Enter The Joy



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

505 N. Redington St.
(559) 584-4075
office@fumchanford.org
www.fumchanford.org

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

Sunday Morning Worship Service - 11.15.2026
Jason Marks

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

"For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" UMH-57

<u>Responsive Call to Worship</u>

Family of God, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.
Family of God, in a world that values productivity and profit, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to value equity, justice, and sabbath for all.
Family of God, in a world that privileges power over others instead of power shared with our neighbors, whom do you serve?
We serve God, who calls us to privilege the agency and flourishing of ourselves, our neighbors, and all creation.
Family of God, we gather here to grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. Let us now enter the joy of serving God, who is Love.
We gather to worship God and work for God's purposes until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

"Humble King" 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 25:14-30 (NRSV)

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property
to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according
to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went
off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had
the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent
went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the
master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had
received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you
handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to
him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I
will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one
with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of
many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one
talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping
where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I
went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master
replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and
gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the
bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take
the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have,
more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the
outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

Sermon: "A Different Kind of Kingdom" **-Rev. Pablo R. Vargas**

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, we have failed to love you with all our heart
and to be good stewards of your creation:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
We have failed to take up the cross of discipleship
and to be good stewards of your gospel:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
We have failed to be faithful members of your church
and to be good stewards of your spiritual gifts:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
God proves God's love for us in that while we still were sinners,
Christ died for us. Confident in God's free gift of forgiveness,
I declare to you: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God! Amen.

"Rise Up O Church of God" **Bulletin Insert**

Offering Prayer (In Unison)-
Generous Christ, every good gift comes from your hand, and you entrust us with resources, abilities, and opportunities to serve your kingdom. Keep us from measuring our worth by what we produce or possess. Instead, teach us to invest our lives in love, mercy, and the building of community. Receive these offerings and use them to lift burdens, create hope, and strengthen your people. May we find joy not in accumulation, but in faithful relationship with you and our neighbors. May all that we offer today become a witness to your abundant grace. Amen
Invitation to give Our Tithes and Offering (and Doxology)

"Here I am Lord" **UMH-593**

Benediction (*Stay Afterwards for Coffee Hour)*