

A SERVICE OF THE WORD
for the
Third Sunday of Lent
March 23, 2025
10:00 A.M.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A United Church of Christ



WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Penitente

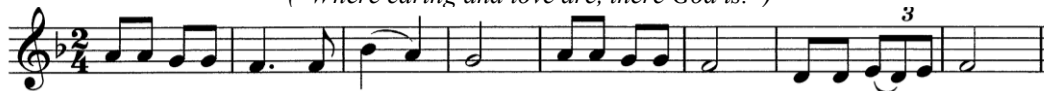
Holly Mead

Introit (please stand)

Ubi caritas (2x)

Taizé

("Where caring and love are, there God is.")



U-bi ca-ri - tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri - tas De-us i - bi est.

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Welcome and Breathing in God's Gifts

Sharing Those Gifts and Regathering in Song

Ubi caritas (1x)

Taizé

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

The Call to Lent (**cong. bold**)

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

**So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
**My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.**

Musical Call to Worship

Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works

trad. Dakota

The Call to Worship

We gather to worship God, the Lord and Giver of Life. God gives us the waters of Life.
Dios nos da agua viva.

Dios nos da agua viva.

In the deserts of our lives, in the wilderness within,

Dios nos da agua viva.

To give us hope when our lives run dry, to give us strength when our world seems barren,

Dios nos da agua viva.

To let peace flow like a river and love spring forth like a fountain,

Dios nos da agua viva.

To make justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a living stream,

Dios nos da agua viva.

*Hymn

597

Shall We Gather at the River?

Robert Lowry/Hanson Place

WE PREPARE

In A Prayer of Invocation

O Fount of every blessing,
we give you thanks for drawing creation from the well of your goodness,
and for pouring out your love on all who thirst for good news.

We confess that we are thirsty, too, and we long to drink deeply.

Wash over us with your living water.

If our lives have become shallow, deepen them.

If our ideals have dried up, revive them.

If our priorities have become confused, clarify them.

If our horizons have become too narrow, widen them.

Soak us in your presence. Drench us with your love.

**Release us from all that burdens us,
and refresh us with your life-changing mercy. Amen.**

In a Time of Silent Prayer

In the Affirmation of Grace

Letter to the Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

*Our Song of Praise 326

Crashing Waters at Creation (st. 1, 3-4)

Sylvia Dunstan/Stuttgart

WE ENGAGE

Isaiah Tells of God's Good News

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money
for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live. . . .

Seek the Lord while God may be found,
call upon the Lord while God is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord,
that God may have mercy on them,
and to our Lord, for God will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Musical Reflection

O Come, Every One that Thirsteth from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn

*O come everyone that thirsteth, O come to the waters:
O come unto Him. O hear, and your souls shall live forever.*



Newly discovered animals and plants 1,500 meters under an Antarctica iceberg.

Silent Reflection

A Musical Response 284

Joys Are Flowing Like a River (1-3)

Manie Payne Ferguson/Blessed Quietness

WE RESPOND

Offering our Prayers and the Lord’s Prayer *(please pray any version)*

Offering the Gifts God has Given Us

Offertory

Holly Mead

Prayer of Dedication **(unison)**

Bless our gifts, O God, returned to you. Multiply and use them and use our lives to bring your life through our love for kindred, neighbors, and all creation. Amen.

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

Blessing and Godspeed

Dusty Pruitt and Jo Rhodes

*Hymn 459

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Psalm 36/Nettleton

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Kyrie eleison. *Kyrie Eleison*
Christe eleison.

Ukrainian Orthodox Church (c. 900)
Kyrie eleison.

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning, and invite you to join in the programs of education, music and service during Lent. United’s Kids begin the service with the congregation, then go to Children’s Ministry for Lenten/Easter packets with Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz. Again, welcome!

Sharing worship leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Holly Mead, Guest Pianist; Sanctuary Choir; Nyla Rasmussen, Liturgist; Elijah Marquez, Media Director, and Frank Wilbanks, Sound Technician. You were greeted by Louise Cavatta, Blanca Surgeon, Diane Darby, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Sunday Aide Luis Zapata.

