

**A SERVICE OF THE WORD**  
for  
**THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
and  
**THE SUNDAY BEFORE LABOR DAY**  
**THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE**  
A United Church of Christ

**September 4, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**For Reflection on the Sunday before Labor Day**

Working is a lot more than economics. It's about a search for daily meaning as well as for daily bread, for recognition as well as cash; in short, for a sort of life, rather than a Monday through Friday sort of dying.

*Working*, Studs Terkel

*O God, I am Mustafah the tailor and I work in the shop of Muhammad Ali. The whole day long I sit and pull the needle and the thread through the cloth. O God, you are the needle and I am the thread. I am attached to you and I follow you. When the thread tries to slip away from the needle, it becomes tangled and must be cut so that it can be put back in the right place. O God, help me to follow you wherever you may lead me. For I am really only Mustafah the tailor and I work at the shop of Muhammad Ali on the great square.*

A Prayer of an Arab Christian

**WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!**

*We're glad you've joined in worship. Children share in the service through the opening hymn and then go to the Children's Garden. Youth are invited to share in worship. If you brought a phone into the Sanctuary, please be sure to turn it completely off. Thank you!*

**WE GATHER**

Gathering Music

*Courante in A Major from English Suite BWV 806*  
*I'm Gonna Sing/Ain't-a That Good News*

J.S. Bach  
Spiritual/arr. Larry Shackley

\*Introit

***They That Wait Upon the Lord***  
*(\*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

Traditional

***They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount upon wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.***

***Help us Lord, help us Lord, on our way.***

***They that love the Lord of life shall renew their strength, . .***

Welcoming of Visitors and Sharing of Our Life Together

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

Sharing God's Peace and Regathering

***They That Wait*** (st. 1)

Traditional

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

A Call to Worship (congregation in bold)

God spoke, and light and darkness were created.

**And God called it good.**

God labored to create the earth, waters, and sky.

**And God called them good.**

God fashioned the moon, sun, and seasons.

**And God called them good.**

God toiled to bring forth plants, creatures, humanity, and all that surrounds us.

**And God called them good.**

God stopped to rest.

**And God hallowed that day.**

Come let us worship the God of creation, labor, and rest.

\*Hymn 28

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Dix

## WE PREPARE

\*A Prayer for the Sabbath from the Jewish Tradition (**congregation in bold**)

Lord of all creation, You have made us the caretakers of Your world, to tend it, to serve it, and to enjoy it. For six days we measure and we build, we count and carry the real and the imagined burdens of our tasks, the success we earn and the price we pay.

**On this, the Sabbath Day, give us rest.**

For six days, if we are weary or bruised by the world, if we think ourselves giants or cause others pain, there is never a moment to pause, and know what we should really be.

**On this, the Sabbath Day, give us time.**

For six days we are torn between our private greed and the urgent needs of others, between the foolish noises in our ears and the silent prayer of our soul.

**On this, the Sabbath Day, give us understanding and peace.**

Help us, Lord,

**to carry these lessons, of rest and time, of understanding and peace, into the six days that lie ahead, to bless us in the working days of our lives. Amen.**

\*A Time of Silent Prayer

\*The Affirmation of God's Presence and Grace

\*Our Song of Hope

*From All That Dwell below the Skies*

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Let the Redeemer's name be sung! Let God the Spirit free each tongue!*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## WE ENGAGE

### What Does the Bible Say About . . . Work?

Reflections on a Hard-working God

*Un agricultor* (A farmer) sowing seed

Luke 8:4-8

When *una gran multitud* (a great crowd) gathered and people from town after town came to him, *Jesús* said in a parable: "A sower went out to sow *su semilla* (his seed); and as he sowed, some fell *en el camino* (on the path) and was trampled on, and *los pájaros* (the birds) of the air ate it up. Some fell *en la roca* (on the rock); and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell *entre espinas* (among thorns), and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into *un buen suelo* (good soil), and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "Let anyone *con orejas* (with ears) to hear *jesucuchar!* (listen)!"

*Una mujer* (A woman) baking bread

Luke 13:20-21

Again Jesus said, "To what should I compare *el reino de Dios?* (the realm of God)? It is like *levadura* (yeast) that *una mujer* (a woman) took and mixed in with *tres medidas* (three measures) of flour until all of it was leavened."

