A Service of the Word
For the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
and Spanish Market Sunday

July 31, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.

The United Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ

For Reflection:
I know a few things to be true. I do not know where I am going,
but I know where I have come from is disappearing,
Warsan Shire, Somalian-British Poet
Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth

WE GATHER
(As you enter the Sanctuary, please turn off your cell phone and enter into a time of silence
so that you and others can let the music lead us into communion with God’s beauty and power.)

Gathering Music

Danzas Españolas No. 2
Enrique Granados

*Introit

Alabaré (2x)
Mexican Traditional

¡Alabaré, alabaré, alabaré a mi Señor! ¡Alabaré, alabaré, alabaré a mi Señor!
(Sing praise, sing praise to my Lord!)

Welcoming of Visitors and Sharing of Our Life Together

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

Musical Call to Worship

Adelita
Francisco Tárrega

The Call to Worship from Psalm 100 (congregation in bold)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness!
For the Lord is good. ¡Porque Dios es bueno!

¡Porque Dios es bueno!
Come into God’s presence with thanksgiving. Enter God’s courts with praise.

¡Porque Dios es bueno!
God’s love goes from generation to generation.

¡Porque Dios es bueno!
God has made us and we are God’s. Sing praise!

¡Porque Dios es bueno!
Let us sing praise to the God of all generations!

¡Porque Dios es bueno!

*Hymn

39 Cantemos al Creador (Creator God We Sing)
(First English verse, first Spanish verse)
Carlos Rosas

WE PREPARE

Musical Call to Prayer

Fandanguillo
Federico Moreno-Torroba

Prayer of Invocation

In your name, O Lord, we gather this day.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.
Open us to your presence among us.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.
Give us voices to sing your praise and hearts to trust your love.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.
Forgive us for the harm we have done and the good we have left undone.
Remind us always there is more wholeness in you than brokenness in us.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.
Fill us with your hope and guide us by your Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.
Then from this gathering, send us into your world to offer your love to others, strive for justice and peace, and respond to your word in our lives.

Lord, hear our prayer. Señor, escúchanos.

A Time of Silent Prayer

*Cantemos al Creador

Creator God we sing, your power and wisdom blessing
Our hope and wonder bring, admiration now expressing
The universe maintains that God in might is dwelling,
And we in humble strains, of God’s beauty here are telling.
Alleluia, alleluia! Creator God we sing: Alleluia!

WE ENGAGE

What Does the Bible Say about Immigration and Refugees?

From the Remembrance of the Exodus

When you have come en la tierra (into the land) . . . and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of todo el fruto de la tierra (all the fruit of the ground), which you harvest de la tierra that el Señor tu Dios (the Lord your God) is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and . . . You shall go al sacerdote (to the priest) who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare al Señor tu Dios that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar del Señor tu Dios, you shall make this response before el Señor tu Dios: ‘Un arameo errante was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When we were treated harshly and afflicted, with hard labor upon us, we cried to el Señor, el Dios of our ancestors; el Señor heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. el Señor brought us out of slavery with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; y Dios brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of todo el fruto de la tierra that you, Oh Señor, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before el Señor tu Dios.

Additional Readings:

Genesis 12:10: Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to reside there as an alien, for the famine was severe in the land.

Genesis 26:1-3a: Now there was a famine in the land, besides the former famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to King Abimelech of the Philistines. The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, ‘Do not go down to Egypt; settle in the land that I shall show you. Reside in this land as an alien, and I will be with you, and will bless you.

Ruth 1:1-2: In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

Exodus 22:21 and Exodus 23:9: You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Matthew 2:13-15: Now after the Magi had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take el niño y su madre (the child and his mother), and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search por el niño, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took el niño y su madre by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called mi hijo (my son).’

Silent Reflection

Hymn

You Have Come down to the Lakeshore
(First English, first Spanish, second English)
WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer (from God’s Good Earth in Crisis, compiled by Jeffery Rowthorn and Anne Rowthorn)

God of all peoples and places, of this people in this place, you made the dazzling heavens and abundant Earth, the seas and all that is in them, you secure justice for the oppressed, the outcast, and those forced to journey to unknown lands. You are the Holy One who lifts up those who are bowed down and watches over the stranger, the orphan, the widow and the refugee. You weep with those who weep and carry us all in a loving embrace. Open us to you and to your people in this time of prayer. (silence)

God of all humanity, be near to us as we pray for all the uprooted people in the world, especially those who have fled their countries and have become refugees and those who have been forced to live like refugees in their own lands. Help us remember our friends and our kindred throughout the world: those whose hunger and thirst have driven them from their homelands; those who have been uprooted from their homes due to war, violence, and the destruction of their environments. Help us remember your family. (silence)

God of our own lives, help us also remember the times we have felt forgotten, alone, or like strangers in a stranger land—and hear our prayers of thanks for those who found us, welcomed us, befriended us, (silence)

God of all care and God of all justice, may our remembering move us to action, to welcome and befriend, to advocate and work for the sake of for all people. (silence)

Creator God, you made the heavens and the earth, there is no place where you cannot reach, no journey which you have not traveled, no people beyond your care. Give us the strength and courage we need to walk with our sisters and brothers, to walk in your way of compassion and justice. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, Jesus the Refugee, who taught us to pray to you with boldness, courage, and trust saying:

(Please pray a version of the Lord’s prayer familiar to you.)

