



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



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## Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use while we are unable to use United Methodist Church premises. If you are well enough why not spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people are sharing this act of worship with you.

### Opening Prayer

Lord, we come to you this day, seeking your healing and restoring love. Give us courage to reach out to you in the good and easy times as well as in the times of strain and stress. Open our heart to receive your message of peace and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

### Hymn: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUjVTdeFvio>

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean;  
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, - and, listening to his voice,  
New life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;  
The humble poor believe.

My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the world abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

Author Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Music: Carl Gottholf Glaser (1784-1829)

### Let us pray together

(Affirmation from Romans 8: 35, 37-39)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

**No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who love us. We are sure that neither death nor life,**

**nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor power, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **Today's Gospel Reading:**

Matthew 14:22-33

### **Time to Reflect**

I am sure we can all relate to Peter. Throughout the gospels we get a picture of someone who does not always think before he speaks. And it is the same in this reading. Peter is singled out while the others stay in the boat.

Jesus says to his disciples 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid' when he walks on the water to the disciples in the boat. Should this have been enough for Peter as it was for the others? No, Peter being Peter, wants to try and walk on the water.

Perhaps, the message today, for us, is one of trust as we journey as disciples through these difficult times? Jesus says to us, as he said to Peter, "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid". We are not alone!

Take a time to sit quietly

### **A time of prayer**

Almighty God, I come now to pray for Your world. Your world which is full of brokenness, injustice, and inequality. I bring before You the rulers of the world, local or national, and pray that they would remember that all power comes from You.

Almighty God, I pray for your church. I pray

that during these times we would unite in worship and service. I pray for my local church, and its ministers/pastors, that they would be strengthened by Your Spirit.

Almighty God, I pray for those known to me and name them before You. And, I pray for myself, that I would be transformed by Your Spirit, and live in the love which You have given me through Jesus.

In the name of Jesus, I pray. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Our Father .....*

### **Hymn: "We Walk by Faith"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6nSwJj4Vw>

We walk by faith and not by sight  
No gracious words we hear  
Of Him who as none e'er spoke  
Yet we believe Him near

We may not touch His hands and side  
Or follow where He trod  
Yet in His promise we rejoice  
And cry "My Lord and God"

Help then, oh Lord, our unbelief  
And our faith abound  
To call on you when you are near  
And seek where you are found  
That when our life of faith is done  
In realms of clearer light  
We may behold you as you are  
In full and endless sight

We walk and not by sight  
No gracious words we hear  
Of Him who spoke as none e'er spoke  
Yet we believe Him near.

Author: Marty Haugen

## A prayer of blessing

May the peace of the lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has show you. May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. Amen.

Based on Liturgy by Matthew Ramsden,  
Adaptation Rev. Pablo Róvere

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505 N. Redington St, Hanford, CA 93230

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**If you have a praise or concern you would like lifted in prayer this week, please submit it to us in any of this ways:**

**EMAIL:**

[office@fumchanford.org](mailto:office@fumchanford.org)  
[pastorpablo@fumchanford.org](mailto:pastorpablo@fumchanford.org)

**PHONE:** Leave message  
(559) 584 4075

## Matthew 14:22-33 New International Version (NIV)

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.<sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

*Copied from Bible Gateway and last accessed on August 7<sup>th</sup> 2020.*

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew+14%3A+22-33&version=NIV>