

Vestal United Methodist Church
April 14, 2024, 9:30 AM
The Third Sunday of Easter
Native American Ministries Sunday

**SPECIAL
SUNDAY**

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

“Remember your work that comes from faith, your effort that comes from love, and your perseverance that comes from hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father.”

— 1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-3, CEB



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

328 Main Street, Vestal, NY 13850

www.vestalumc.org

(607) 785-3367

*Welcome to all our guests, members, and friends,
both young and not-so-young!
Please know that it is a joy to have you among us
in person or in the virtual world.*

*Indicates congregation is invited to stand if able.

CENTERING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

*“God has written the law of love on your heart.
Gaze deeply and find within.”*

Prelude “Morning Has Broken” arr. Marilyn Ham

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome

Announcements

Opening Prayer by John Phillip Newell

Music Meditation Daniel Hill, *Native American flute*

***The Call to Worship (Responsively)**

Leader: Here in this place, there are no foreigners,

People: for all are welcome in God’s house.

Leader: Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,

People: for love is the language of faith.

Leader: Here in our lives, there are no divisions,

People: for God dwells in each of us.

All: Come, let us worship in unity and love.

***Opening Hymn 2117 “Spirit of God”**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Be the face of love for your neighbor. Share smiles of compassion
and words of peace as we greet one another on this day.

*(We encourage online worshipers to share comments of peace on our video platform.
We also invite all worshipers, if possible, to take a moment to send a text message
of peace and love to someone who isn’t present in worship today.)*

Music Meditation

Daniel Hill, *Native American flute*

Young Disciples

Marcia Focht

The Lord's Prayer

Native American interpretation by Hattie C. Enos, Nez Perce, USA

**O Great Spirit,
You are our Shepherd Chief in the most high place.
Whose home is everywhere, even beyond the stars and moon.
Whatever you want done, let it also be done everywhere.
Give us your gift of bread day by day.
Forgive us our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us.
Take us away from wrong doings.
Free us from all evil.
For everything belongs to you.
Let your power and glory shine forever. Amen.**

Sermon Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21 *(The Voice)*

Message

Marcia Focht

Prayer of the Day (unison)

Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ. We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Hymn 114 "Many Gifts, One Spirit"

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Give thanks to God, who is faithful and good.

Give thanks by sharing your tithes and offerings this day.

Offertory

Daniel Hill, *Native American flute*

***Doxology** by Ruth Duck, sung to tune of “The Church’s One Foundation”

**Refreshed by living waters, renewed by living bread,
may we your sons and daughters by your own hand be led.
Accept the gifts we offer. Receive the lives we owe.
Unite us in your service. May seeds of justice grow.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:**

**Friends in Christ, God invites us to hold the needs of
our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs.
Loving our neighbors as ourselves, we present our offering
to God for the benefit of the church and the world. Gracious
and glorious God, accept our offering along with our love. Amen.**

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Call to Prayer (sung by all)

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace.
Amen.**

The Pastoral Prayer

SENDING FORTH

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, GOES BEFORE YOU

We go out to share the good news of God’s love through our loving service.

***Closing Hymn 356 “When We Are Living”**

***Benediction**

Postlude

Daniel Hill, *Native American flute*