



First United Methodist Church of Hanford

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



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“God, the All in One”

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:1-5

The words of Romans 5 are considered to be one of Paul’s great lyrical passages in which he reflects on his life, ministry, and calling to teach and preach the love of Jesus. You can almost hear him sing of the intimate joy of his confidence in God as only one who had been through a great deal could.

Such joy and confidence in God did not come easy. It did not come quickly. Yet it is a song of trusting that faith has done what no amount of work or laboring over the law, rules, and rituals could ever do - faith has given people access to God. Faith has given people peace with Jesus. Faith has given people life with the Holy Spirit. All in one.

I find it interesting that Paul wrote these words toward the end of his ministry. Perhaps at a time when he came to a deeper understanding and a more mature faith; a time when he could step back and reflect on his life as if looking at a painting, and he discovered what it truly means to be in the presence of all things holy - God, the All in One.

The question for us is this: What does it mean for you to know that God, the all in one, invites you to participate with them in all things good, beautiful, and true? What ramifications does it have on your life to know that at any given time and in any given situation or circumstance, there stands with you, God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, all in one?

How might your life be changed, your interactions different, your decision making challenged, your relationships transformed, knowing that all of God, represented in all of Jesus, is given to us by all of the Holy Spirit? All in one.

Let us pray: Dear God, show us who you are. Jesus, reveal the way of peace. Holy Spirit, illuminate the truth that holds it all together and the presence that invites us to the table of the three we call One. Amen.

“Now I can say I Live a Day” (John Wesley)

Pastor Pablo

June 9th , 2021

Online Devotionals

To grow in your relationship with God and others, it is important to have some spiritual disciplines in your life. Below are some helpful websites that will lead you to read scripture, pray, and focus on God.

UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

A daily devotional including scripture lesson and story.

UPPER ROOM DAILY REFLECTIONS <https://upperroombooks.com/neweverymorning/>