*Un pastor* (A shepherd) looking for a lost sheep

Luke 15:3-6

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having *cien ovejas* (a hundred sheep) and losing one of them, does not leave *los noventa y nueve* (the ninety-nine) in the wilderness and go after *el uno* that is *perdida* (lost) until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it *sobre sus hombros* (on his shoulders) and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together *sus amigos y vecinos* (his friends and neighbors), saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found *mis ovejas* (my sheep) that was lost.'"

“What woman having ten silver coins, if she *pierde uno* (loses one), does not light a lamp, *barrer la casa* (sweep the house), and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together *sus amigas y vecinas* (her friends and neighbors), saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found *la moneda* (the coin) that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is *alegría* (joy) in the presence *de los ángeles de Dios* (of the angels of God) over one sinner who repents.”

A Time of Silent Reflection

Musical Reflection

*Hoe-Down* from *Rodeo*

Aaron Copland

## WE RESPOND

A Prayer for Labor Day and the Prayer of Our Savior

Baptized into the Body of Christ, we are all called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves in thanksgiving for what God has done and continues to do for us. We can worship God in all our life. Let us pray for all who seek to honor God in their daily living and everyday work.

Bless those who work in government and those aspire to leadership,  
**keep them safe and open to your Spirit of justice and compassion  
that they serve the common good.**

Bless those who care for children,  
**keep them safe and help them so their love might be a reflection of your love.**

Bless those who teach,  
**keep them safe and sane in this challenging time and may their knowledge reflect your wisdom.**

Bless those who work the land, the mines, the forests, and fishing grounds,  
**keep them safe and help them be good stewards of God’s creation.**

Bless those who work with the lonely, those without shelter, the despairing, the alienated,  
**keep them safe and empower them to see the face of Jesus in each person.**

Bless those who wait tables, wash dishes, sweep floors, and stock grocery stores,  
**keep them safe and may they—and all of us—know their service is essential and valued.**

Bless those who work in medicine and health care,  
**keep them safe and strengthen them to be instruments of healing.**

Bless those who manage businesses and corporations,  
**keep them safe and open to your teachings that their decisions may be made according to your will.**

Bless artists and musicians,  
**keep them safe and open them to all your people, cultures, and voices  
so they might help us see and hear more completely.**

Bless those who work in high technology,  
**keep them safe and open to your Spirit that they might enhance the dignity of human life.**

Bless those who are retired yet intercede for others with patience and faithfulness,  
**keep them safe and help them discern how they can be your hands and heart for others  
in the wider community and world.**

Bless those are unemployed, who look for work but cannot find it,  
and those whose work is demeaning or difficult,  
**keep them safe, calm their fears and help them know their worth  
is not measured by their work, but by your love.**

Bless all of us with your commitment to care for those in need,  
shelter those who are homeless, feed those who are hungry, and offer hope to those in despair.  
**Help all of us know that our true work is to love neighbor and love creation  
and in so doing, to love you.**

Lord of the whole week, and of our whole selves, we pray for all who are attempting to serve you. Guide us in your way, instruct us with your teachings, and give us courage, patience, vision; and strengthen us all in our ministry of witness to the world and service to others.

All this we pray in the name of the One who saw you as the Good Shepherd, the woman baking bread, and the loving parent; the One who taught us to pray to you with boldness, courage, and trust, saying,...

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

## WE GO OUT IN PEACE

- \*Hymn                    556                    *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*                    Holy Manna
- \*Benediction
- \*Musical Benediction                    *Kyrie Eleison* (3x)                    Ukrainian Orthodox Chant

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the Kyrie Eleison chant. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system contains two phrases: "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son." The second system contains a longer phrase: "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son." with a long note on "son." that spans across the end of the system.

### *Soli Deo Gloria—To God Alone the Glory!*

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### **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 sign the guest register, too. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership are the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister; Jessie Lo, Pianist; and Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator. Liturgists will be announced.

### **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 Garden 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.)

### **All Church Picnic – Labor Day Sunday (Today!)**

Stay after the 10:00 service for a new "old-fashioned All Church Picnic!" The church provides drinks, individual packages of chips, and dessert (ice cream sandwiches or drumsticks). You bring your own sandwiches, salads, ribs, etc. We'll have tables and plenty of shade. All welcome!

