



First United Methodist Church of Hanford

“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”



A Reconciling Congregation

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

Sunday Worship Service - 4.19.2026
Lay Worship Leader- Peggy Gregory

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time (Preparing Our Hearts & Minds for Worship)

Opening Prayer

Merciful God, who is more than we can ever imagine, give us a wider vision of the world; give us a broader view of justice; give us dreams of peace that are not defined by boundaries of geography or race or religion, or by the limitations of worldly structures and systems. Open our hearts and our minds that wherever we go, we may know your voice calling us by name; calling us to serve, calling us to share, calling us to praise, so that we never give up on the promise of your kingdom, where the world is transformed, and all can enjoy life in all its fullness.
Amen.

Responsive Call to Worship

Family of God, when we feel afraid and pressed in on every side...

The Spirit protects and advocates for us.

When the world's problems seem too big to solve, and we don't know how to do the next right thing...

The Spirit comforts and strengthens us.

When we need wisdom to know what is ours to do and the courage to act...

The Spirit counsels and empowers us.

Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone—God is with us!

Today, we call once again on the Holy Spirit to empower us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world.

Amen

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” UMH 400

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

“Goodness of God” – Praise Team

Pastoral Welcome and Prayer

"I Surrender All" UMH 354

Scripture Reading- Colossians 2:6-10 (NRSV)

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principle of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority."

Leader: This is the Word of our Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

****Choir Anthem****

**** "Children are dismissed to "Godly Play" at this time****

Sermon: "Rooted and Built Up in Jesus" -Pastor Pablo R. Vargas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of gentle rains and warm sun, God who encourages growth,

We are creatures who sometimes grow quickly, and sometimes get stuck.

God of freedom, of liberation, of binding ropes being cut,

We are bound in ways we don't always understand or recognize.

God of exodus and exile and homecoming, God who calls us to leave where we are and come home,

Help us to have the courage to make the journey and to trust in the path.

God of health and healing, God, who wants us to be made whole,

We come as people who are wounded in body and in spirit, people who seek healing.

God, who has laid out a way for us to live, who has given us rules for living in community,

We come as people who sometimes go astray, people who stretch the rules.

God of Grace, we come as people who live through that Grace.

And so, we praise you for the growth, we rejoice in being set free,

we dance along the path that leads us home, we give thanks for the healing we have received, we relax in the knowledge that we are forgiven,

and we live as people of Grace. Amen.

Offertory

Offering Prayer (In Unison) and Collection

Abundant God, you call us beyond survival into life—abundant, rooted, and overflowing. You invite us to walk by faith, not as individuals alone, but as a community growing together in Christ’s fullness. Receive now these gifts we offer, not out of scarcity or obligation, but in joyful response to your goodness. Use them—and use us—to build up the body, to bless the world, and to proclaim that, in you, there is always more: more joy, more hope, more life. We give, trusting that you are still planting, still building, still transforming us into bold and joyful disciples. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Benediction (Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour)