It Will Be Like This



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 - 11.8.2026
Peggy Gregory

Words of Welcome & Announcements-
Centering Time (Preparing Our Hearts & Minds for Worship)
Opening Prayer-

"Praise My Soul the King of Heaven" UMH-66

<u>Responsive Call to Worship</u>

Family of God, rejoice! The kingdom of God is all around us!
We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
Sometimes we grow weary in the waiting, and we wonder if we are watching and working for nothing.
We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
Sometimes God surprises, and we are overwhelmed by joy and wonder at all God is doing among us.
We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand.
Family of God, whether you are weary or energized, worried or wonder-filled, rejoice! The kingdom of God is all around us!
We gather to encourage one another to keep awake and watch, for the kingdom of God is at hand. Thanks be to God! Amen.

"King of Kings" Praise Team

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

Pastoral Welcome and Prayer

****"Children will be dismissed at this time"****

Matthew 25:1-13 (NRSV)

25 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women[a] took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.[b] **2** Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. **3** When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, **4** but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. **5** As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. **6** But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' **7** Then all those young women[c] got up and trimmed their lamps. **8** The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' **9** But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' **10** And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. **11** Later the other young women[d] came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' **12** But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' **13** Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

Sermon: "Keep Awake!" -Rev. Pablo R. Vargas

"My Hope is Built" UMH- 368

Prayer of Confession:

If only we had been more aware
how often we meet the Lord in life!
Let us ask him to forgive us.
Lord Jesus, you seem absent
when we struggle with suffering,
but you are there with your strength:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**.

Jesus Christ, often we forget you
in the cares of everyday life,
but you are there with us:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**.
Lord Jesus, we neglect to care for you
in our sick and neglected brothers and sisters,

but you want us to serve you in them:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**.
Forgive us all our sins, Lord,
and make us look for your presence.
Walk with us and lead us
to the feast of everlasting life. **Amen**.
God's grace is abundant
And meets us where we are,
Forgiving us and inspiring us
To stay awake and aware
of all God is doing among us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Offering Prayer (In Unison)-

Watchful God, you call us to keep awake—to live with open eyes and attentive hearts, ready to recognize Christ in the needs and joys that surround us each day. As we bring these gifts, keep the flame of compassion burning within us. Fill us with the oil of kindness, generosity, and holy attentiveness, that our lives may shine with your love in a world too often dimmed by fear and indifference. Use these offerings and our willing spirits to bring light, hope, and welcome to your children. Keep us awake to your presence and faithful in your service, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Invitation to give Our Tithes and Offering (and Doxology)- Josh & Gabriel (ushers)

"When We All Get to Heaven" UMH-701

Benediction (*Stay Afterwards for Lunch)*