

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE
and
THE SUNDAY BEFORE MEMORIAL DAY**

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

**May 22, 2022
10:00 A.M.**

For Reflection

I do not believe that sheer suffering teaches. If suffering alone taught, all the world would be wise, since everyone suffers. To suffering must be added mourning, understanding, patience, love, openness, and the willingness to remain vulnerable.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh in *Hour of Gold, Hour of Lead*

WE GATHER

*(May the first note of the Gathering Music be a call to prayer and stillness as we prepare for worship.
Also, please turn off your cell phone upon entering the Sanctuary.)*

Gathering Music *Prelude in D-flat Major ("Raindrop") Op. 28, No. 1* Frédéric Chopin

*Introit *Easter Alleluia* (2x) Donald Fishel
*(*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

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!

Musical Call to Worship *Easter Alleluia* (2x) Donald Fishel

The Call to Worship from Psalm 46 (congregation: bold)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

Though its waters roar and foam,

Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob and Rachel is our refuge.

Be still and know that I am God.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob and Rachel is our refuge.

*Hymn 25 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* (st. 1, 4, 6) St. Anne

WE PREPARE

*A Prayer of Invocation

We thank you, God, for the gift of our lives and of this land.

Help us to remember your generosity and do your will.

Bless our nation and its leaders with your spirit of truth, compassion, and justice.

God of all mercy and hope, may the memories of war and violence strengthen our efforts for peace.

May the memories of those who died inspire our service to the living.

May the memory of past destruction move us to build for the future.

Hear our prayer, O God of all people, O God of Peace. Amen.

*A Time of Silent Prayer

*A Song of Commitment

525

This Little Light of Mine

African American Spiritual

WE ENGAGE GOD'S WORD

Word of Introduction

The End of the Gospel of Luke

Luke 24:44-52 (cond.)

Then Jesus said to disciples, "These are *mis palabras* (my words) that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in *la ley de Moisés, los profetas y los salmos* (the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms) must be fulfilled." . . . Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, *los bendijo* (he blessed them). While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up *al cielo* (into heaven).

The Beginning of the Acts of the Apostles and of the Christian Church

Acts 1:1-11

En el primo libro (In the first book), Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until *el día* (the day) when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions *a través del Espíritu Santo* (through the Holy Spirit) to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them *durante cuarenta días* (for forty days) and speaking of the realm of God.

{After the forty days}, they came together and as they were watching, *fue levantado* (he was lifted up), and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up *hacia el cielo* (towards heaven), suddenly *dos hombres* (two men) in white robes stood by them. They said, "*Hombres de Galilea* (Men of Galilee), why do you stand looking up *hacia el cielo* (towards heaven)?"

Hymn

366

God of Our Life

Hugh T. Kerr/Sandon

Sermon

Through the Valley of the Shadows

Silence

Musical Response

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

*God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking.
God be at my end and in my departing.*

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (*Please pray any version of the Lord's Prayer.*)

For all who given their lives for the sake of others, God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have died from violence, God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who give their lives for justice and peace, God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have died in the pandemic, God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the courage and commitment to do what we must to follow your ways of life, God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

WE GO IN PEACE

Blessing of United's Graduates

*Hymn

81

God Be with You till We Meet Again (st. 1-3)

Jeremiah Rankin/Tomer

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

81

God Be with You till We Meet Again (st. 4)

Jeremiah Rankin/Tomer

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. Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership in today's service are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Bradley Ellingboe, Director of Music; Jessie Lo, Pianist; the United Choir; and Elijah Marquez, Livestream Technician. Liturgists and readers will be announced. We also offer a blessing for Miles Swanson who was not able to attend last week's Graduation Service.

Adult Forum – Wildfire Protection: What You Need to Know (11:15 in Sanctuary)

We welcome City of Santa Fe Emergency Management Director Brian Williams and United and Fire Adapted Communities Network member Marlita Reddy-Hjelmfelt for a presentation on preparing for wildfires—by knowing sources for information, preparing your home or workplace, developing an emergency communications plan, and knowing what to do when a wildfire is approaching your home or community. All welcome!

Helping our Kids through Trauma and Tragedy (11:15 in Education Wing)

Pastor Talitha Arnold and Youth Director Kate Murphy meet with parents, grandparents, and other adults and older youth to hear concerns and share resources in the wake of the recent school and grocery store shootings and the ongoing culture of violence and guns in which our children live. In addition, print resources for dealing with trauma and also taking action are available in the Community Room.

Talitha Arnold will be away through Thursday. If a pastoral need arises, please call the church office (505-988-3295) or the Caregivers on Call (Sun. – Tues.: Dave Wilkison, 505-400-0504; Wed/Thurs: John Shaffer, 814-336-9553).

COMING UP THIS WEEK . . .

MON		Memorial Day—Office closed
WED	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal (contact Brad Ellingboe if interested in joining)
THURS		Burrito suppers for Interfaith Shelter
SUN		PENTECOST! (wear blue :-)
	10:00 am	In-Person Worship (also livestreamed) and Children's Garden
	11:15 am	Blessing of the Children's Garden

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

PRAYING IN THE DIRT

CHILDREN'S GARDEN STARTS NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 5

"Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow!" That's what United's children and youth will do starting Pentecost Sunday, June 5, with the help of master gardeners like Donna Clark and Nyla Rasmussen. All children and youth invited to help plant during worship that Sunday, and afterward the congregation gathers to bless it all.

