



# CARRYING THE LIGHT



First United Methodist Church of **Hanford**  
*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*



A Reconciling Congregation

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**Pastor: Rev. Pastor Pablo R. Vargas**  
**Music Director: Cavan O'Neill**

**Sunday Morning Worship Service**  
***Lay Worship Leader- Jim Shoemaker***

**-Words of Welcome**

**-Announcements**

**-Centering Time (Preparing Our Hearts & Minds for Worship)**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

**Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:**

**God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?**

**When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:**

**God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?**

**No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.**

**God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.**

**Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!**

**We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Opening Prayer**

***“King of Kings” and “Heart of Worship”***

***Praise Team***

***Passing the Peace of Christ (with hugs, handshakes, and fist bumps)***

***Pastoral Welcome and Prayer***

***“When Morning Gilds the Skies”***

***UMH-185***

### **Scripture Reading- Matthew 4:12-23- (NRSV)**

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles <sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

*Leader: This is the Word of our Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**(Children are dismissed to “Godly Play”)**

### ***Choir Anthem***

**Message: “What Are You Looking For?”**

**-Rev. Pastor Pablo R. Vargas**

**“Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies”**

**UMH-173**

### **INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS & SERVICE –**

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

Steadfast Light of our salvation, in a world that trembles with uncertainty and teaches us to fear, you shine with unwavering hope. You call us to seek your face and trust in your presence more than in our own strength. Receive these gifts, given not out of fear but in joyful confidence that your love casts out fear and your grace makes us bold. Use our offerings to serve a world where your light leads, your justice reigns, and your people—unafraid—become living testimonies of your goodness. In the name of Christ, our rock and redeemer, we pray. Amen

**Closing Hymn- “Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah”**

**UMH-127**

**Benediction (*Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour*)**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out our new announcement board in the sanctuary entry.

Today After Church  
Youth, Parents & Volunteers Meeting  
Planning for upcoming events & programs.

Tuesday, January 27 – 9:00am-11:00am  
Food Distribution  
Please come at 8:00 or before to help set up and pack food.

Sunday, February 15- 1:00pm-2:30pm  
Get Ready for Vision Sunday- Share, listen, and Pray  
All are welcome to stay for a special time to focus on the vision for the future of our church and its ministries.

Giving Just Got Easy - Point Your Camera At the QR Code  
Below

