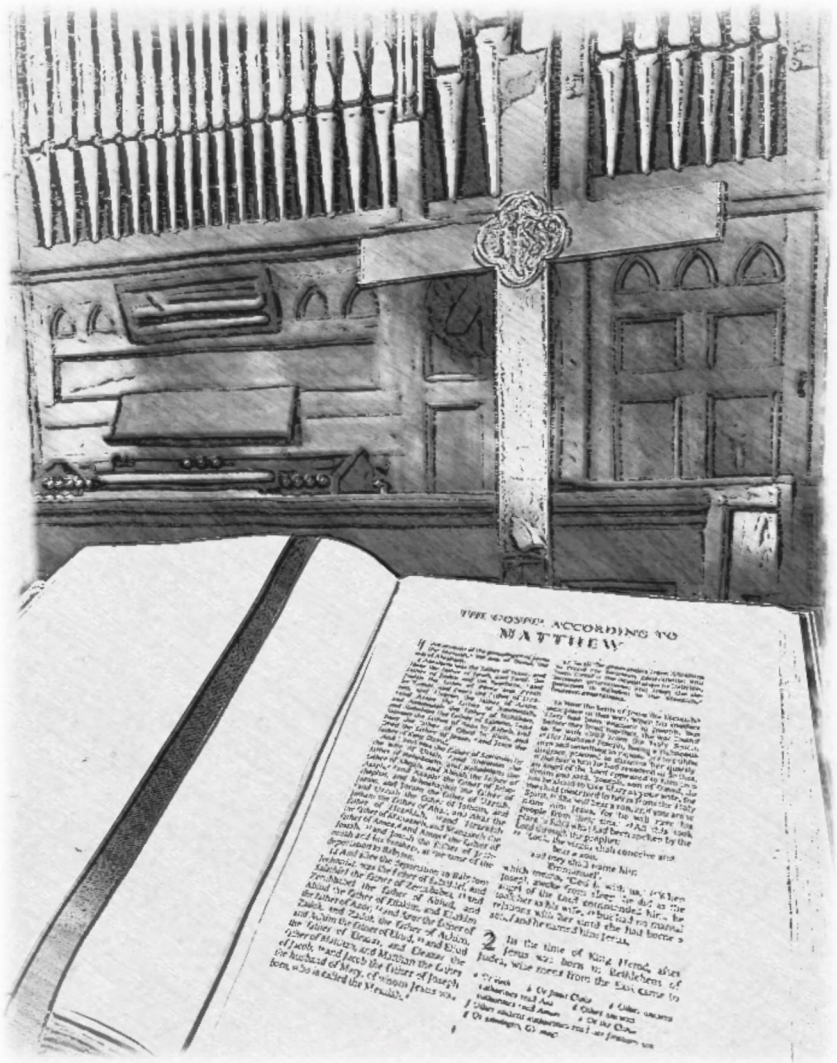


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Wear Your Sunday Best

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW || SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

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

franklinumc.org
office@franklinumc.org

WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

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

This worship aid, or “bulletin,” will guide you through this service, offering you a brief outline and instructions for the service along with the responses, prayers, and lyrics to the songs we will sing together. Congregational responses are typically **bolded**.

Please record your gift of presence and make your other offerings using the offering card included in the print bulletin. Online worshippers are encouraged to record their presence and offerings online at **franklinumc.org/offering**.

Financial contributions can be made in the offering plate (cash or check made payable to “Franklin United Methodist Church”) or online by going to **franklinumc.org/giving**.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the midst of fear and anger; in the midst of mayhem and destruction, God calls us.

With everything else going on, who has time for a feast? We're busy, we'll get around to eating eventually.

In the midst of our anxiety, our worry; in the midst of bill-paying and appointments, God invites us.

We are tempted to just grab a bite, a sandwich between errands, a snack we can eat while driving, or checking email, or working on today's big project.

The feast is spread! All are invited, all are welcome!

We are invited. We are welcome. We are worthy.

How will we respond?

SONG **“COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY”**

No. 340, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

1

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me with his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

2

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. (Refrain)

3

Come ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. (Refrain)

4

Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him. (Refrain)

PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 22:1-14

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”

No. 384, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

1.

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

OFFERTORY

SHARING OUR TITHES & GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER

SONG

“FREELY, FREELY”

No. 389, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

1.

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his love as he told me to.

He said, “Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live.

2.

All power is given in Jesus' name,
in earth and heaven in Jesus' name,
And in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his power as he told me to.

He said, “Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
others will know that I live.

SENDING

THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

We hope that you found, 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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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

ICE CREAM SOCIAL TODAY!

Join us for a FREE ice cream social following worship . Ice cream sundaes will be provided by T.C. Scoops. No RSVP is necessary. This event is paid for by the Mission Fund.

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.

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 October 10 at 7pm.** The group will be reading *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama. Joining information can be found on the church calendar.