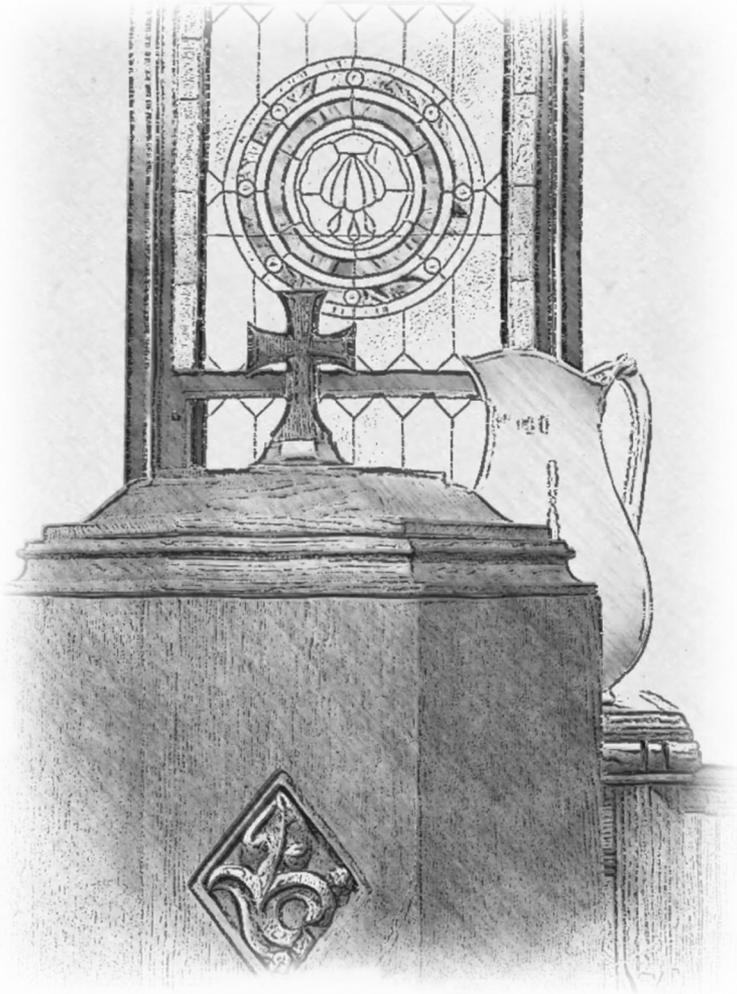


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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# The Kingdom of God is Near

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW || JANUARY 15, 2023

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508-528-1092

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This service of worship is gathering in-person in the sanctuary, in-person using Google Meet, and streaming on YouTube.

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# gather

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

The buzz of the world interrupts our lives and fills our ears.

**Call us into Your way of life, O God.**

The complaints of others settle in our mind and cloud our vision.

**Lead us into Your vision of life, O God.**

The cries of the poor, the oppressed and the outcast pierce our hearts.

**Guide us in Your example of living for others, O God.**

Fill our hearts, fill our eyes, fill our ears with Your love, O God.

**Let us be Your hands and feet in the world, O God.**

**Let us worship You together.**

#### “JESUS CALLS US”

No. 398, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

**Jesus calls us o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying, "Christian, follow me!"**

**As of old the apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for Jesus' sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more!"**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love me more than these!"**

**Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.**

## BAPTISM

*Nora Layne Hodgeman*

### **“I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY”**

No. 2051, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just on more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old,  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.

## COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of faith,  
I commend to your love and care *this child*,  
Whom we this day recognize as *a member* of the family of God.  
Will you endeavor so to live  
That *this child* may grow in the knowledge and love of God,  
Through our Savior Jesus Christ?

**With God's help**

**we will so order our lives after the example of Christ,  
that *this child*, surrounded by steadfast love,  
may be established in the faith,  
and confirmed and strengthened  
in the way that leads to life eternal.**

The God of all grace,  
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
establish you and strengthen you  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
that you may live in grace and peace.  
**Amen.**

## pray

### PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

#### SILENT PRAYER

#### COLLECT

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## reflect

### MATTHEW 4:12-25

*New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

#### REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

## **“I LOVE THY KINGDOM LORD”**

No. 540, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

**I love thy kingdom, Lord,  
the house of thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved  
with his own precious blood.**

**I love thy church, O God!  
Her walls before thee stand  
dear as the apple of thine eye,  
and graven on thy hand.**

**For her my tears shall fall,  
for her my prayers ascend,  
to her my cares and toils be given,  
till toils and cares shall end.**

**Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
her hymns of love and praise.**

**Sure as thy truth shall last,  
to Zion shall be given  
the brightest glories earth can yield,  
and brighter bliss of heaven.**

## **give**

### **OFFERING**

### **DOXOLOGY**

### **PRAYER**

## **“LEAD ME LORD”**

No. 473, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

**Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;  
make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,  
that makest me dwell in safety.**

### **SENDING**

### **THE PEACE**

### **POSTLUDE**

# WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

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Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope that you find, in our community, a place to experience meaningful relationship with God, grow in Christ, and reach out in love to others. We hope that this community has been a place where you feel welcome, acceptance, and love. If you have questions about the church, or are interested in becoming a member of the church, please feel free to contact any of the leaders listed below.

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**franklinumc.org**

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Paul Seaver, Custodian  
Linda Zardeskas, Chair of Church Council  
George Remus, Lay Leader & Treasurer  
Dawn Harlow, Financial Secretary  
Dawn Pokorny, Lay Member to Annual Conference  
Allen Smith, Chair of Personnel Committee  
Rich Pokorny, Chair of Resource Committee  
Inger Anderson, Chair of Committee on Ministry

# UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

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## THE PASTOR'S STUDY

Join Pastor Jacob on Wednesdays at 7pm to discuss the Gospel of Matthew. This group meets virtually ONLY. To learn more and to get joining information, contact Pastor Jacob ([jacob@franklinumc.org](mailto:jacob@franklinumc.org)).

## BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet (virtually) on **Tuesday February 14 at 7pm**. We will be reading *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Joining information can be found on the church calendar.

## LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will meet at **noon on January 18** at The Railery in Franklin at the Village Plaza. Please contact Nancy Boates ([NancyBoates49@hotmail.com](mailto:NancyBoates49@hotmail.com), 508-654-2833) by 10 am the day before if you plan to attend.

## FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: CEREAL

The Franklin Food Pantry, located at 43 West Central Street (Franklin), offers supplemental food assistance and housing necessities to neighbors in need. *During the month of January we will be collecting cereal for the Food Pantry.* Donations can be placed on the table in the sanctuary.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are looking to restart our Sunday School ministry. We will begin by offering it once per month during worship. If there is enough interest, we will expand it to twice per month. As we make preparations, we are looking for volunteers to help teach. Are you interested in volunteering? If so, please contact Inger Anderson, Chair of the Committee on Ministry ([inger1210@aol.com](mailto:inger1210@aol.com)) or the Church Office.

## MOVIE NIGHT

Join the church for a movie on **Friday January 20th at 6:30pm** in the vestry. Bring a comfy blanket and pillow (or use one of our folding chairs). Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

## FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Mark your calendar for a Fat Tuesday pancake dinner on **Tuesday February 20 from 5:30-6:30pm**. Come when you can and enjoy a time of fellowship and merriment before we begin our Lenten journey.