the spirit, "*Te ordeno en el nombre de Jesucristo que salgas de ella* (I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her)." And it came out that very hour.

But when *sus dueños* (her owners) saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before *los autoridades* (the authorities). When they had brought them before *los magistrados* (the magistrates), they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods.

## Reflection

## A Prison Guard

Acts 16:24-34

After the Roman magistrates gave them a severe flogging, they threw Paul and Silas *en prisión* and ordered *el carcelero* (the jailer) to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas *estaban orando y cantando himnos a Dios* (were praying and singing hymns to God) and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was *un terremoto* (an earthquake), so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately *todas las puertas* (all the doors) were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When *el carcelero* woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." *El carcelero* called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke *la palabra del Señor* (the word of the Lord) to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night *el carcelero* took them and washed their wounds; then *el y toda su familia* (he and his entire family) were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become *un creyente en Dios* (a believer in God).

## Reflection

## Silence

## Musical Response

*Where There is Light in the Soul*

Elizabeth Alexander

**WE RESPOND**

## Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

God of all life, Source of light,  
 we thank you for your light that shines in the shadows of our world and of our lives.  
 We thank you for your light that guides us in your way of justice and mercy,  
 your light that helps us see one another and all people  
 as beloved children of your Beloved Community.  
 Open us to your light once again. (*silent prayer*)

Strengthen our faith in your Spirit.  
 Strengthen our resolve to live our lives for others and not only for ourselves.  
 Strengthen our commitment to re-building and re-imagining this community of faith.  
 Strengthen our souls to trust your creativity and common sense.  
 Open us always to your tomorrow and to your guidance for getting there. (*silent prayer*)

We pray in the name of the One who is the Light of the World and who taught us to pray together with boldness, courage and trust, saying: (*Please pray any version of the Lord's Prayer.*)

## WE GO IN PEACE

\*Hymn

*Creating God* (1-3)

Truro

*Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of furthest space;  
Let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.*

*Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold;  
Let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care!*

*Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now oppressed for creed or race;  
Let peace, descending as the dove, announce on earth your healing love.*

\*Blessing of United's Graduates

\*Benediction

\*Musical Benediction

*Creating God* (st. 4)

Truro

*Indwelling God, your gospel claims one family of a billion names;  
Let ev'ry life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.*

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### ***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](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Again, welcome!

### **WELCOME TO UNITED'S NEW PIANIST**

We welcome Jessie Lo as United's new Pianist. Jessie grew up in Taiwan, studied piano for several years in Austria, and has been a church musician since she was a youth. She served as the Pianist and Music Director for Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward, California for seven years before relocating with her family to Santa Fe. She's also served on the music staffs of Presbyterian and Christian Science congregations. In addition, she is a concert pianist, performing in ensembles and as a soloist. She's excited to join the worship and music staff of United – and we're delighted to welcome her!

### **AND WELCOME TO ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY CHOIR**

In today's service, we welcome the choir from Assumption University in Boston, Massachusetts. Led by Bradford Dumont, the chorus was interested in touring the American Southwest and particularly Santa Fe. They were also aware of Bradley Ellingboe's music and wanted to coordinate time for a workshop and to join in worship at United.

Also sharing leadership are the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Pastor; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Jessie Lo, Pianist; the women of the Sanctuary Choir; Liturgists and Readers Blanca Surgeon, Ethan Manske, and Carlos Lee; and Livestream Technician Elijah Marquez.

