A SERVICE OF THE WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
and
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A United Church of Christ

November 15, 2026 -- 10:00 A.M.

God is already here.

For Reflection:

A society grows great when the elders plant trees
under whose shade they know they'll never sit.

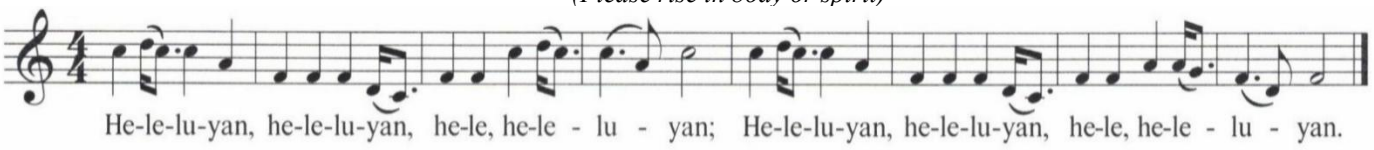
(Parable attributed to different traditions.)

WE GATHER

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

Gathering Music — *Impromptu in G-Flat* — Franz Schubert
Simple Gifts — Trad. Shaker Tune

*Congregational Introit — ***Heleluyan*** (2x)
(Please rise in body or spirit)



Music - ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House. Used by Permission. OneLicense.net #A-711427

Blessing and Sharing of Our Life and Ministry

"Building Hope for the Future" Campaign for United 2027
Dana Cagle, Stewardship/Finance Ministry Chair

*Sharing God's Blessings — *"Blessings for this Blessed Day!"*

*Regathering in Song — ***Heleluyan*** (1x) — Traditional

Welcoming All and Breathing in God's Gifts Again

Musical Call to Worship — *What Gift Can We Bring?* — Jane Marshall

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

Be still, and know that God is.
God was, also, in the beginning.
And when all human striving has ceased, God will still be.
From everlasting to everlasting, God is God and alone is worthy to be worshiped.
Let us sing praise to the God of all creation.

*Hymn 459 — ***Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*** — Robert Robertson/Nettleton

WE PREPARE

A Prayer of Invocation and Rededication

Eternal God, we offer thanksgiving and praise to you on this festive day. We give thanks for the calling to be your church and for the power you give us to fulfill our calling. We are a people with a past full of assurance and a future full of hope. Today we re-dedicate this church and our lives to you. May the hope and faith we experience in this place live in us so that each time we gather we are reminded of your holy presence.

Hear our prayers of thanks for all our kindred and neighbors, near and far, in the United Church of Christ and in many faith traditions, who have made this church a reality. May we build on their vision and be the community of faith, hope, and love that you call us to be. To you be the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Grace

*Song of Praise ***From All That Dwells Below the Skies*** Lasst Uns Erfreuen

From all that dwells 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!

*Blessing of the Children 82 ***Go, My Children with My Blessing*** (1-2) Jaroslav Vajda/Welsh Melody

WE ENGAGE

Jesus' Parable about the Realm of God Gospel of Matthew 25:14-28

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once, the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time, the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received what was my own with interest. So, take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. "

The Sermon *Hope Abounding*

A Time of Silent Reflection

Musical Response 565 ***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*** (1-2, 4)
Robert L. Edwards/Franz Joseph Hadyn

WE RESPOND

Offering Ourselves in Prayer *(We conclude with the Lord's Prayer. Please pray any version.)*

Presenting Our Offering

Offertory *Well Done, My Faithful Servant* Pepper Choplin

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn ***Lord, You Give the Great Commission*** (back page, 1-3) Jeffery Rowthorn/Hyfrydol

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction ***Lord, You Give the Great Commission*** Jeffery Rowthorn/Hyfrydol

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
And, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

****

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We're glad you're here! Please stay for the Burrito Brunch, too. If you're visiting, help us be a more welcoming congregation by filling out the yellow "visitor's card." (We promise not to inundate you with emails ☺.) Again, welcome!

Sharing leadership in this morning's service are the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister; Dana Bender, Family Ministry Director; Michelle Schumann, Music Director and Pianist; John Tiranno, Choir Director; the United Choir; Jack Smucker, Liturgist; and Elijah Marquez, Media Coordinator. You were welcomed by Kim Zeilik, Karen Wilbanks, Rosemary Thompson, Blanca Surgeon, Pam Hyde, and Sunday Aide Irene Guilbeault.

Kids United Today – Sing Their Thanks!

1st through 5th Graders are invited to ***Kids United*** where today they'll learn how to sing their thanks with songs we'll use in next Sunday's Thanks-Singing Service. They'll also explore the Parable of the Talents and the big word "stewardship" means :-). (So if you're wondering, find a child and ask them!)

BUILDING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE – Campaign for United 2027
All Church Burrito Brunch – TODAY-- Nov. 15 (after both services)

We have a lot to celebrate at United! A strong, growing community for all ages. Worship that strengthens and feeds us. Music that blesses us. Opportunities to grow in faith and understanding. Ways to care for our neighbors and God's creation. We gather today to share good food and fellowship—and make our 2027 financial pledges for United's life and ministry. Your pledge makes many things possible—especially **hope**. All welcome! (If you can't stay for the brunch, please pick up a pledge card and envelope in the Community Room and put it in the offering plate as you leave. Thank you!

****

Lin Raymond, Office Administrator, is out of the office through Friday, Nov. 18. The Church Office will be closed this Monday but open Tuesday through Friday. In an emergency, please call Talitha Arnold (505-690-5327).

