



First United Methodist Church of Hanford

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



16th Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

Sunday, September 17th, 2023 | 11am

CCLI License # 657359 | CCLI Streaming License #21785776

(If you are visiting, thank you for choosing First United Methodist Church today. Please take a minute to complete a Contact/Prayer Card located in the pew racks. Place the card into the collection plates anytime during worship.)

**Our Vision for First UMC is to share the message of Christ through community, compassion and faith.
So we exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

Announcements:

Centering Time - Prepare Your Heart for Worship

Responsive Call to Worship

L: Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!

P: The Lord is our strength and our power!

L: Dance before the Lord, a dance of joy and hope!

P: The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up in hope.

L: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

P: Let us celebrate the good news God brings to us each day. AMEN.

Hymn

“We Gather Together” # 131

Opening Prayer

When we feel overwhelmed by the storms of life, enter our hearts with your redeeming love, O Christ. When our fears overtake us and we cannot find our way, give us direction that we might faithfully serve you all our days, singing your praises!. AMEN.

Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” # 89

Passing of the Peace

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn

“Amazing Grace” # 378

Scripture readings

Matthew 18: 21-35 (NIV)

Please respond to "The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ," with "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

Children Moment

"Where Children belong" #2233

Message

"Forgiveness"

Hymn

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" # 526

Words of Offering and Prayer

Doxology # 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lift!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer of Dedication

Patient Lord, you amaze us each day with your ability to forgive our many sins. You display merciful acts and answer our prayers in profound ways. Help us to be stewards of your mercy and grace as these monetary gifts are transformed into active ministries. Multiply the span of these ministries to reach people in new ways. We pray in the name of the one who teaches true forgiveness, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Blessed Assurance" # 369

Benediction