

WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday, December 26, 2021



Franklin

United Methodist Church

*“...seeking to be a community
where all can experience
meaningful relationship with God,
grow in Christ, and
reach out in love to others;
a community where
all can love and be loved
and be accepted
as you are”*

franklinumc.org

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You can join this service virtually, in-person, using



Google Meet

To join, go to

meet.google.com/ens-kcoq-bgg

or call

1-262-885-7027

the PIN is 172 874 072#

Please keep yourself muted
when you are not sharing
in the discussion.

Click the microphone icon to un/mute yourself on your device.
Push Ctrl-D to un/mute yourself on your computer.
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This service is being live-streamed and recorded to



gather

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

We waited.

And imagined a savior.

We imagined power.

One like the world but stronger and on our side.

We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.

We imagined the work done for us
through the destruction of our enemies.

**We receive a baby who will teach us our calling
to seek reconciliation and to love expansively.**

Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!

“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

No. 2100, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

CCLI #11179170

**Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown,
when thou camest to earth for me;
but in Bethlehem's home there was found no room
for thy holy nativity.**

**O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
proclaiming thy royal degree;
but in lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
and in great humility.**

**O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**The foxes found rest, and the birds their nest
in the shade of the forest tree;
but thy couch was the sod, O thou Son of God,
in the deserts of Galilee.**

**O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**Thou camest, O Lord, with the living Word
that should set thy people free;
but with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn,
they bore thee to Calvary.**

**O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**When heav'ns arches shall ring and its choir shall sing,
at thy coming to victory,
let thy voice call me home, saying "Yet there is room,
there is room at my side for thee!"
And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
when thou comest and callest for me.**

reflect

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray responsively together...

...In our hearts, we still hope that your light will blaze forth,
banishing the shadows of this world
and guiding all the people back to you.

**Yet you did not come into this world
in a show of power and glory.**

You did not shine forth for all of creation to behold.

A tiny spark –

a newborn baby,

visible to parents and curious animals.

A host of angels –

away from the populated areas,

singing to migrant workers.

A sparkling star –

guiding foreigners to see what neighbors could not.

Open our hearts, merciful God,
to the sparks of your presence still in this world.

Open our eyes,

that we might behold your presence in the least likely of places,
and among the least likely of people.

God with us,

kindle your spark within us,

that together we may shine forth your light,

we might banish the shadows of this world,

we might be the continuation of the Christmas miracle:

Emmanuel is in this world,

God is with us, now and evermore.

Lord's Prayer

No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

Common English Bible

Poem

“In the Midst of It All – Love Has Come”

by Barbara Doerrler-Peacock

“Love Has Come”

No. 3059, *Worship & Song* (2011) CCLI #11179170

**Love has come a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies
See all heaven has come to proclaim it
Hear how their song of joy arises
Love! Love! Born unto you a Savior
Love! Love! Glory to God on high**

**Love is born! Come share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay
See the glow in the eyes of His mother
What is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers
Love! Love! Jesus Immanuel**

**Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free
Love is Jesus within and among us
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas
Love! Love! Praise to You God on high**

Scripture Readings

1 John 4:9-16

“Love Came Down at Christmas”

No. 242, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

respond

Prayer of Intercession

Offering

Doxology

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.
Here we offer to you gladly all the fits that you impart,
as we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful hear.

Prayer

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

No. 251, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. (Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

go

Closing Responses

It has been done! The News has been shared!

A young maiden will bear a child, and she will call him Jesus.

But that is the beginning of the story, a story that has not yet ended.

A story that includes us, a story of which we are a part.

So we go out to live the story,

to tell of the Hope that is being born among us this Christmas,

to share the Love of the season with the world,

to be agents of Peace in times of trouble,

to sing songs of deep and abiding Joy.

Friends, love has come in the birth of Jesus now go and carry that love to all the world. Merry Christmas! **Amen.**

Postlude

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

To view the church calendar, go to franklinumc.org/calendar.

Sunday Morning Worship

We worship every Sunday at 10am. Services are held in-person in the sanctuary, in-person virtually using Google Meet, and streaming live to YouTube. Links to join virtually and download the bulletin can be found at franklinumc.org. All are welcome.

Midweek Discussion w/ Pastor Jacob

Midweek discussions with Pastor Jacob will not be meeting through the end of the year. We will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 5, at 7pm. Most Wednesdays at 7pm, we discuss Sunday's scripture and themes. We meet for roughly an hour. Beginning January 5, we will meet in-person virtually ONLY. The link to join the gathering, will be published each week in the bulletin and on the church calendar.

Book Club

The Book Club meets monthly on the second Monday of the month at 7pm.

Thank you for joining us for worship!

Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Juncker, Pastor
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Deidre Bassignani, Administrator
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Paul Seaver, Custodian

Linda Zardeskas, Church Council Chair
George Remus, Lay Leader/Treasurer
Dawn Pokorny, Lay Member to Annual Conference
Vickie Low, Personnel Committee Chair
Rich Pokorny, Resource Committee Chair

**All of us are ministers
called to share God's love and grace
with our community and world!**