

A YEAR WITH THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Gospel of Matthew is the first book of the New Testament. It was believed, by the early church fathers, to be the first gospel written. While this view is no longer the normative thought, Matthew continues to be the most quoted of all the gospels. It tells the story of Jesus from his conception and birth in Bethlehem to his crucifixion and resurrection in Jerusalem. It includes the longest attributed teaching discourse of Jesus: the Sermon on the Mount. For the writer of the gospel, Jesus is the fulfillment of the Hebrew scriptures. Matthew's gospel tells the good news that the Messiah has come and promises to be with us always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20, *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*). Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us (c.f. Matthew 1:23)

In 2023, Franklin United Methodist Church will be doing a close reading and inductive study of Matthew's gospel. Our study plan will follow N. T. Wright's study guide/book on Matthew. Worship themes from the study will follow our study plan. Additional opportunities for discussion will be made available including on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm during the Pastor's Study. The Pastor's Study meets virtually using Google Meet. Joining information can be found in the weekly bulletin and on the church calendar.

You are encouraged to purchase the book through your preferred bookstore. Purchasing the book is not necessary for participation in worship or the bible study discussions. If you do not have access to a Bible, please contact the Church Office and one will be given to you.

If you have any questions about this study, the study plan, need a Bible, or want to start a small group, please contact Pastor Jacob (jacob@franklinumc.org).

THE BOOK

N.T. Wright, *Matthew: 25 Studies for Individuals and Groups*, (Intervarsity Press: Downers Grove, 2009), in the series *N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides*.

RECOMMENDED BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (National Council of Churches, 2021)

The Common English Bible (2011)

The New Revised Standard Version (National Council of Churches, 1989)

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OUR STUDY PLAN

DATE	GOSPEL OF MATTHEW	N.T. WRIGHT STUDY GUIDE
Jan. 8	1:1-3:17	Ch. 1-2
Jan. 15	4:1-25	Ch. 3
Jan. 22	5:1-48	Ch. 4
Jan. 29	6:1-34	Ch. 5
Feb. 5	7:1-29	Ch. 6
Feb. 12	8:1-9:8	Ch. 7
LENTEN SERIES <i>A Cross in the Heart of God</i>		
Feb. 19 Transfiguration Sunday	17:1-27	Ch. 15
April 2 Palm Sunday	20:17-21:32	Ch. 18
April 7 Good Friday	26:1-27:44	Ch. 23-24
April 9 Easter Sunday	27:45-28:20	Ch. 25
April 16	9:9-10:42	Ch. 8
April 23	11:1-30	Ch. 9
April 30	12:1-50	Ch. 10
May 7	13:1-53	Ch. 11
May 14	13:54-14:36	Ch. 12
May 21	15:1-39	Ch. 13
May 28	16:1-28	Ch. 14
SUMMER SERIES "Stories of the Faith"		
Sept. 10	18:1-35	Ch. 16
Sept. 17	19:1-20:16	Ch. 17
Sept. 24	21:33-22:46	Ch. 19
Oct. 1	23:1-39	Ch. 20
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN/STEWARDSHIP SERIES "Dedicated"		
Nov. 12	24:1-44	Ch. 21
Nov. 19	24:45-25:46	Ch. 22

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY &
ADVENT SERIES
"Christmas Movies"