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Closing Hymn  402  De colores (Sing of Colors)  Mexican Folk Song
  *(First Spanish, first English)*

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

De colores

De colores, de colores se visten los campos en la primavera.
De colores, de colores son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera.
De colores, de colores es el arco iris que vemos lucir.
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi!
Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi!

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WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH!

We’re glad you’ve joined us for worship this morning and invite you to join in other ministries and programs of the church. Please go to our website (unitedchurchofsantafe.org) for more information. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Pastor; Jessie Lo, Pianist; Jesse Acker-Johnson, Guitarist; Blanca Surgeon, Liturgist; Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator.

The Santos on the Communion Table come from Santa Fe’s Spanish Market and were made by New Mexican Santeros. The inscription under the statue of Mary reads: Construye un puente, no un muro. (Build a bridge, not a wall.) The santo that includes the black water bottle was created by Juan Jimenez and symbolizes the water jugs migrants carry across the desert. The jugs are painted black to keep them from reflecting the sun and possibly giving away their location.
We Invite Your Offerings
As you leave the service, we invite you to offer your tithes and gifts in the offering plate by the entrance. Your financial support of United makes possible this church’s work in the community and the world.

Children’s Ministry Sunday Mornings
United’s children and youth tend the Children’s Garde during Sunday worship and learn about God and God’s earth, water, air, and creatures. All welcome! (Adult volunteers welcome, too! Please let Talitha Arnold or Kate Murphy know.)

Meet the Artists!
(This Tuesday and next Wednesday)
This Tuesday (August 2) at 3:00 pm, we welcome Santera Monica Sosoya Halford, whose paintings (on leather and wood) have won prizes and accolades for decades. We’ll be recording a conversation with Monica for the church – and the wider Santa Fe community—to have a record of her life and her work. Next week Wednesday (August 10) at 10:30 am, we welcome equally well-known Santero Jaun Jimenez for a similar conversation about his imaginative portrayal of well-known saints in northern New Mexico settings. Both program are free and open to the public. Come and bring friends!

Memorial Service for Bobbie Smith this Friday at 10:30
The United community is invited to a memorial service to give thanks for the life of long time member Bobbie Smith and to commit her soul to God’s care and keeping. Please register at https://rsvp.church/r/WFEsW9]. Masks and vax required.

Resiliency and Hope: What Does the Bible Really Say about . . . All Kinds of Things?
Thursdays at 8:00 am – Zoom (please register at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)
Explore the scriptures for the upcoming Sundays and help inform the sermon 😊. All welcome!

Preventing Gun Violence – Adult Forum (11:15 am) Next Sunday (Aug, 7)
We welcome Miranda Viscoli, Co-President of New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence for a special presentation on what we can do individually and as a church.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
(Youth Minister Kate Murphy: unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com)

Thursday Night Live—This Thursday, August 4 (5:30 to 7:00 pm)
United’s weekly summer evening program concludes with a simple supper and outdoor games. Please sign up by Wednesday so we know how much food to prepare. Grandchildren and friends always welcome!

“Initiation to Adulthood” – Orientation for Youth and Parents Next Sunday
United’s Initiation Program is a 2-year “rite of passage to adulthood” for 7th/8th/9th graders. Next Sunday after worship, Kate Murphy and Talitha Arnold host an orientation gathering for interested youth and their parents. Let us know you’re coming!

Middle and High School Youth -- Thursday, August 11 at United (7:15 to 8:30)
Encourage your kids to join with other United Youth—and friends—for summer fun! Let Kate know you’re coming!

Summer Drive for the Food Depot of Northern New Mexico
The Food Depot supplies schools, shelters, and agencies with healthy food year-round. To help, bring to the church: jumbo containers of vegetables & fruit; pasta & rice or family-size packages of high-protein foods (dried beans, canned meats, chili con carne or soup); baby foods (powdered formula, dry cereal, jars of baby food); and diapers. Monetary donations also welcome. Make checks to United Church (memo: Food Depot) or go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Thank you!

Push the Re-Set Button – Small Group Gatherings
In the pandemic’s third year, the challenge for churches isn’t to pivot but to re-set—our understandings of our ministries and the call to be God’s church. What are the values and faith we hold fast? Join with other United members and friends in small group conversations. Sign up at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. If you are flexible in your dates, let us know that, too. Thanks!

TODAY! Sunday, July 31 (11:15 to 12:45) Sunday, August 14 (11:15 to 12:45)
Wednesday, August 3 (4:00 to 5:30) Tuesday, August 16 (12:00 to 1:30)
Wednesday, August 10 (5:15 to 6:30) Tuesday, August 23 (7:00 to 8:30)
Thursday, August 11 (5:15 to 6:30)

At United, we seek to “LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION” in a whole lot of ways. From supporting our Dine/Navajo sisters and brothers to providing relief resettlement for Afghan, Central American, and Ukrainian refugees to feeding hungry people in Santa Fe and helping persons recovering from New Mexico’s devastating fires to composting waste into life-giving compost, United seeks to love our neighbors and God’s creation in all kinds of ways. Go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to find out more!