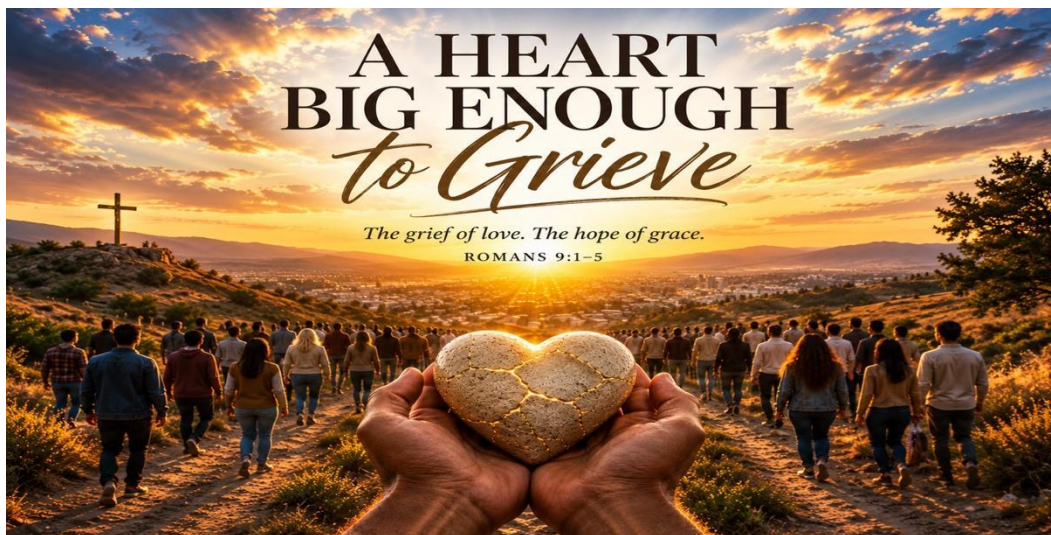




First United Methodist Church of Hanford

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



"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 Morning Worship Service - 8.2.2026

Lay Worship Leader- Bob Junell

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time (Preparing Our Hearts & Minds for Worship)

Opening Prayer

Responsive Call to Worship

As we gather and as we disperse, as we rise and as we sleep, as we eat and play and work,
We offer God praise.

As we wash our car, scrub the dishes, rinse the grime of the day from our hands,
We offer God praise.

As we feel the tips of the grass on our feet, the wind against our face, the sun on our backs,
We offer God praise.

Come, let us worship God who creates, redeems, and sustains us to live out our praise in all we do!

We come as people formed by grace to offer God praise with our whole selves now and in all the ordinary moments of our lives! Amen.

"Praise to the Lord Almighty" UMH-139

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Leader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

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

Pastoral Welcome and Prayer

“He Is Worthy”

Praise Team

**** “Children are dismissed to “Godly Play” at this time****

Scripture Reading- Romans 9:1-5 (NRSV) I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: “The Grief of a Big Heart”

-Rev. Pastor Pablo R. Vargas

“Father We Thank You”

UMH- 565

Offering Prayer (In Unison)

Steadfast God, you search our hearts and know our needs even when we struggle to find the words. In your mercy, you strengthen us in our weakness and bind us together in love that cannot be broken. As we bring these gifts today, may they bear witness to your enduring promise: that nothing—not hardship, nor fear, nor even death itself—can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus. Bless these offerings, that they may bring hope to the weary, peace to the troubled, and joy to the hearts of your people. Through Christ, our Redeemer and Companion, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to give Our Tithes and Offering

Doxology

Communion

Prayer of Confession:

O God, listen to our prayer of confession, for we would speak honestly before You. We confess that we haven't always done what is right; that some of our attitudes and actions have hurt others and ourselves, and have grieved You. Forgive us. In Your mercy, look deeply into our hearts. Examine our thoughts and our actions. Test our motivations. Bring to light all the things in our lives that dishonor You. We want to follow You with integrity, to obey the commandments You have given us, and to walk in ways that bring honor to Your name.

(Silent Confession)

Siblings in Christ, our God never fails to hear us when we call. Trust in God's forgiveness and unfailing love, and be at peace, for God rescues all who take refuge in God. Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

Closing Hymn- "Holy Holy Holy " UMH-64

Benediction (*Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour*)