

WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday, April 24, 2022



*"...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"*

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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

An Affirmation of Humor

- We believe with the Bible that
“there is a time to weep and a time to laugh.”
- We believe with Chrysostom that
“laughter has been implanted in our souls.”
- We believe with Aquinas that there is a time for
“playful deeds and jokes.”
- We believe with Luther that
“You have as much laughter as you have faith.”
- We believe with Calvin that
“we are nowhere forbidden to laugh.”
- We believe with Francis De Sales that
“humor is a foundation for reconciliation.”
- We believe with Wesley that
“A sour religion is the devil’s religion.”
- We believe with Kierkegaard that
“Humor is intrinsic to Christianity.”
- We believe with Dostoevsky that
“If a person laughs well they are a good person.”
- We believe with Chesterton that
“A good joke is the closest thing we have to divine revelation.”
- We believe with Bonhoeffer that
“Ultimate seriousness is not without a dose of humor.”
- We believe with Flannery O’Conner that
“Christianity is a strangely cheery religion.”
- We believe with Elton Trueblood,
“Never trust a theologian without a sense of humor.”
- We believe with Charles Schultz that
“Humor is proof that everything is going to be alright with God nevertheless.”
- We believe with Krister Stendhal that
“humor, along with irony, forms a safeguard against idolatry.”
- We believe with Eric Gritsch that
“Humor is thus anchored in a self-knowledge that indicates one’s limitations.”

“Take Time to Be Funny”

Words: Unknown Tune: HOLINESS (UMH No. 395, “Take Time to Be Holy)

**Take time to be funny, rejoice in the Lord
Let laughter explode and have fun with God’s Word
For laughter is healing, gives strength to the weak
God loves to see smiles, for they lift up the meek.**

**Take time to be silly, it’s good for the soul
Too many are somber, grabbing control.
Let go and let God’s love wash over your soul
Heavenly transcendence can be your life’s goal.**

**For humor is holy, it sanctifies life,
Replenishes hope and oft softens advice
It undercuts sorrow, deflates haughty pride
So smile and hang on, and rejoice in life’s ride.**

reflect

John 20:19-31

Common English Bible

“Say Again?”

Pastor Jacob

“Give Us Laughter Unexpected”

Words: Stephen M. Fearing, 2019

Tune: HYMN TO JOY (No. 89, *The United Methodist Hymnal*)

**Give us laughter unexpected,
mirth that mothers us to health,
Bubbling up from deep within us,
endless source of wondrous wealth.
May our tears flow o’er our cheekbones,
not of sorrow but of mirth,
Freely flowing silly giggles,
ones that mend this broken earth.**

**Though our grief can be so heavy -
burdens break our brittle bones-
There exists a salve that softens hurt
amid the mournful moans.
Laughter charges not a copay,
needs no credit to obtain.
All may gather at the fountain,
for a moment, heal the pain.**

**When we think creation's over,
when we think there is no more,
Lead us to rethink our logic,
help our joyous song restore.
There's a cheerful balm that saves us
from the sorrow and the sting.
Laughter is the gift within us,
sprouting up from joyous spring!**

**Blessed are you who weep with sorrow;
soon the laughter comes to save.
God, our joyful source of mercy,
raises you up from the grave.
Never cease to loose your chuckles,
laugh out loud and let it fly.
Hold yourself in holy humor,
share God's joy in strong supply.**

respond

Concerns & Prayers

Responsive Prayer for the Day

God of merriment,

**for whom the morning stars sing together
and all the children of God shout for joy,
help us keep our sense of humor.**

When those around us get hyped-up about the latest scientific discovery or technological wizardry, help us to see the comical side of human self-importance.

**When we take ourselves too seriously,
as if the church were built on our devout efforts,
enable us to chuckle at our folly.**

When evil parades itself in finery and thinks it owns the world, or when untimely death appears to cut off saints in their prime,
fill us with the robust joy of Easter.

God of ‘solid joys and lasting pleasures’, because of all your victories in Christ Jesus

**liberate us to share in the song of the morning stars
and the joyful shouts of the children of God.
Today and forever more. Amen!**

Offering

Doxology

No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer

“The Sunnyside of Life”

No. 8, *Voices of Praise* (1909)

**There’s a dark and a troubled side of life,
There’s a bright and a sunny side too;
Tho’ we meet with darkness and strife,
The sunny side we also may view.**

Refrain:

**Keep on the sunny side,
Always on the sunny side,
Keep on the sunny side of life;
It will help us ev’ry day,
It will brighten all the way,
If we keep on the sunny side of life.**

**Tho' the storm in its fury break today,
Crushing hopes that we cherished so dear;
Storm and cloud will in time pass away,
The sun again will shine bright and clear.
Refrain**

**Let us greet with a song of hope each day,
Tho' the moments be cloudy or fair;
Let us trust in our Savior always,
Who keepeth ev'ry one in His care.
Refrain**

**go
Sending
Postlude**

**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!***

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

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

Book Club

We will meet **Monday, May 9 at 7pm** to discuss *Golden The Personal Librarian* by Marie Beaudet and Victoria Christopher Murray. The Book Club meets virtually. Go to <https://meet.google.com/feq-yjgp-xoq>, or dial 405-534-5197 (PIN: 552 165 644#). Questions? Contact Linda Zardeskas (lindazee50@hotmail.com)

Midweek Discussion w/ Pastor Jacob

Midweek discussions with Pastor Jacob meets **Wednesdays at 7pm** and lasts for approximately one hour. Discussion topics vary, but typically revolve around Sunday morning worship themes.

All are welcome to participate. *This small group meets virtually ONLY.* To join using Google Meet, go to <https://meet.google.com/txp-ndfa-ivu>. You can also call in by dialing 440-467-1448, the PIN is 220 679 745#.

If you have any questions about this small group and how to join, please contact Pastor Jacob (jacob@franklinumc.org).

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is up and running again! We meet at a local restaurant one afternoon a month for food and fellowship. Check back soon for May's date and location. See Nancy Boates with any questions.

Get Connected

The Franklin United Methodist Church uses Realm, an online database software, to better communicate with and connect people into the life of the church. It is simple and easy to use!

Every person in the church gets a unique profile. Your profile enables you to RSVP to events (including volunteer opportunities), track your giving, update your contact information, change your family details, and replace that outdated directory photo. And, most importantly, it allows the church to communicate better with you.

You can sign up to access your profile by going to <https://onrealm.org/FranklinUMC/Account/Register>.

Already signed up? You can log-in by going to <https://onrealm.org/FranklinUMC>.