### **CELEBRATE UNITED'S GRADUATES!**

Please keep all our graduates in your prayers as they begin a new stage of life:

**Katie Bickley**, Yale Divinity School

**High School:**

**Emily Glover**, Sage Academy

**Madelyn Kingston**, New Mexico School for Arts

**José Lain-Straus**, Santa Fe Prep

**Ethan Manske**, St. Michael's High

**Tenzing Manske**, Minnesota High School

**Tijn van der Woude**, Santa Fe High

**Tommaso Frabotta**, Santa Fe High

**Middle School:**

**Maya Aalberts**, Fayette Street Academy

**Derek Darby**, El Dorado Community School

**Bailey Gordon**, Santa Fe Waldorf School

**Calvin Joyce-Brown**, May School

**Weston Mac Puglisi**, Academy for Technology  
and the Classics

**Luke Rand**, Santa Fe Prep

**Sasha Smucker**, Santa Fe Prep;

**Adult Forum: *The Status of Water in Rural New Mexico* – Today at 11:15**

Blanca Surgeon, a long-time member of United, gives a presentation on both the state of water amidst the drought and the impact of recent legislation. Blanca works for the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

***“Drop-By and Drop-off Fire Relief Donations” this Wednesday (9:00 am to 8:30 pm)  
To Celebrate United’s 42<sup>nd</sup> Birthday!***  
(and get a Birthday Cupcake, too :-)

On May 25, 1980, thirty-four people signed the Covenant Book of the United Church of Santa Fe as the congregation was “officially” welcomed as the newest United Church of Christ. Each year we celebrate and give thanks to God and for everyone who has helped created United’s life and ministry through the years. For our 42<sup>nd</sup> Birthday this Wednesday, we’re expressing our gratitude in a special way.

In thanksgiving for the deeply-rooted communities and people who have prayed in this land long before United was formed—and to honor our commitment to “love God, Neighbor, and Creation”—**we invite the congregation to come by United this Wednesday (May 25) anytime between 9:00 am and 8:30 pm to join in a “Supplies and Fund Drive” to help our neighbors and restore creation devastated by the wildfires.**

Your donations of the following supplies will help families and individuals displaced by the fires:

Non-perishable food:

Beef jerky  
Bottled water  
Gatorade  
Individually wrapped snacks

Hygiene Supplies:

Chapstick and Sunblock  
Eyedrops  
Baby wipes and diapers  
Q-tips  
Menstrual products  
Soap and toothpaste

Your monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. (If 100 people gave \$42 each, we’d raise \$4,200 to add to the \$3,000 that United has already donated from operating reserves.)

So drop by United this Wednesday, drop off Fire Relief supplies and/or financial donations—and get a Birthday Cupcake (or two). Wherever you are, take time this Wednesday to give thanks to God for the United Church and for everyone who has helped us “come this far by faith.”

**COMING UP THIS WEEK . . .**

MON		Burrito and Sandwich suppers for Interfaith Shelter
	6:30 pm	Santa Fe Forum on KSFR 101.1 FM (Talitha Arnold panelist)
WED	9:00 am – 8:30 pm	“Drop-by and Drop-off” Fire Relief in celebration of United’s 42 <sup>nd</sup> Birthday
	10:30 am	Pretty Good Guys
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal (contact Brad Ellingboe if interested in joining)
THURS	8:00 am	Resiliency and Hope Study Group (via Zoom)
		Burrito suppers for Interfaith Shelter
	5:00 pm	Children and Youth Ministry Team Meeting
SUN		<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Eastertide</b>
	10:00 am	<b>In-Person Worship (also livestreamed)</b> and Children’s Ministry
	11:15 am	Adult Forum: <i>Wildfire Protection: What You Need to Know</i>

**THE WEEK AHEAD. . .**

**Talitha Arnold on KSFR’s “Santa Fe Forum” – Monday, May 23 (6:30 pm) – 101.1 FM**

Talitha is a regular panelist on KSFR’s “Santa Fe Forum,” airing Monday evenings. To quote KSFR, the Forum is “where prominent locals discuss important issues of the day in a hard-hitting but civilized manner.” Tune in!

**Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday (10:30 am)**

All men invited to join in this twice-monthly gathering. They’re sharing family immigration stories and linking them to stories of current refugees and immigrants as well as Biblical stories. Greg Gaertner is the convener. Please register by Tuesday noon: [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com). Thanks!

