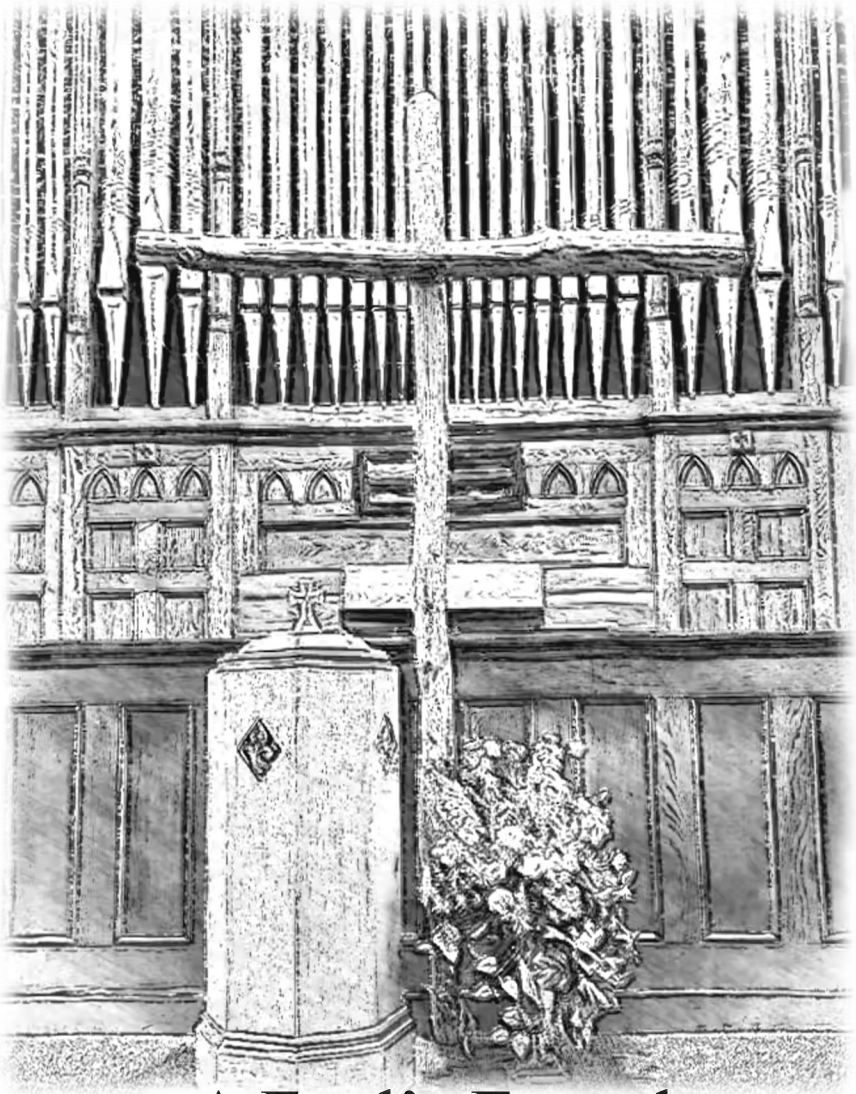


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



A Fool's Errand

A CROSS IN THE HEART OF GOD || MARCH 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

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, who do you come to worship?

We come to worship the one true God.

How will you worship?

**Not with words alone, but by living lives of
justice and love.**

Come, you who claim the faith of Jesus. Come, you who
are foolish in the eyes of the world.

**Let us follow the Fool who leads us to the very
heart of God.**

SONG

“SOME SAY IT’S NOTHING”

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, refrain by Fanny J. Crosby and edited by Jacob Juncker
Music adapted from TO GOD BE THEGLORY(UMH 98) by William H. Doane

1.

Some say it’s nothing—this faith we believe in;
Some think the gospel is curious or odd.
Some say the cross is for fools and naïve ones,
But to the saved it’s the power of God.

REFRAIN

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear our voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2.

Some put their trust in the things they can measure;
Some count on wealth so they’ll feel more secure.
Some cling to fame or to knowledge or pleasure;
Only the cross brings us love evermore.

REFRAIN

3.

Some look for wisdom this world claims to offer;
Some search for signs to discern what is true.
God, may we see in a Savior who suffered
All that is needed to make our lives news.

REFRAIN

4.

Those lost and found tell their friends and their neighbors,
people forgiven have joy to declare.

Those who are poor find their rich in God's favor:
God, by the cross, we have good news to share!

REFRAIN

PRAYERS 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

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

REFLECTION

SONG

"HERE HANGS A MAN DISCARDED"

Words: Brian Wren Tune: PASSION CHORALE ("O Sacred Head,
Now Wounded," UMH 286) © 1973, 1995 Hope Publishing Co.

1.

Here hangs a man discarded,
a scarecrow hoisted high,
a nonsense pointing nowhere
to all who hurry by.
Can such a clown of sorrows
still bring a useful word
where faith and love seem phantoms
and every hope absurd?

2.

Yet here is help and comfort
to lives by comfort bound
when drums of dazzling progress
give strangely hollow sound:
Life emptied of all meaning,
drained out in bleak distress,
can share in broken silence
our deepest emptiness;

3.

And love that freely entered
the pit of life's despair
can name our hidden darkness
and suffer with us there.
Lord, if you now are risen,
help all who long for light
to hold the hand of promise
till faith receives its sight.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

SONG

“THE OLD RUGGED CROSS”

No. 504, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

1.

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

REFRAIN

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

2.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary.

REFRAIN

3.

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me.

REFRAIN

4.

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share.

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

Franklin United Methodist Church
PO Box 313
82 W. Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1092
office@franklinumc.org

Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Juncker, Pastor
jacob@franklinumc.org

Deidre Bassignani, Administrator
deidre@franklinumc.org

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

MARCH FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: FAMILY SNACKS

The Franklin Food Pantry offers assistance to neighbors in need. *For March we will be collecting family-sized snacks for the Food Pantry.* Donations can be placed on the table in the sanctuary.

GAME NIGHT

On March 25th we will have board game night at the church @ 5-7pm. More info to come!

SAVE THE DATE

New children's programming will begin on Palm Sunday, April 2 during worship. This new monthly opportunity will encourage kids to learn the stories of our faith and find faith for themselves.

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

We have the following flowers available to decorate the sanctuary for Easter morning. A signup sheet is in the vestry. See Dawn Harlow with any questions. 8 Lilies \$20 each 4 Pansy Bowls \$17.75 each
4 Mums (2 yellow 2 purple) \$15 each

LENT & EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday April 2 10am Worship Service
Good Friday April 7 7pm Worship Service
Easter Sunday April 9 6:30am Sunrise Service on the Common
10am Worship Service & Eater Egg Hunt

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet (virtually) on **Tuesday April 11 at 7pm**. We will be reading *The Dinner List* by Rebecca Serle. Joining information can be found on the church calendar.

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will meet at **noon on April 19 at the Chateau**, 466 King Street, Franklin. Please contact Nancy Boates (NancyBoates49@hotmail.com, 508-654-2833) by 10 am the day before if you plan to attend.

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).