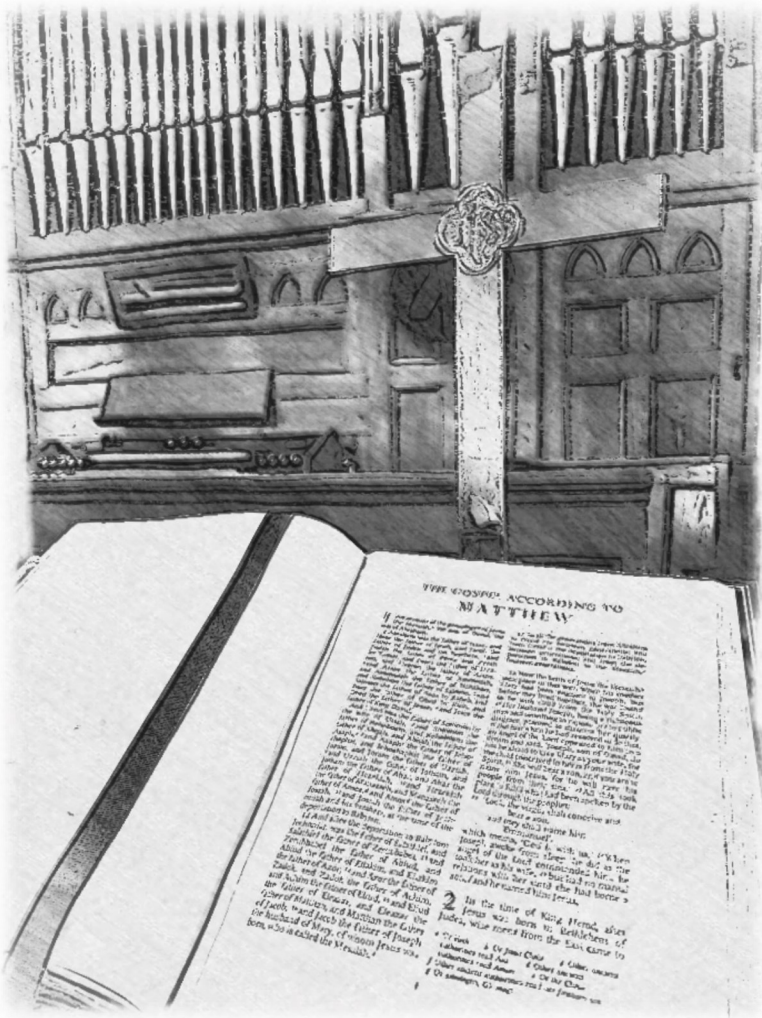


# FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## What Do You Expect?

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW || APRIL 23, 2023

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

franklinumc.org  
office@franklinumc.org

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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

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Come all who are weary  
    **of wealth, of poverty, of power,  
    of struggle, of division.**

Come all who are heavy-laden  
    **with too much, with too little,  
    with anxiety, with fear, with anger.**

Come all who have hope  
    **for liberation, for peace, for freedom,  
    for the kingdom.**

Jesus' call is for everyone:  
    **"come home."**

## SONG      "SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING"

No. 348, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
    calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
    watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home;  
you who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, O sinner, come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
    pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
    mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,  
    passing from you and from me;  
shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,  
    coming for you and for me. [Refrain]

O for the wonderful love he has promised,  
    promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
    pardon for you and for me. [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

**MATTHEW 11:2-19**

### REFLECTION

### SONG

### **“WE PLAYED THE FLUTE! THE CHILDREN SAID”**

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TUNE: CANONBURY (“Lord Speak to Me,” UMH 463)

"We played the flute!" the children said —  
"You would not dance or join our game!  
We wailed like those who grieve the dead,  
And yet you would not do the same."

When John would fast for many days,  
The crowds would murmur and condemn;  
Yet they complained at Jesus' ways:  
"He eats and drinks with those who sin!"

Forgive us, Lord, what we expect!  
We want a faith that we control —  
Yet faith is not what we direct,  
For it's your grace that makes us whole.

And when we let our burdens go  
And take your yoke, and learn from you,  
We'll find your rest, and then we'll know  
Your way, not ours, will see us through.

## OFFERING

## DOXOLOGY

## PRAYER

## SONG

### **“FORTH IN THY NAME, O LORD”**

No. 438, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labor to pursue;  
thee, only thee, resolved to know  
in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom hath assigned,  
O let me cheerfully fulfill;  
in all my works thy presence find,  
and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,  
whose eyes mine inmost substance see,  
and labor on at thy command,  
and offer all my works to thee.

For thee delightfully employ  
what e'er thy bounteous grace hath given;  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with thee to heaven.

## **SENDING**

## **THE PEACE**

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

## **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**

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

508-528-1092  
[office@franklinumc.org](mailto:office@franklinumc.org)

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Deidre Bassignani, Administrator  
[deidre@franklinumc.org](mailto: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  
John Milot, Chair of Resource Committee  
Inger Anderson, Chair of Committee on Ministry

# UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

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## APRIL FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: PASTA

*We will be collecting 1 lb packages of pasta for the Food Pantry.* Donations can be placed on the table in the sanctuary.

## BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet (virtually) on **Tuesday May 9 at 7pm.** We will be reading *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb . Joining information can be found on the church calendar.

## LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will meet at **noon on May 17 at Sol De Mexico, 191 Mechanic St, Bellingham.** Please contact Nancy Boates (NancyBoates49@hotmail.com, 508-654-2833) by 10 am the day before if you plan to attend.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The next date for Sunday School will be **Sunday, May 7th during worship.** Children ages 4-12 (preschool—6th grade) will be dismissed during worship and will be returning to the sanctuary for communion. There is no need to RSVP or register.

The curriculum we are using is [Mini Revolutions from Illustrated Ministry](#). In addition to the (current) once-per-month class during worship at the church, we will be providing supplementary materials for persons who would like to use the curriculum for family devotions. Print materials will be made available each week at the church. We can also email you materials in a monthly packet, if you're interested in using them in your home.

If you are interested in volunteering as a teacher please see Inger Anderson or email at [inger1210@aol.com](mailto:inger1210@aol.com).