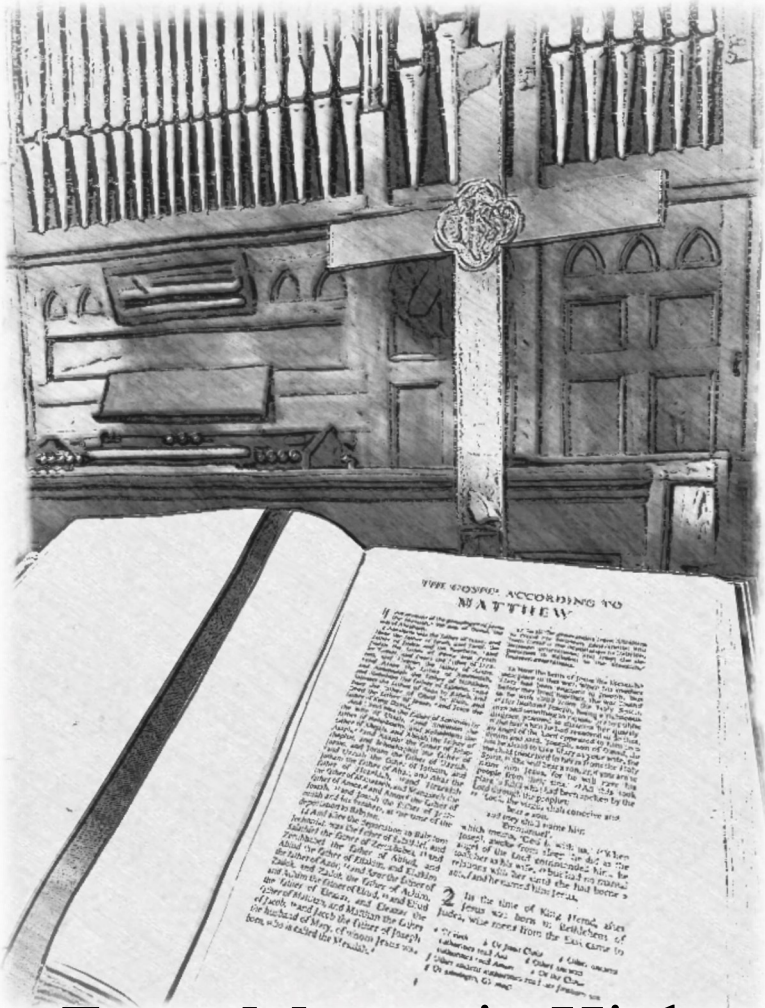


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



From Mountain High to Valley Low

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW || FEBRUARY 19, 2023

82 West Central Street, Franklin, MA
508-528-1092

franklinumc.org
office@franklinumc.org

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

GATHER

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

As God called to Moses from the mountain (cf. Exodus 24:12-18),

we are called to be God's people.

As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him to the peak of another mountain (cf. Matthew 17:1-9),

we are called to follow wherever he leads.

As disciples stood in awe at the sound of God's voice,
we are called to worship in wonder and praise.

SONG

“HOW GREAT THOU ART”

No. 77, *UMH* (1989)

**1 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the *worlds thy hand have made,
I see the stars, I hear the *rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!**

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]**

**3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin; [Refrain]**

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! [Refrain]**

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

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 17:1-20

REFLECTION

PASTOR JACOB

SONG

“SWIFTLY PASS THE CLOUDS OF GLORY”

No. 2102, *TFWS* 2001

Swiftly pass the clouds of glory,
heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish;
Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent,
turning from the summit's rise
downward toward the shadowed valley
where their Lord has fixed his eyes.

Glimpsed and gone the revelation,
they shall gain and keep its truth,
not by building on the mountain
any shrine or sacred booth,
but by following the Savior
through the valley to the cross
and by testing faith's resilience
through betrayal, pain, and loss.

Lord, transfigure our perception
with the purest light that shines,
and recast our life's intentions
to the shape of Your designs,
till we seek no other glory
than what lies past Calvary's hill
and our living and our dying
and our rising by your will.

GIVE

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

GO

HYMN

“WE ARE CALLED”

No. 2172, TFWS 2001

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God

*Refrain: We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God*

**Come! open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more. (*refrain*)**

**Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other,
as sisters and brothers united in love. (*refrain*)**

SENDING

THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

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.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY
12pm Devotional Service
7pm Worship Service

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.

LENTEN STUDY & WORSHIP

Join Pastor Jacob this Lenten season on Wednesdays at 7pm (via Google Meet) and Sundays during worship as we explore the cross in the heart of God. We will explore the centrality of Jesus' passion to Christianity and what it says about God's desire to be with us.

We will be reading together *A Cross in the Heart of God: Reflections on the death of Jesus* by Samuel Wells (Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press, 2020). Limited copies are available. If you would like a free copy of the book, need joining information, or have questions about this study, please contact Pastor Jacob (jacob@franklinumc.org).

FEBRUARY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: TOOTHPASTE

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 February we will be collecting toothpaste for the Food Pantry.*** Donations can be placed on the table in the sanctuary.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet (virtually) on **Tuesday March 14 at 7pm**. We will be reading *Forever Boy* by Kate Swenson. Joining information can be found on the church calendar.

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) or the Church Office.