

A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT  
for  
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The United Church of Santa Fe  
A United Church of Christ

July 7, 2024  
10:00 A.M.

For Reflection:

*It's less important to ask whether you believe in God  
than to ask what kind of God you believe in.*

Rabbi Shai Held  
President and Dean of Hadar Institute  
*Judaism is About Love: Recovering the Heart of Jewish Life.*

WE GATHER

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

Gathering Music

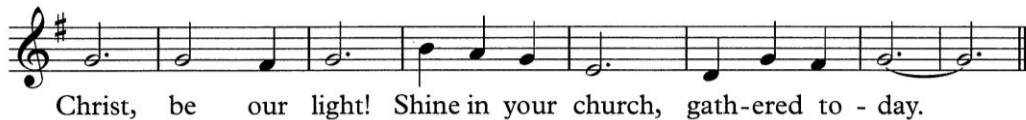
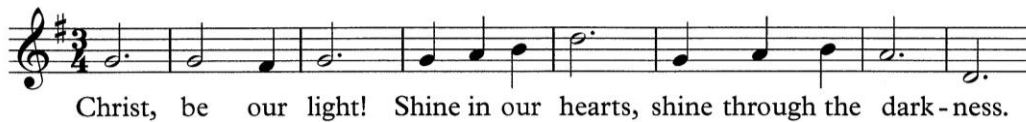
*Salut d'Amour*

Edward Elgar

\*Introit

***Christ, Be Our Light*** (2x)  
*(\*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

Bernadette Farrell



Words of Welcome and Breathing in God's Gifts

\*Sharing God's Gifts and Regathering in Song ***Christ, Be Our Light*** (1x)

Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

German Melody

The Call to Worship (**congregation bold**)

Let us hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for God will speak peace to the people,  
to the faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**The Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.**

Righteousness will go before God and will make a path for God's steps.  
Come, let us walk in God's ways and trust in God's love.

\*Hymn

17

***To You, O God, All Creatures Sing*** (1-3)

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

## WE PREPARE

\*In A Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**Eternal One,  
Silence from whom our words come;  
Questioner from whom our questions arise;  
Lover of whom all our loves are hints;  
Disturber in whom alone we find our rest;  
Mystery in whose depths we find healing and ourselves;  
enfold us now in your presence;  
restore to us your peace;  
renew us through your power;  
and ground us in your grace. Amen.**

\*In a Time of Silent Prayer

\*In the Affirmation of Grace

\*Our Song of Praise

*To You, O God, All Creatures Sing*

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every way,  
Sings your praises, alleluia!*

*As savory fruit and fragrant flower, show forth your glory and your power, singing praises,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*(During the song, children and youth are invited to go to Children's Ministry. They return for Communion.)*

## WE ENGAGE GOD'S WORD

### *Soul Psalms*

From the Psalms of the Hebrews

Psalm 48:1-3, 9-14

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised  
in the city of our God.  
God's holy mountain, beautiful in elevation,  
is the joy of all the earth, . . .  
We ponder your steadfast love, O God,  
in the midst of your temple.

Your name, O God, like your praise,  
reaches to the ends of the earth.  
Walk about Zion, go all around it, . . .  
that you may tell the next generation  
that this is God,  
our God for ever and ever.  
The Lord will be our guide for ever.

Hymn 521

*In Solitude* (1-3)

Ruth Duck/Land of Rest

Sermon

*Ponder the Hessed (Steadfast Love) of God*

*Hessed*: from a Hebrew word meaning to "bow one's head in courtesy to another as an equal."

English translations: steadfast love, covenant faithfulness, mercy, lovingkindness, compassion,  
goodness, unfailing love.

*Hessed* is used 246 times in the Hebrew Bible, most often to describe God's relationship with the people.

Silent Reflection

Musical Reflection

*How Can I Keep from Singing?*

Robert Lowry/Endless Song

## WE RESPOND

Sharing the Gift of Communion

Remembering the Story

## Welcoming One Another and Giving Thanks to God

This table is open to all who seek to know God's love and to follow in Christ's way of hope and justice.

We come to this table not because we must,

**but because we may.**

We come not because we are fulfilled,

**but because we stand in need of God's mercy and assurance.**

We come not to express an opinion,

**but to seek a presence.**

This meal is offered for you and me that we might again know that in Jesus Christ God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death, reconciling all creation to our Creator. Let us come to know God's steadfast love in our lives.

## The Prayer of Blessing and the Lord's Prayer *(please pray any version)*

### The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*(Communion is open to all. As called, please come forward to receive the bread or non-gluten wafer. Then either take an individual cup or dip the bread into the chalice and return to your seat by the next aisle. Thank you!)*

### Communion Hymns *(congregation)*

330

***Let Us Break Bread Together***

African American

*(st. 3 acapella)*

332

***As We Gather at Your Table***

Carl P. Daw/Beach Spring

349

***I Come with Joy***

Brian Wren/Dove of Peace

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Eternal God, you call us from our lives to feast at your table. We give you thanks for your abiding presence and for this time of communion with you and with one another. As we take our leave from one another, go with us into your world. Whomever we meet, open our eyes to see you in them. Open our hearts and our hands to share your steadfast love. We pray in your name. Amen.**

## WE GO IN PEACE

\*Hymn 425

***For the Fruit of All Creation***

Welsh Folk Song

\*Benediction

\*Musical Benediction

***Kyrie Eleison***

Ukrainian Orthodox Chant

***Kyrie eleison.***

***Christe eleison.***

***Kyrie eleison.***

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

We're glad you've joined in worship this morning, and we hope you found both the service and community engaging and enriching. We invite you also to join in the weeks ahead as together we "love God, Neighbor, and Creation." For more information about United, please visit our website [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org). Again, welcome!