This Week at United

Tuesday: 2:00 pm Interment Service for Jo Rhodes

Wednesday: 10:00 Wednesday Women's Study Group
5:15 Church Council
7:00 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday: 8:00 a.m. "Thanks, Resilience and Hope" Zoom Bible Study

Friday: 9:00 am "Chop and Grate" –Prepare casseroles, bring meat loaf, grocery shop for Shelter Meals (Cathy Garret,

++++++++++++

Moses and Jesus Go to the Movies – Renesan Series with Talitha Arnold
This Thursday (Nov. 19) at Sky Cinema Midtown – 10:00 am

For decades, American authors and movie directors have drawn upon both Jewish and Christian scriptures for themes, plots, and scenes. Through short readings, film clips, and visual art, Talitha Arnold explores the impact of ancient sacred texts on U.S. movies, particularly Melville's *Moby Dick* and Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*. Info/Registration: renesan.org/moses-and-jesus-go-to-the-movies/.

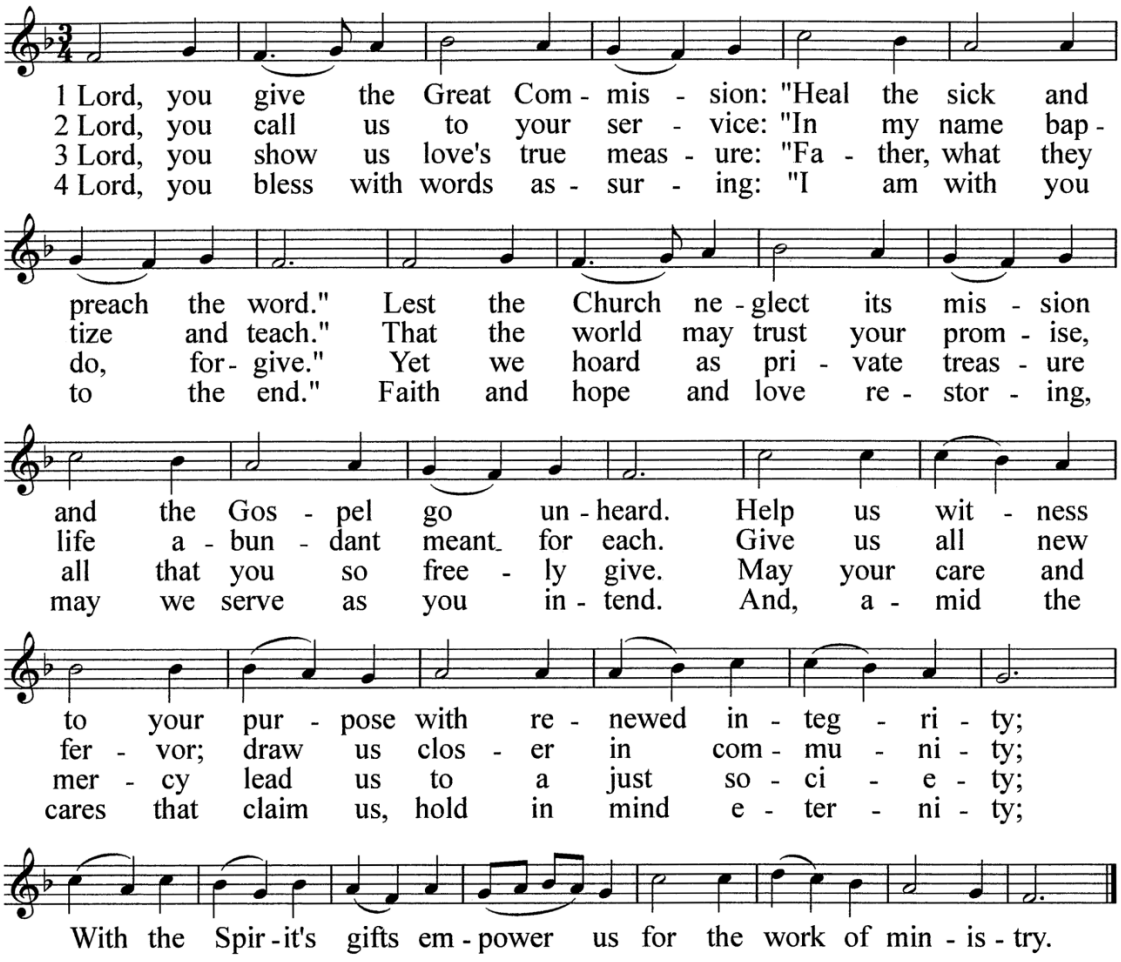


Save the Date – Family Game Night is coming! – Friday, December 4 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)
Come one, come all! This is an intergenerational evening of lasagna, hygiene pack assembling, and game playing! RSVP by December 1 to Dana Bender (unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com) or to the church office (unitedchurchsf@gmail.com).

Love God by Loving Our Neighbors
(and keeping them warm) – Clothing and Blanket Drive
Clean out your closets and bring new and gently used jackets, sweaters, hats, and blankets to United for St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia Shelters, Interfaith Community Services, and Nava Elementary School. Kids can help, too—with outgrown jackets, etc. To make a financial donation please memo your check "Clothing/Blankets") or go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Invite neighbors and friends, too. Using the Church as a central clearing house makes donating easy! Also-- lend a hand sorting and delivering. Please email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com or call 505-988-3295 to say you'll help! Thank you!!

Toiletries for Shelter Christmas Bags – Community Room Boxes for all items
Individual new toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush) for Christmas Bags children and adults will assemble for St. Elizabeth shelter guests (both women and men) during the Advent Community Supper, Friday, Dec. 4) (**No** mouthwash, medications, razors).

Lord, You Give the Great Commission



Jeffery Rowthorn

Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
Rowland H. Prichard, 1844
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906