

WE PREPARE

*In a Prayer of Invocation and Thanks

You, O God, are our dwelling-place from generation to generation, our shield from anguish and distress. You empower us as children of light with the hope of new life, and you protect us by your love. Give us grace to build up and encourage one another, as we seek wisdom and abundant life in the strength of your Word and the assurance of your Spirit. Amen.

*A Time of Silent Prayer and Affirmation of Grace

*Our Song of Praise

Joyful, Joyful

Henry van Dyke/Ode to Joy

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.*

(During the song, children are invited to Children's Ministry with Maria Navarette.)

WE ENGAGE

From the Psalms of the Hebrews

Psalm 16:1-11 (abr.)

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to God, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you." . . .

I keep God always before me;
because God is at my right hand,
I shall not be moved.

God is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
The boundary lines have fallen for me
in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Hymn 583

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

Daniel Bechtel/Austin

Sermon

The Path of Life, the Fullness of Joy

Silent Reflection

Musical Response

They That Shall Endure to the End

Felix Mendelssohn

WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer *(please pray any version of the Lord's Prayer)*

WE GO OUT IN PEACE

*Hymn 76

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Omer Westendorf/Ash Grove (Welsh)

*Benediction

*Musical Benediction

Kyrie Eleison (3x)

Ukrainian Orthodox Christian

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Soli Deo Gloria—To God Alone the Glory!

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning and invite you also to join in our weekday offerings and service opportunities. 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!

Also sharing leadership are Rev. Talitha Arnold, Pastor; Michelle Schumann, Guest Pianist; Cheney Doane, Guest Conductor; the Sanctuary Choir; Audio Visual Volunteers Frank Wilbanks and Sam Elkind; and Nyla Rasmussen, Liturgist. You were welcomed by Kimberly Zeilik, Tom and Sally Stewart, Pam Hyde, Karen Wilbanks, and Luis Zapata, Sunday Aide.

Adult Forum Today: “To Seek Christ’s Face” – Images of Jesus in Art Through the Ages

Part 3 – Christ on the Cross, Resurrected and Reformed

As United explores who Jesus was and is for us, join Molly Elkind for a four-week exploration of images of Jesus in art, from the days in the catacombs to the present. What can we learn from the ways in which Jesus has been and is today portrayed in visual terms?

Thank You for YOUR Pledges to BLESSED. . . TO BE A BLESSING! Campaign for United 2025

What a wonderful gift singer, composer, pianist Ken Medema gave to United last weekend! His music and presence showered us in blessings in a multitude of ways—and motivated over 80 friends and members to commit to “Campaign for United 2025!” Great gratitude for all who’ve organized United’s stewardship work this fall and to all, near and far, who’ve pledged so generously. So far we’ve received 66 pledges for \$244,646. We’ll make the \$560,000 Challenge Goal with your help—and we hope even to the **Victory Goal of \$575,000!** Please pick up a pledge card and envelope today, fill it out—and then either leave it in the offering plate, mail it via USPS, or send it via email. Also please consider the electronic debit/credit program. Email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com or call (505) 988-3295 for info and forms. Thank you and thanks be to God!

Make United’s Welcome a Real Deal!

We want to be a welcoming community every Sunday—we need your help to do that! Sign up today to greet/usher. Thanks!

Wednesday Women’s Study Group – Nov. 20 (10:00 am)

This week we begin *After Annie* by Anna Quindlen. All women welcome! Info: Cheryl Morton (mommorton@gmail.com, 515-240-4523) or Jenn Wynn (home@wynnes.us, 817-219-0707).

Sanctuary Choir Welcomes You!

Rehearses Wednesdays (7:00 pm) and Sings Sunday (10:00 service)

Interested? Contact Director of Music Brad Ellingboe: unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com.

Advent and Christmas Festival Choir Welcomes You!

This year’s annual Advent celebration of Lessons and Carols is “All Creation Sings!” on the Joyous Sunday of Advent, Dec. 15 in the 10:00 am service. We invite other singers to join the Sanctuary Choir for a short time to participate in this special event. If you’d like to participate, please let us know by emailing Director of Music Bradley Ellingboe (unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com). This Wednesday, Nov. 20, is the deadline for joining the Festival Choir.

Toiletries for Shelter Christmas Bags and “Socks-Giving” – Community Room Boxes for all items

Individual new toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush) for Christmas Bags the children assemble for St. Elizabeth Shelter guests (**No** mouthwash, medications, razors). Donate new pairs of warm socks for children, women, and men in SF Shelters.

