

**A Service of the Word
for
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 25, 2026
10:00 A.M.**

The United Church of Santa Fe
A United Church of Christ

For Reflection:

You may not be able to tell when it happens. The signs may be too subtle since they are occurring deep within the many layers of your life. On the surface things may seem the same, as if your problems were still frozen in place, but at the core, at the heart of your need, something has begun to crack, to change, to move. The power of the Spirit is an inevitable pressure, a force that will never be denied. Over time it will open up your life, even in the places where you never believed it would be possible. In fact, it may already be happening even as you pray.

Bishop Steven Charleston, Choctaw Elder and Episcopal Bishop

WE GATHER

(May the first note of the Prelude be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship.)

Gathering Music

Sonata in E-flat: Adagio

Franz Joseph Haydn

*Introit

Alleluia (2x)

Zimbabwe

(*Please rise in body or spirit.)



Al-le-lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Welcome and Sharing of Our Life and Ministry

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

*Sharing God's Gifts and Regathering

Alleluia

Zimbabwe

Welcoming of Visitors and Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

Aint'a That Good News

African American/arr. William Dawson

The Call to Worship from the Prophet Isaiah (**congregation in bold**)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us,
because the Lord has anointed us to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

**God has sent us to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;**

To grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit;

**That they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord that God may be glorified.**

Let us sing praise to God!

WE PREPARE

Musical Call to Prayer

Lord, I Stretch My Hand to You

Jay Althouse

Prayer of Invocation from the Tewa Tradition

O our Mother Earth, O our Father Sky,
Your children are we: with tired backs
we bring you gifts that you love.

Then, weave for us a garment of brightness.
May the warp be the white light of morning,
May the weft be the red light of evening.
May the fringes be the falling rain.
May the border be the standing rainbow.

Weave for us a garment of brightness,
that we may walk fittingly where birds sing,
where grass is green.

**O our Mother Earth, O our Father Sky,
weave for us!**

A Time of Silent Prayer

*The Affirmation of Grace and Our Song of Praise

Diademata

*Praise to the living God, around, within above,
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.*

*(During the hymn, children through 5th grade go to Kids United,
with Family Minister Dana Bender and Children's Aides Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz.)*

WE ENGAGE GOD'S WORD

A Reading from the Good News of Matthew

Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Hymn 173

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore
(1st English, 1st Spanish, 2nd English)

Pescador de Hombres

Sermon

What Were They Thinking?

Silence

Musical Response 173

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore
(3rd and 4th English)

Pescador de Hombres

WE SHARE OUR PRAYERS AND OUR GIFTS

Pastoral Prayer and the Prayer of our Savior

(We conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Please pray a version familiar to you.)

Offering Our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO IN PEACE

*Hymn	436	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i> (1-3)	Harry E. Fosdick/Cwm Rhondda
*Benediction			
*Musical Benediction	436	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i> (v. 4)	Harry E. Fosdick/Cwm Rhondda

Soli Deo Gloria—To God Alone the Glory!

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH!

We're glad you're here!

Your presence enriches worship for all of us. If you're visiting, please take a moment to fill out the yellow visitor card. Again, welcome!

Sharing Leadership in Worship Today

Sharing leadership in today's service are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Pastor; Michelle Schumann, Music Director/Pianist; the Sanctuary Choir directed by André García-Nuthmann; Bonnie and Maggie Bannerman, Liturgists; and Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator, assisted by Frank Wilbanks. You were welcomed by Louise Cavatta, Dana Hollifield, Diane Darby, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Sunday Aide Irene Guilbeault.

The Flowers on the Communion Table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Royce Stewart whose memorial service was yesterday.

Kids United

We'll "love our neighbors" by creating cards for those in our community who cannot come to church in person.

LGBTQ+ Concerns and Rights in the Current Administration

Adult Forum – Today – 11:15 am

We welcome Kevin Bowen, Executive Director of New Mexico Human Rights Alliance, for an update on the new national regulations concerning gender-affirming care and their impact not only on Transgender persons, but also on the LGBTQI+ community as a whole and on hospitals and clinics providing such care. He'll address overall LGBTQI+ concerns in general under the current administration.

COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Advocate and Pray for Immigrants Rights TOMORROW

Monday, January 26 at Railyard and Roundhouse

Show your support for our immigrant and refugee neighbors by learning, marching, and praying together.

- **8:00** – Teach-in at Farmers' Market Building (Railyard) with "Unidos Con Libros" film.
- **10:15** – March to State Capitol followed by **11:00 rally**
- **12:00** – Prayer Vigil sponsored by Interfaith Leadership Alliance (and also visits to Legislators' offices)

Please sign up today to let us know you're coming to any or all of the above. And please wear your green "Love God, Neighbor, Creation" t-shirt!

Pretty Good Guys – Wednesday, 10:30 am

This winter and spring, the Pretty Good Guys invites all men to join in a study of "What Are Biblical Values?" by Yale professor John Collins. Copies of Chapter One in Community Room. Books will be available for purchase soon. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Resiliency and Hope: Unpacking the Gospel of John – Thursdays 8:00 am on Zoom

Exercise your mind and your soul each week by exploring the challenges and wisdom of the Gospel of John. All welcome to share in this journey. People tune in from all around the country. Sign up at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.

FebFest 2026 – Celebration of African American Sacred Music

United Church of Santa Fe and Albuquerque's *Coro Lux*

Next Weekend—January 31 – February 1

Next weekend, we welcome special guest **Dr. G. Phillip Shoultz, III**, in the Saturday choral workshop, the 10:00 Sunday service, and the 3:00 pm Cathedral concert. **Dr. Shoultz is a nationally known conductor and composer who lives and works in Minneapolis.** Not only will he offer his deep understanding of African American sacred music, but he will have a first-hand report on the impact of the ICE invasion on his hometown, choirs, community, friends, churches, and neighbors.

- **Saturday, Jan. 31, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm**
 - Choral Workshop with Dr. Shoultz at United Church. (Register at abqcorolux.org.)
- **Sunday Morning, Feb. 1, 10:00 am**
 - Dr. Shoultz is guest conductor and preacher (with Bradley Ellingboe and Talitha Arnold) in United's Worship Service.
- **Sunday Afternoon, Feb. 1, 3:00 pm**
 - Free Concert at St. Francis Cathedral Basilica, featuring the *FebFest Chorus* directed by Dr. Shoultz; *Coro Lux*, directed by Bradley Ellingboe; and El Faro Youth Choir (directed by Joe Mitchell). Freewill offering supports the new Santa Fe Faith Coalition for Immigration and the Albuquerque Road Runner Food Bank. Plan to come—and spread the word! For more info, please call 505-988-3295.

God's Glory!

Mardi Gras Sunday – Jazz and Gospel Service – Feb. 15

After Peter, James, and John make it to the top of a high mountain with Jesus, the three disciples see him in all his glory. (Matthew 17:1-9) “Sunlight poured from his face.” Not surprisingly, they want to stay in that mountaintop glory, but God tells them to listen to Jesus, which means they need to follow where he leads—which is down from the mountain to offer God’s light, life, and hope to others. Guided by guest jazz pianist Andy Kingston, we’ll take that journey, too. Bring a friend to our annual, toe-tapping Mardi Gras service!

New Members Welcomed – Mardi Gras Sunday, Feb. 15

Interested? Please speak with Talitha. If interested, but can't come Feb. 15, let us know that, too.

Congregational Mid-Winter Budget Meeting – Sunday, February 22, 11:15 am

All welcome! It's an opportunity to look at this past year and look to the future, too!