***Resiliency and Hope: Biblical Stories for Our Time***

**Thursdays at 8:00 am – Zoom (please register at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com))**

This ongoing study explores Biblical characters who overcame hardships of all kinds. All welcome!

**Next Sunday’s Forum – *Wildfire Protection: What You Need to Know* – (11:15 am)**

Protecting yourself today means having sources for information, preparing your home or workplace, developing an emergency communications plan, and knowing what to do when a wildfire is approaching your home or community. Learn about how you can prepare yourself, your family, and your home during this ongoing fire season. (United and Fire Adapted Communities Network member Marlita Reddy-Hjelmfelt plus guest presenter.)

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### *PRAYING IN THE DIRT*

#### **CHILDREN'S GARDEN STARTS SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

“Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow!” That’s what United’s children and youth will do starting Pentecost Sunday, June 5, with the help of master gardeners like Donna Clark and Nyla Rasmussen. All children and youth invited to help plant during worship that Sunday, and afterward the congregation gathers to bless it all.

#### ***BE THE RIVER NEW: THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE 2022!***

***Thursday Nights Live!*** start **Thursday, June 16 (5:30 to 7:00)** for United families and guests. “Be the River New!” is the summer’s theme for this weekly outdoor evening program with a simple supper, projects, worship, games, music (maybe drumming) and other activities. We go through mid-August. The program accommodates summer schedules as we know families may be away some weeks. More info soon, so save your Thursdays now! And spread the word—friends welcome! (Youth Director Kate Murphy ([unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com))).

#### **Thursday Nights Live 2022 – Lend a Hand (and a Heart!)**

Join our volunteer team for *Thursday Night Live!*, United’s weekly summer program for kids and families (5:30 to 7:00 pm, starting June 16). “Be the River New” is the theme, as we explore the lessons that rivers—and God’s gift of water—teach us through songs, crafts, dance, drama, stories, and a host of other activities. Volunteers can sign on for a couple Thursdays or the whole summer. Contact Youth Director Kate Murphy for more info or to sign up! ([unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com))



#### ***Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!***

Go online to [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org) or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.

## LOVE CREATION

### **Care for Creation and Offset Your Carbon Use**

United’s “Carbon Offset Program” helps plant trees and also work for 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](http://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](http://reunityresources.com) or call Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700). Thanks!

## LOVE NEIGHBOR

### **KITS FOR UKRAINE**

We continue to assemble hygiene kits for Church World Service for refugee camps in countries around Ukraine and also in-country. To date we have raised over \$20,000 and United’s kids have assembled 230+ kits. We’ll assemble more soon! You’re invited to support that effort in three ways:

- **Monetary donations** to be used for the hygiene kits or sent directly to Church World Service to buy supplies (food, diapers, etc.). Go to [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org) to donate or bring/send a check to the church (memo: Ukrainian people).
- **Volunteer to help assemble kits.** Let us know you want to help and we’ll contact you for the next assembly.
- **Spread the word to friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family.** We gladly receive supplies or financial support for the kits from the wider community. Thank you!

### **United’s Shelter Dinners Feed Homeless Persons and Support Santa Fe Businesses**

We contract with “Felipe’s Tacos” for 100 lunches and “Mucho Gourmet” for 35 suppers each week for Interfaith Shelter (and 35 monthly suppers for St. Elizabeth & Casa Familia). Memo: “Shelter Dinner.”

### ***Supporting Our Diné/Navajo Brothers and Sisters***

Your financial support for covid relief work (food and cleaning supplies) and masks make a difference!

### **Cards and Cookies for Hospital Workers**

Medical personnel, housekeepers, and maintenance staff are on the front lines. Show your support with cards of support and/or cookies. Drop off at United (please list ingredients). We’ll deliver. (And the staff promises not to eat them in the meantime.)