Compassionate Christmas Gifts Market Starts Sunday, Dec. 1 through Dec. 15

In the true spirit of Christmas, give United’s *Compassionate Christmas Gifts* that give hope, care, and joy all around the world. The market is after both the 8:30 and 10:00 services, Dec. 1, 8, and 15. Gifts include blankets for refugees, children’s “comfort backpacks,” support for our neighbors working for peace in Palestine and Israel, and more. Watch for more info soon! See the full list on the back page.

United Church Commits to Love God, Neighbor, and Creation in a Whole Lot of Ways

Supporting our Diné/Navajo neighbors. Providing relief and resettlement for Afghan, Central American, and Ukrainian refugees. Feeding hungry people in Santa Fe. Composting waste into life-giving compost. United seeks to love our neighbors and God’s creation in all kinds of ways. Go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org to find out more!

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.

MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES TODAY!
Rising Stars – Santa Fe Youth Symphony Concert
Today at 12:00 noon – Lensic Theater

Several United Youth play in various groups in the concert (Sasha Smucker—Mariachi Estrella; Luke Rand and Jack Smucker—Sierra String Quartet; Jaden Rand—Youth Symphony). Tickets: \$25 at [The Santa Fe Symphony](#).

Handel's *Messiah*
Santa Fe Symphony and Chorus with guest soloists
This Afternoon – 4:00 pm – Lensic Theater

Experience Georg Frederic Handel's masterpiece. United singers include Joan Snider, Elizabeth Roghair, and Talitha Arnold. Tickets and info: [The Santa Fe Symphony](#).

Resiliency and Hope: Strengthening Our Souls – Starts again Thurs, Dec. 5 at 8:00 am MT via Zoom

Get ready for Christmas by exploring the Advent scriptures with Talitha Arnold and friends from across Santa Fe and across the country. Call the church office (505-988-3295) or email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com to sign up. All welcome!

IN THE WINGS

“THANKS-SINGING” SUNDAY NEXT WEEK!

United members and friends of all ages come together to sing our thanks in the 10:00 Sanctuary Service (and share our prayers of thanks in the 8:30 Contemplative Communion). Also during the 10:00 service our youngest children assemble “Care Packages” for United's College Students all around New Mexico, our country, and the world!

Wreath Making – for Children, Youth and Adults – Sunday, Dec. 1

Ruth White has a passion for making wreaths, and during the 10:00 service, she shares that joy with United's kids to help them make wreaths for their own families. Ruth also offers a Wreath-making opportunity for adults during the 11:15 Forum.

Friday, Dec. 6 – All Church All Family Advent Supper with St. Nicholas!

A visit from the *real* St. Nicholas, United Church provides the meal, Church World Service Kits. All families and friends, all United members and friends welcome!

Compassionate Christmas Gifts Market—Starts Sunday, Dec. 1

In the true spirit of Christmas, we invite you to give United's *Compassionate Christmas Gifts* that offer hope, care, and joy to people and places in need. Sunday Markets: Dec. 1, 8, 15. Also order online at unitedchurchofsantafe.org. Gifts include:

Church World Service: \$10

Blankets for Refugees around the world (Ukraine, Sudan, Israel/Palestine).

Honduran Bilingual Education Community School and Oases Orphanage: \$20

Two months of school supplies for a low-income classroom in Honduras.

New Mexico Immigrant Law Center: \$30

Legal Services and Advocacy for Children, Youth, and Families.

“Roots” Palestinian Israeli Peace Initiative in the West Bank: \$40

“Growing Roots” after-school program brings Palestinian & Israeli children and youth together.

United Youth Immersion Trip Scholarship: \$40

Toward a youth scholarship for the Youth Immersion Trip, to the U.S. Mexico Border or Navajo Nation.

Santa Fe Shelters for the Homeless: \$60

One night at St. Elizabeth, Casa Familia, Interfaith, or Youth Shelters.

Communities in Schools Gift Card for Families in Need: \$50

CIS started as United Church/Salazar School Partnership. It's grown and so have the needs of SF students.

***My Water, My Watershed* Santa Fe Student Field trip: \$25**

Sponsor a public-school student for an experiential, science-based program to study and explore their watershed, learning about complex relationships between living things and their environment.

The Mess in the Messiah – Advent/Christmastide Devotional

Copies of a daily devotional for Advent and Christmastide by the national United Church of Christ (including reflections by Talitha Arnold) are in the Community Room. Take a copy and one for a friend to join in the daily journey to new life.

Memorial Gifts for Christmas Wreaths, Poinsettias, and Flowers for Congregational Care

Help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas with gifts in honor or memory of loved ones (suggested donation: \$20/name). The Christmas flowers go to persons for whom this holiday season is difficult. Please fill out a form in the Community Room and leave it with your donation in the marked envelope (forms needed by Sunday, Dec. 8). Names will be in the Joyous Advent (Sunday, Dec. 15) and Christmas Eve bulletins. Thanks!