



First United Methodist Church of Hanford

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



Order of Worship

Sunday September 15th, 2024 | 11am

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“No matter who, no matter what,
no matter where you are on your spiritual journey...
You are welcome here!”

Our Mission: *We seek to grow in God’s Grace by sharing the message of Jesus Christ through community, compassion, and faith. So we exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.*

Our Vision: *We seek to grow in love with Jesus Christ by connecting people to God, people to people, and people to service.*

Welcome & Announcements:

Centering Time - Prepare Your Heart for Worship

Opening Hymn

Lift high the cross UMH # 159

Call to Worship/Opening prayer (Responsively)

L: We are called to follow Jesus.

P: But following Jesus isn’t easy.

L: No. It will demand our dedication and our energy.

P: It will change our whole lives.

L: Come, all of you. Come and learn of the Lord Jesus.

P: Lord, we come, seeking your wisdom and your guidance. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Lord, we have come this day to hear your words of healing love and hope. Enter our hearts and our spirits and teach us to follow you. Give us courage and strength to be your faithful disciples. AMEN.

Hymn:

Take up thy cross UMH # 415

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

Scripture Readings:

James: 3: 1-12

Mark: 8: 27-38

Children's Moment

Where Children Belong TFWS # 2233

(As the congregation sings, all children are invited to come forward)

Message:

"Our choices matter to God"

Pastoral Prayer**Hymn**

The summons TFWS # 2130

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS & SERVICE

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness)

Doxology # 95*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

Loving God, Jesus taught us "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." We offer our gifts to you knowing they are part of our treasure, and we do so with the hope that our hearts, our actions, and the words of our tongues will likewise follow. Guide our hearts, minds, and tongues to the words that bring you joy. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

We've a story to tell to the nations UMH # 569 (vs. 1, 2, and 4)

***Benediction**