

**A Service of the Word
For
The Second Sunday of Eastertide**

April 27, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.
The United Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ

For Reflection from the Last Easter Message of Pope Francis
April 19, 2025

Love has triumphed over hatred, light over darkness and truth over falsehood. Forgiveness has triumphed over revenge. Evil has not disappeared from history; it will remain until the end, but it no longer has the upper hand; it no longer has power over those who accept the grace of this day.

Sisters and brothers, especially those of you experiencing pain and sorrow, your silent cry has been heard and your tears have been counted; not one of them has been lost! In the passion and death of Jesus, God has taken upon himself all the evil in this world and in his infinite mercy has defeated it. He has uprooted the diabolical pride that poisons the human heart and wreaks violence and corruption on every side. The Lamb of God is victorious! That is why, today, we can joyfully cry out: “Christ, my hope, has risen!” . . .

On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas! For all of us are children of God!

WE GATHER

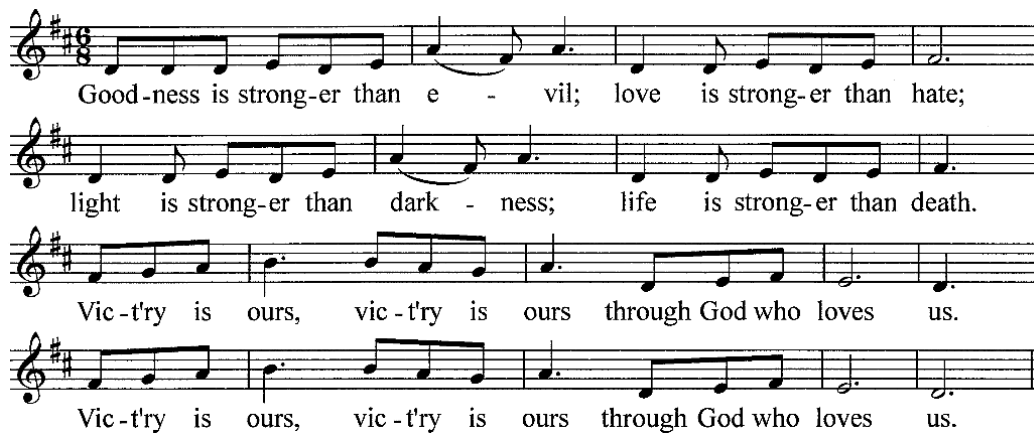
Gathering Music/Prelude

*Impromptu in A-flat
Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Franz Schubert
Trentham/arr. J.B. Taylor

*Introit

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil (2x) Archbishop Desmond Tutu/John Bell
(*Please rise in body or spirit.)



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Words of Welcome and Breathing in God's Gifts of Peace, Hope, and New Life

*Sharing the Easter Proclamation from Christian and Navajo/Diné Traditions

“Christ is risen!” (“Risen indeed!”) “Beauty is restored again!” (“Restored indeed!”)

*Regathering

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil (1x)

Tutu/Bell

Welcoming of Visitors and Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

St. Kevin

Arthur S. Sullivan

WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (*Please pray any version.*)

Sharing our Gifts

Offertory

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

Sacred Harp

Prayer of Thanks

All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. Use these gifts and our lives so that all people might have the abundance of your life and love. Amen.

*Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (1-3)

Charles Wesley/Hyfrydol

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us be;
Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All thy faith - ful mer - cies crown;
Let us all in thee in - her - it, Let us find thy prom - ised rest;
Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er, Nev - er more thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;
Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion; Pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at iib - er - ty.
Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in thy pre - cious love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (st. 4)

Charles Wesley/Hyfrydol

Welcome to the United Church of Santa Fe!

We're glad you have joined for the Second Sunday of Easter and invite you to join the life and ministry of United in the coming weeks. For information, please call the church office (505-988-3295) or go to our website (unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Again, welcome and blessings for the 50 Days of Eastertide.

Sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Minister; Dr. Michelle Schumann, Pianist; Dana Bender, Family Ministry Director; Liturgists (to be announced); Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez, with Audio Tech Frank Wilbanks. Many thanks also to the Sacred Space Team, Children's Aides Destiny Muñoz and Maria Navarette; Louise Cavatta, Blanca Surgeon, Rosemary Thompson, Karen Wilbanks and Pam Hyde greeters and ushers (organized by Diane Darby).

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Kids United explore "Community and Collages" in Children's Ministry today.

Meet Dana Bender, United's New Director of Family, Youth and Children's Ministry.

Today, Sunday, April 27 – 11:15 am

Parents, kids, and the rest of the congregation are all invited to this special forum with Dana Bender, United's new fulltime Director of Family, Youth, and Children's Ministry. Another reason to celebrate!

Being Christian: What Does It Mean, What Does It Matter? – Sunday, May 4

Rev. Peter Marty, Publisher of *The Christian Century*

We welcome renowned preacher Rev. Peter Marty as our guest in both the 10:00 service and the 11:15 Sunday Forum. Rev. Marty is publisher of *The Christian Century*, the flagship journal of American progressive Christianity and ecumenical reporting. He also recently retired as the Senior Pastor for St. Paul Lutheran Church, a 3,000-member congregation in Davenport, Iowa. A graduate of Colorado College and Yale Divinity School, he and Talitha Arnold are close friends and colleagues. It is an honor to welcome him to the United Church of Santa Fe.

What Does It Mean to Be a Christian Community in America 2025?

All Church Retreat – Saturday, May 10 (8:30 am to 1:00 pm)

As United looks to the future (and deals with the present), what does our faith call us to do and be as a community seeking to walk in the ways of Jesus the Christ? Join with United Church council and other leaders to explore this question and look with faith to God's future for United. Please sign up today.

FOOD, FUN AND GAMES – SUNDAY, MAY 18

Plan to stay after the 10:00 service on Sunday, May 18 for an All Church, All Ages Lunch and Outdoor Games!

More information to come—but sign up and save the date now!

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – SUNDAY, MAY 18

On the 5th Sunday of Eastertide, we welcome new members into the United Church of Santa Fe. If you are interested in "officially" joining United, please speak with Rev. Talitha Arnold, Moderator Sarah Sawtell, or Discipleship Chair Diane Darby. Thank you!

LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION

That's Our Goal at the United Church of Santa Fe – in a host of ways!

More info at unitedchurchofsantafe.org.

Love Neighbor . . .

- Monthly Suppers for Interfaith Shelter, St. E's, and Casa Familia. (Pat Roach, 505-988-7357).
- Chop & Grate – tomorrow morning, Monday, April 28 at 9:30 am.
- Ukrainian, Palestinian, and Sudanese Refugee Relief, Navajo/Diné support; Communities in Schools, Border Ministries, and more.

Love Creation. . .

- *Compost for Creation* (with Reunity Resources), *Carbon Offset Program* (with NM Interfaith Power and Light; Tree New Mexico); *SF River Cleanup* (with SF Watershed Assoc.) Sat., May 17 (8:30-10:00 am).

Fellowship/Study Groups

Wednesday Women's Study Group – May 7 (10:00 am)

Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday, May 14 (10:30 am)

"Faith and Resilience" Bible Study Group – Thursdays (starting again May 8) via Zoom (8:00 am)

Be the Light—SÉ LA LUZ—One Great Hour of Sharing

This spring (through Memorial Day Sunday, May 25—which is also United's 45th birthday), United invites your support of *One Great Hour of Sharing*, the national United Church of Christ offering to support refugee resettlement, disaster relief, food and small farmer programs around the world and in the U.S. Gifts can also be designated specifically for particular emergencies (e.g., Global food or medical relief, emergency needs for fire/tornado victims or refugees on the U.S./Mexico border). Donate online unitedchurchofsantafe.org, memo: OGHS. Thank you!