

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Food From Heaven

STORIES OF THE FAITH

||

SEPTEMBER 3, 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

The ads online, on TV, and everywhere we look shout; “Buy me!
You deserve me! You’re only worthy with me!”

Some days we shout back: enough!

And other days we let a theology and attitude of scarcity
overtake us.

**On those days we allow what we have to
define us, control us, and restrict us.**

God provides enough. God created each of us as enough.
God creates a world of abundance.

**But our certainty of scarcity, our idolatry of the
shiny, and our fears of others prevent us from
gratitude, graciousness, and sharing.**

We live in an abundant world.

Our creator makes it so.

Move our hearts, lessen our fears in this hour.

There is enough for all of us.

Praise be to the God of Abundant Love

**who invites us all to be together and experience
the abundance that surrounds us.**

SONG

“Table of Plenty”

No. 3173, *Worship & Song* (2011)

Refrain: Come to the feast of heaven and earth!

Come to the table of plenty!

God will provide for all that we need Here at the table of plenty.

O come and sit at my table Where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely To share the cup of my love.

[*Refrain*]

O come and eat without money; Come to drink without price.
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit With faith and fullness of life.

[*Refrain*]

My bread will ever sustain you Through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness To flood the depths of your soul.

[*Refrain*]

Your fields will flower in fulness; Your homes will flourish in peace.
For I, the giver of home and harvest, Will send my rain on the soil.

PRAY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

You call your people to prayer and praise in many ways. This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.

Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you. As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures—faith, hope, and love.

God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.

All life is created and nourished by you! May we grow into new circles of understanding and being, reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.

**Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.
Amen.**

REFLECT

MINI-REFLECTION (CHILDREN’S TIME)

READING

“FOOD FROM HEAVEN”

The Beginner’s Bible

REFLECTION

SONG

“LET MY PEOPLE SEEK THEIR FREEDOM”

No. 586, *Upper Room Worship Book* (2006)

“Let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile,
from the slave pens of the Delta, from the ghettos on the Nile”:
So God spoke from out of Sinai, so God spoke and it was done,
and a people crossed the waters toward the rising of the sun.

“Let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile,
from the aging shrines and structures, from the cloister and the aisle”:
so the Son of God has spoken, and the storm clouds are unfurled,
for God’s people must be scattered to be servants in the world.

When we murmur on the mountains for the old Egyptian plains,
when we miss our ancient bondage, and the hope, the promise, wanes;
then the rock shall yield its water and the manna fall by night,
and with visions of a future shall we march toward the light.

In the maelstrom of the nations, in the journeying into space,
in the clash of generations, in the hungering for grace,
in our agony and glory, we are called to newer ways
by the Lord of our tomorrows and the God of earth's todays.

COMMUNE

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (SUNG RESPONSES)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

No. 2257-a, The Faith We Sing (2001)

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

No. 2257-b, The Faith We Sing (2001)

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,

as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

No. 2257-c, The Faith We Sing (2001)

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

No. 2257-d, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

RESPONSE "PEACE BE TO THIS CONGREGATION"

Words by Charles Wesley TUNE: PROMISE (No. 707, *UMH*)

Peace be to this congregation,
peace to ev'ry soul therein,
peace, which flows from Christ's
salvation,
peace, the seal of cancelled sin,
peace that speaks its heavenly Giver,
peace, to earthly minds unknown,
peace divine that lasts forever
here erect its glorious throne.

Jesus, Prince of peace, be near us;
fix in all our hearts your home;
with your gracious presence cheer us;
let your sacred kingdom come;
raise to heav'n our expectation,
give our favored souls to prove
glorious and complete salvation,
in the realms of bliss above.

GO

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
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Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Juncker, Pastor
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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
John Milot, Chair of Resource Committee
Inger Anderson, Chair of Committee on Ministry

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Held the first Sunday of every month. 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 please see Inger Anderson

BLOOMIN 4 GOOD

FUMC has been selected again for the Franklin Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program for September. FUMC will receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 bouquet in the sleeve marked "Bloomin' 4 Good" purchased at the Franklin Stop & Shop location in September. For more information about the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, please visit stopandshop.2givelocal.com.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet (virtually) **Tuesday September 12 at 7pm**. We will be reading *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan. Joining information can be found on the church calendar.

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will meet at **noon on Wednesday September 27 at Longhorn Steakhouse in the Stop & Shop Plaza, West Central St, Franklin**. Please contact Nancy Boates (NancyBoates49@hotmail.com, 508-654-2833) by 10 am the day before if you plan to attend.

NEXT COMMUNITY COOKOUT

Saturday September 23 5:30– 6:30

Burgers, hot dogs, chips & drinks. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.