### **Women's Study Group – This Wednesday (10:00 am)**

All women invited to join in lively discussions of Choctaw Elder and Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston's "The Four Vision Quests of Jesus." For a copy of the book contact Talitha Arnold. Barbara MacPhee organizes the group (504-232-6670, [macphee.b@gmail.com](mailto:macphee.b@gmail.com)).

***Resiliency and Hope: Strengthening Our Souls – Thursday Mornings at 8:00 (MDT) on Zoom***

Exercise your mind and your soul every Thursday morning by exploring the scripture stories for the upcoming Sunday. Join in to deepen your faith and share the journey. All welcome! Sign up at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com).

***Adult Forum: What's Your Legacy? – Next Sunday (11:15 am)***

Join Larry Rasmussen in an interactive conversation about leaving a legacy—and writing love letters to your grandchildren to read in a time and a world that will be very different from that of our childhoods.

***Bradley Ellingboe's Requiem – Next Sunday, September 11 at 3:00 pm (at United)***

Bradley Ellingboe's Albuquerque chorus, *Coro Lux*, presents his *Requiem* Sunday afternoon, September 11 at 3:00 pm in our sanctuary, accompanied by a 7-member chamber orchestra. This performance is a remembrance of the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of that event, as well as a memorial to those we've lost to Covid, and other recent tragedies. Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$10 for students, [abqcorolux.org/tickets](http://abqcorolux.org/tickets). Please come!

***Letters to Our Grandchildren: What Should Our Legacies Be?***

**Wednesdays: 12:00-1:30 or 5:00-6:30 pm (starts Sept. 14)**

Larry Rasmussen leads an 8-part seminar exploring the Christian faith as it intersects with the changing planet and the legacy you wish to leave our grandchildren and future generations. Using letters from *The Planet You Inherit* (Larry's book of letters to his grandchildren) the class will draft and share their own thoughts about letters they might write. Registration required: ([unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com); 505-988-3295). Questions? Please contact Larry ([iras1939@gmail.com](mailto:iras1939@gmail.com); 505-231-0993). Dates: Sept. 14, 21, 28; Oct. 5, 12, 19; Nov. 30, Dec. 7.

**LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION**

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

**Go online to [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org)**

***or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.***

**Interfaith Shelter Donations**

The Interfaith Shelter needs the following donations. Please bring them to the church (boxes in Community Room) and Pat Roach will take them to the shelter. Items needed: Men's Clothing (pants, jackets, shirts); socks and underwear (men's and women's); razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hats, sunscreen, lotion, (new). Thank you!

**Summer Drive for the Food Depot**

The Food Depot supplies schools, shelters, and agencies throughout Northern New Mexico with healthy food year-round. To help, bring any (or all) of these items to the church: jumbo-size containers of canned vegetables or fruit, pasta, rice for group meals; family-size packages, especially high-protein foods (dried beans, canned meats, chili con carne, soups); baby foods (powdered formula, cereal, jars of baby food); diapers. Monetary donations also welcome (memo: Food Depot).

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

From supporting our Diné/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](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org) to find out more!

**United's Children**

***“Love God, Neighbor, and Creation!”***

**Sunday Mornings during 10:00 Worship**

Decorating cookies for our neighbors at the Arroyo Chamiso Fire Station. Hygiene Kits for our neighbors in Ukraine. Cards for our neighbors at the Mexico/U.S. border. Supper for our neighbors who are unhoused. Bringing our family's food waste to compost.

Each Sunday this fall, United's children (through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) learn new ways to “love God, Neighbor, and Creation.” They'll start worship with the adults and older youth and then go to Children's Ministry for a host of different hands-on projects to care for others. They'll learn about God and Jesus by doing what Jesus did—care for the sick, reach out to the lonely, welcome the stranger, and love this earth. All welcome—and bring friends!

**Three New Youth Groups Start this Month**

(Youth Minister Kate Murphy: [unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com))

**Young Adventurers  
(6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>)**

Gather Sunday mornings during 10:00 worship to explore faith and help others and once a month for just plain fun (movie night, bowling, hikes, etc.)

**Youth Initiates  
(8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>)**

Start their “Journey to Adulthood” with a Ghost Ranch Retreat (Sept. 17) and the Rite of Separation (Sept. 18), then meet on Sunday mornings at 11:15 (after worship).

**JAS – Juniors & Seniors  
(11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>)**

A whole new year and a whole new group! Gathering on Sunday evenings at 6:30 and monthly service projects, fun nights, etc., etc., etc.

All welcome—and bring friends!