BE THE RIVER NEW: THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE 2022!

June 16 to August 11

Thursday Night Live! starts **Thursday, June 16 (5:30 to 7:00)** for United families and guests. "Be the River New!" is our theme for the weekly outdoor evening program with a simple supper, projects, worship, games, music, and other activities. The program accommodates summer schedules as we know families may be away some weeks. Register at unitedchurchofsantafe.org/thursdaynightliveregistration. And spread the word—friends welcome! (Youth Director Kate Murphy: unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com)

Thursday Night Live 2022 – Lend a Hand (and a Heart!)

Join our volunteer team for *Thursday Night Live!*, United's weekly summer program for kids and families. Volunteers needed for set-up/clean-up, songs, crafts, stories, and a host of other activities. You can sign on for a couple Thursdays or the whole summer. Contact Youth Director Kate Murphy for more info or to sign up! (unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com)

IN THE WINGS

A Cool Blue Pentecost with the Andy Kingston Trio – Sunday, June 5

In the traditional story of the first Pentecost from the Acts of the Apostles, God's Spirit appears as a mighty wind and tongues of fire. Given what's happening in New Mexico right now, our Pentecost focuses on other manifestations: the Spirit that is with us wherever we go (Psalm 139); the cleansing waters of Baptism (be it Jesus' or the Ethiopian Eunuch's); the descending of the dove over those waters. Join in this "Cool Blue Pentecost!" We also welcome guest vocalist Rev. Melanie Harris.

Our Need for God's Spirit – Father's Day, Sunday, June 19

On the secular holiday of Father's Day, we welcome Subzali Seyam as our guest in a dialogue sermon. Mr. Seyam is the father of the Afghan family United is helping resettle in Santa Fe. He worked for many years for U.S. Special Forces. We also welcome the Men's Drop-in Choir.



LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION

Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!

Go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.

LOVE NEIGHBOR

42ND BIRTHDAY RAISES \$5,296 FOR FIRE RELIEF

Thanks to the generosity of United members and friends, near and far, over \$5,000 was raised in honor of United's 42nd Birthday for Fire Relief. In addition, 20 bags of food, water, and hygiene supplies were donated to the Food Depot for distribution to persons who have lost homes and livelihoods. The recent donations will be added to the \$3,000 already given from United's operating reserve. Many thanks to all who contributed! To join in, please make a check to United (memo: "Birthday Fire Relief") or go online at unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Thank you!

KITS FOR UKRAINE

We continue to assemble hygiene kits for Church World Service for refugees in camps around Ukraine and also in-country. To date we have raised over \$20,000 and United's kids have assembled 400+ kits. We'll assemble more soon! You're invited to support that effort in three ways:

- **Monetary donations** to be used for the hygiene kits or sent directly to Church World Service to buy supplies (food, diapers, etc.). Go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to donate or bring/send a check to the church (memo: Ukrainian people).
- **Volunteer to help assemble kits.** Let us know you want to help and we'll contact you for the next assembly.
- **Spread the word to friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family.** We gladly receive supplies or financial support for the kits from the wider community. Thank you!

United's Shelter Dinners Feed Homeless Persons and Support Santa Fe Businesses

Early in the pandemic (April 2020), United made a commitment to continue to support both Santa Fe's homeless shelter and local Santa Fe businesses, while also keeping people safe from Covid. For the past two years, we have provided 135 meals each week from Felipe's Tacos and "Mucho Gourmet" for the Interfaith Shelter and 35 meals each month for both St. Elizabeth & Casa Familia. To date, that has totaled 14,400 burritos and 3,600 sandwich suppers, totaling \$95,150. As the pandemic has eased, people have been able to provide homemade meals once again so Interfaith only needs 50 burritos weekly from United, and we'll continue the support for St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia. To help with the cost, we welcome your checks or online donations. Please memo: "Shelter Dinners." Thank you – and thank you for your abundant generosity throughout the pandemic!

Supporting Our Diné/Navajo Brothers and Sisters

Your financial support for covid relief work (food and cleaning supplies) and masks continue to make a difference. Donations are sent to United's long-time partner, the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, in Fort Defiance, Arizona.

Cards and Cookies for Hospital Workers

Medical personnel, housekeepers, and maintenance staff are on the front lines. Show your support with cards of support and/or cookies. Drop off at United (please list ingredients). We'll deliver. (And the staff promises not to eat them in the meantime.)

LOVE CREATION

Care for Creation and Offset Your Carbon Use

United's "Carbon Offset Program" helps plant trees and also work for policies to address climate change. It's simple to do: Track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to *NM Interfaith Power and Light and Tree New Mexico*. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/post/unitedscarbonoffsetprogram.

Compost Collection – It's a Miracle!

United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (e.g., 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 the compost bin means less in the landfill. Info at reunityresources.com or call Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700). Thanks!

