

**A Service of Word and Sacrament
for
The Fourth Sunday of Eastertide
“Good Shepherd Sunday”
and
Mother’s Day**

May 11, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.



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

For Reflection:

*Loving God,
Lead us beyond ourselves
to care and protect,
to nourish and shape,
to challenge and energize
both the life and the world
you have given us.*

Joan Chittister (O.S.B.)

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Romanza Op. 11, No. 2
A Mother's Prayer

Clara Schumann
Foster/Sager

*Introit

Easter Alleluia (2x)

Donald Fishel

***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!

Regathering

Easter Alleluia (1x)

Donald Fishel

Welcoming of Visitors and Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

I Heard My Mother Say

trad. African American

The Call to Worship (cong. bold)

As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,

so God seeks and saves the lost.

Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,

so God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.

As a father welcomes a returning wayward son,

so God welcomes us, and lets the past be past.

Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received.

Let us receive, welcome, and give thanks for one another

and for the One who gives us life together. Amen.

*Hymn

479

God Is My Shepherd (1-4)

Scottish Psalter/Brother James Air

WE PREPARE

A Musical Call to Prayer

The 23rd Psalm

Bobby McFerrin

A Prayer of Invocation (unison)

We thank you, for you are our God, and God of our fathers and mothers forever. You are the Refuge of our life, the Shield of our help. From generation to generation, may we thank you and count your praises—evening, morning, and noon—for our lives which are committed into your hand, for our souls which are entrusted to you, for your miracles which are with us every day, for your wonders and goodness at all times. O Good One, your compassion does not fail. O Merciful One, your loving kindness never ceases. Forever we hope in you.

Time of Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

*Our Song of Praise

God Is My Shepherd

Scottish Psalter/Brother James Air

***Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me;
And where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwelling place will be.
My Shepherd blesses, cares and leads through all eternity.***

*(During the song, children through 6th grade are invited to the Children's Garden
with Family Minister Dana Bender and Education Aides Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz.)*

WE ENGAGE

The Revelation of John of Patmos (**cong. bold**)

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

**"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."**

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them [clean].

"For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship the Lord day and night within the temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat,

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Sermon

Don't Underestimate Shepherds (or Lambs)

Silent Reflection

Musical Response

Shepherd of All (back page)

Jeffery Rowthorn/O Quanta Qualia

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (*please pray any version*)

Offering the Gifts God Has Given Us

Offertory

Coming Home

Alexis Ffrench

Prayer of Dedication (**unison**)

**Shepherd of All, bless our tithes and offerings, returned to you. Multiply and use them for the sake
of our neighbors, kindred, and all creation. Amen.**

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn

436

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

Harry Emerson Fosdick/Cwm Rhondda

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Kyrie eleison

Ukrainian Orthodox (c. 9th century)

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Welcome to the United Church of Santa Fe!

We're glad you have joined us for the Fourth Sunday of Easter and invite you to join in 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.

Also sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Minister; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Dr. Michelle Schumann, Pianist; Dana Bender and Bruce Turnquist, Liturgists; Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez, with volunteer Audio Tech Frank Wilbanks. Many thanks also to Family Minister Dana Bender; Children's Aides Destiny Muñoz and Maria Navarette; the Sacred Space Team; and greeters and ushers Rosemary Thompson, Char and Bruce Cebell, Pam Hyde, and Karen Wilbanks (organized by Diane Darby).

GARDENS AND WORMS AND COMPOST (OH, MY!)

Kids United Dig Deep

Over the next two Sundays, the children are preparing the soil in the garden for planting. **Today it's all about compost and worms!!** Happy Mother's Day! ☺ Next Sunday, we get started with planting! Led by Family Minister Dana Bender with Children's Aides Maria Navarette and Destiny Munoz. All welcome and bring friends ☺

FOOD, FUN AND GAMES – NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 18

Plan to stay after the 10:00 service next Sunday, May 18 for an All Church, All Ages Lunch and Outdoor Scavenger Hunt and Games! Please sign up today.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS – NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 18

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

Shepherd of All

Jeffery Rowthorn/O Quanta Qualia

1. Shep - herd of all who in - hab - it the earth,
2. Lov - er of souls, un - der - min - ing our pride,
3. Con - queror of death, o - ver - com - ing de - spair,
4. Her - ald of God and the king - dom to be,

dy - ing you showed us hu - man - i - ty's worth;
heal and for - give each of - fense we would hide.
strength - en us, lest, by our ceas - ing to care,
grant us the vi - sion to see as you see;

call - ing all home in their own mo - ther tongue,
Par - don and grace are the fruits of your tree;
truth yield to false - hood and jus - tice to wrong;
risk - ing the new to give life to the old,

Lord, by your life - giv - ing word, make us one.
Lord, by your self - giv - ing love, make us free.
Lord, by your ris - ing to life, make us strong.
Lord, by your gos - pel of hope, make us bold.

LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR
More info at unitedchurchofsantafe.org.

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!

And Other Ways to Love Neighbor . . .

- Help prepare and/or deliver monthly suppers for Interfaith Shelter, St. E's, and Casa Familia (Pat Roach, 505-988-7357).
- Assemble Church World Service Hygiene Kits for refugees from Ukraine, Gaza, and Sudan.
- Navajo/Diné support for Good Shepherd Church in Ft. Defiance, Arizona (Talitha Arnold, 505-988-32995).
- Advocacy/basic needs support for immigrants and asylum seekers through our Border Ministries (Avril Ekstrand, 505-490-8164).
- BookKids provides free cooks for Santa Fe Public School students (Gail Ansheles, 608-335-4774).

FELLOWSHIP/STUDY GROUPS

**Pretty Good Guys Explore “The Greatest Prayer”—
Jesus’ Revolutionary Message in the Lord’s Prayer**
Wednesdays, May 14 (10:30 am)

Join with other United men to engage a challenging book by John Dominic Crossan about the central prayer of the Christian faith. All welcome! (Talitha Arnold, 505-988-3295)

“Faith and Resilience” Bible Study Group
Thursdays via Zoom (8:00 am)

Join this weekly Zoom study to deepen your faith and share the journey. People tune in from all around the country. Sign up at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

Wednesday Women’s Study Group
May 21 (10:00 am)

We’ll select books for next year’s reading. All women welcome! For more info, contact Cheryl Morton (mommorton@gmail.com, 515-240-4523) or Jenn Wynn (home@wynnes.us, 817-219-0707).

The United Church is holding two memorial services this week for members of the wider Santa Fe community. On Tuesday, May 13, at 10:00 am we remember Santa Fe journalist Denise Kusel. On Friday, May 16, at 10:00 am we gather to remember Ricco Tapia and commit his soul to God’s eternal care. Please keep the families and friends of both Denise and Ricco in your prayers.

LOVE GOD, LOVE CREATION

Santa Fe River Cleanup
Saturday, May 17 (8:30-10:00 am)

Join us to care for our corner of Creation. Meet at Closson St. Pedestrian Bridge. We provide donuts, coffee, and trash bags. You bring a hat, sunscreen, and gloves. Please sign up in the Community Room, call 505-988-3295 or email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com. All Creation thanks you!

Compost Collection – It’s a Miracle!

United contracts with Reunity Resources to transform 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. Thanks! Questions? Contact Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700).

Planning Your Summer Travels?
Offset Your Carbon Use & Care for Creation

United’s “Carbon Offset Program” helps plant trees and change policies to address climate change. It’s simple to do: track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to support *Tree New Mexico’s* hands-on tree planting and *NM Interfaith Power and Light’s* advocacy. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care. Questions? Contact Larry Rasmussen (505-231-0993).

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP...

Graduation Sunday! – Sunday, May 18

We’ll recognize, honor, and bless all United graduates (middle school, high school, college) during the 10:00 service. If you have a graduate in your family, let Dana or Talitha know asap!

Benefit Supper at Jambo Cafe
Wednesday, May 28

for Changing Lenses, Changing Lives

Join Changing Lenses Changing Lives (CLCL) at Jambo Cafe anytime between 5:00 and 9:00 pm on Wednesday, May 28. Chef and Owner Ahmed Obo will generously contribute a percentage of the evening’s guest bills to CLCL’s school feeding program in Kenya. CLCL is a nonprofit founded by member Jenn Wynne. Come enjoy a meal while supporting a great cause!

Summer Drop-in Choirs

All singers invited to United’s Summer “Drop-in Choirs” **Pentecost Sunday (June 8)** and **Sundays July 20 and August 10**. Come at **9:00 am** to rehearse and sing in the 10:00 service. Interested? Contact Director of Music Brad Ellingboe (unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com).