### **We Invite Your Morning Offering**

Your morning offering, along with regular pledges, makes possible the abundant life and ministry of the United Church. As you leave, please take a moment to leave your offering in the Community Room plates. Thank you!

Sharing leadership are the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Dr. Jessie Lo, Pianist; Yasmeeen Lookman, Hymn Leader; Nyla Rasmussen and Phil Smucker Liturgists and Readers; Media Coordinator Elijah Marquez and volunteer Frank Wilbanks. You were greeted by Margy Maira, Sally Stewart, Diane Darby, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Sunday Aide Luis Zapata.

Violinist Jessica Smucker has been playing violin since a very young age. She was a biology major at Goshen College with a music minor and has always appreciated having violin as an outlet during all stages of life. In Santa Fe she has played with Santa Fe Pro Musica for many years and helps out as an orchestra assistant at Gonzales Community School. Jessica and her family have been part of United since 2012.

### ***Who's Our Family? – All Creation!***

#### ***Summer Children's Ministry***

Every Sunday, United's kids explore different perspectives on "Who's Our Family?" To see God, Jesus said, look at the birds and the flowers. After tending the Children's Garden, United's kids explore United's flowers, bushes, and birds to see how they see God. They return for Communion. All kids and grandkids welcome!

**Pretty Good Guys' Really Good Pancake Breakfast  
and Fundraiser for Ruidoso/Mescalero Apache and Las Vegas Fire & Flood Relief**

United's Pretty Good Guys welcome everyone to enjoy darn good pancakes, sausage, & orange juice. No charge, but we welcome your free-will offerings for Fire and Flood Relief for our New Mexico neighbors.

**Love Kids? Love Fun?**

So volunteer one Sunday this summer to help with Children's Ministry! We'll provide the plans—you just need to sign up and show up. Let Karen Wilbanks or Talitha Arnold know you can help! Sign up in the Community Room.

**HELP OUR FELLOWSHIP TIME BE ECO-FRIENDLY**

Please join in the time for fellowship, coffee, and snacks after today's service. And when you're done, please put used cups and napkins in the compost bin in the Community Room. Thanks to Reunity Resources, they'll be turned into great compost.

**Coming Up in Sunday Forums (11:15 a.m.)**

**July 14 – *God's Story from Around the World: United's Sacred Art***

Hispanic Catholic Santos and Bultos, Native American paintings and instruments, a Guatemalan Annunciation, a Ukrainian Nativity. All are part of United's diverse collection of sacred folk art. See how the Christian story is shared by artists from around the world and also reflective of this corner of creation.

**July 21 – *What's Ahead? – Santa Fe Today and Santa Fe Tomorrow*  
City Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth**

Santa Fe native Carol Romero-Wirth is the long-time City Councilor from United's district.

Did you miss one of the earlier forums in the summer series? Or do you want to revisit one of the forums? Then look for the Adult Forum playlist, "*What's Ahead: Santa Fe Today and Tomorrow*" – *A Summer Forum Series*, on United's YouTube channel ([youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGJT8m04urZnLaA29NQPi5x51Wrag-JJ](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGJT8m04urZnLaA29NQPi5x51Wrag-JJ)).

**IN THE WINGS THIS SUMMER . . .**

***Drop-in for Choir Next Sunday– July 14 (also August 11)***

All singers (youth and adults) are invited to come at 9:00 to rehearse a simple anthem and then sing in the 10:00 service. (Bradley Ellingboe, [unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com))

***Resiliency and Hope: Strengthening Our Souls – Next Thursday (July 11) at 8:00 am (via Zoom)***

Explore next Sunday's scriptures with Talitha Arnold and United members and friends from across Santa Fe and across the country. Sign up at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com) or speak with Talitha for more information.

**“United Church Night” at Fuego Baseball Game!**

**Sunday, July 21 — 5:30 pm (sign up by Wednesday, July 17)**

Join with your United community to cheer Santa Fe's hometown baseball team, the Fuegos. We're sponsoring the game, so we throw out the first pitch, lead the National Anthem, meet the players, get discounted tickets, and have United Church highlighted all through the game. Tickets: \$6 (33% off!). Families with kids free. (Help underwrite family tickets by including a donation with your ticket purchase.) Sign up at church or email [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com). Friends welcome!

**It's Time to Share—One Great Hour of Sharing**

Throughout the U.S. and around the world, our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing make a difference. United invites your support for the ecumenical effort that impacts lives and addresses issues of poverty and access to education. You can also designate it for particular emergencies (e.g., earthquake relief, long-term development, or emergency needs for refugees on the U.S./Mexico border). Donate online ([unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org)) or by check (memo: OGHS). Thank you!

**Summer Food (and Finance) Drive for the Food Depot**

United offers many ways to support The Food Depot. If you have a garden at home, add an extra row and bring extra produce to United to go to the Depot. Or bring non-perishable food items: canned vegetables/fruit, pasta, rice, dried beans, canned meats, soups, baby foods (powdered formula, cereal, jars), diapers. Monetary donations welcome: online at [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org) or check (memo "Food Depot"). Thank you!

United member Gail Mattson is moving July 16 to an assisted living facility in California to be nearer to her family. To help her downsize there will be a moving sale at her home (2874 Plaza Amarilla) Saturday-Sunday, July 13-14 (10 am - 3 pm both days). Please spread the word. Also, Gail and her family are so appreciative of the many prayers, cards, flowers, and visits from everyone at United.

For your protection, please do not leave valuables visible in your car. Please remember to always lock your car when attending services or events at United. Thank you!