Living in One's Holy Land — Today's Forum

As Christians, we share sacred stories set in faraway places. In contrast, United member Mary Hasbah Roessel grew up in the Navajo/Diné homeland, with sacred places like Spider Woman's Rock. How does our relationship with the land change if our sacred stories take place in the sacred land we call home?

Pretty Good Guys All-Church Pancake Breakfast
Next Sunday, March 30

United's "Pretty Good Guys" rustle up some very good pancakes and invite you to join them for an All-Church Breakfast this Sunday. All ages, all welcome! (And bring friends, too!)

Welcoming Immigrants in Santa Fe
With Mayor Alan Webber
Sunday, April 6

Santa Fe is not officially a "sanctuary city," but the city charter affirms that the community is welcoming to all people. What does that mean practically, particularly in light of the current crackdown on immigrants nationwide? For one, Mayor Alan Webber has started up the city's Immigration Committee and also appeared on national news underscoring Santa Fe's commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive community. As our April 6th Forum guest, he'll share his views and ways for faith communities to welcome our neighbors in this time.

Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday (10:30 am)

Join with other United men to engage a challenging book by John Dominic Crossan's *The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer*. All welcome.

Midweek Communion in Lent – Wednesdays (12:15 pm to 12:45 pm)

Do you yearn for silence or an opportunity to breathe, pray, replenish? United offers a Lenten Noontime Communion (12:15- 12:45) each Wednesday. All welcome to recharge and renew (through Holy Week: April 16).

Resiliency and Hope: The Gospel of Mark – Thursday Mornings at 8:00 (MT) on Zoom

This Zoom study started during the pandemic. Five years later, we still need the "Resiliency and Hope" of our Biblical faith. In Lent, we conclude the Gospel of Mark with the Holy Week story—God's love and life overcoming fear and death. All welcome! Register/Info: unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

At United, we seek to "Love God, Neighbor, Creation" in a whole lot of ways. . . .

Support for Ukrainian and Afghan refugees, reducing our carbon impact, emergency funds for our Diné/Navajo neighbors, and more! Go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to find out how you can help. Thank you!

United's Carbon Offset Program Addresses Climate Change (and Climate Disasters)

Mitigate your carbon travel footprint with United's "Carbon Offset Program" which supports climate advocacy of *NM Interfaith Power and Light* and hands-on work of *Tree New Mexico*. The math is easy. Flying: donate \$4 for every hour in flight; driving: donate \$4 per 1,000 miles. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care.

Compost Collection – It's a Miracle!

United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (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 compost bins means less in landfills. (Also at church, please put coffee cups and napkins in compost cans in the Community Room.) Thanks!

***A Place Called Home* by Bradley Ellingboe and Tony Silvestri**
New Mexico Premiere Saturday, April 12 – 4:00 pm at Lensic Theater
with Orchestra, Soloists and the combined choirs of Coro Lux and the United Church
(Panel Discussion at 2:30 pm)

A Place Called Home is a musical plea for our Earth home, composed by Bradley Ellingboe (United's Director of Music) with lyricist Tony Silvestri. This dramatic cantata premiered in Carnegie Hall in April of 2023. This spring, on Saturday, April 12, the work will have its New Mexico premiere at the Lensic Theater, with the combined choruses of United's Sanctuary Choir and *Coro Lux* (thanks largely to United's sponsorship in renting the hall and the NM State Arts Council for underwriting the cost of the soloists).

Plan to come—and invite friends—to the Lensic concert on Saturday, April 12, 4:00 pm—and also to the 2:30 Panel Discussion with composer Ellingboe and lyricist Silvestri, along with Environmental Ethicist Larry Rasmussen and Navajo/Diné Psychiatrist Mary Hasbah Roessel, moderated by Talitha Arnold. (Concert tickets at lensic.org/events/a-place-called-home/)