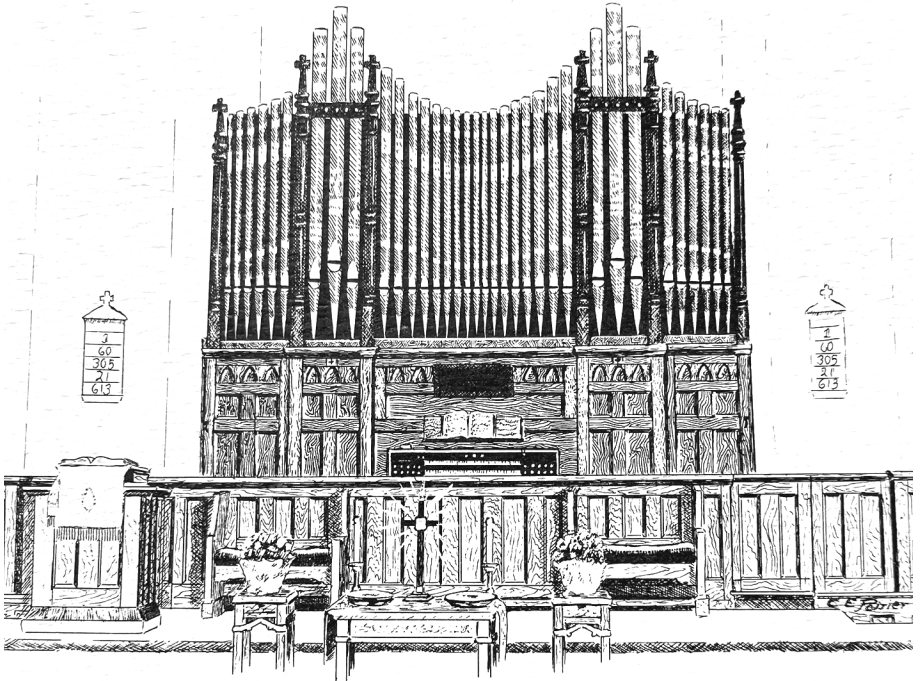


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



DEDICATED TO

gathering with other Christians | the glory of God |
the proclamation of the gospel | the service of humanity

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

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

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WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

This service of worship is gathering in-person at the church building, 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

GREETING AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

SONG

“GOD IS HERE”

No. 660, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

JEREMIAH 32:36-41

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

PSALM 100

p.821, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Sung Response (Refrain, "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart," UMH 160):

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

**Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into God's presence with singing!**

Know that the Lord, who made us, is God.

**We are the Lord's;
we are the people of God,
the sheep of God's pasture.**

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,
and God's courts with praise!

Give thanks and bless God's name!

For the Lord is good;

**God's steadfast love endures for ever;
God's faithfulness to all generations.**

Sung Response (Refrain, "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart," UMH 160):

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

EPISTLE READING

JEREMIAH 32:36-41

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

SONG

"WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE"

No. 2220, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
born of the Spirit established by the Word.
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Christ we stand;
O let us live transparently
and walk heart in heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ, our Lord,
for we have known it, the love of God outpoured.
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given;
O let us share each joy and care
and live with a zeal that pleases heaven.

We are the body of which the Lord is Head,
called to obey Christ, now risen from the dead,
God wills us be a family diverse, yet truly one;
O let us give our gifts to God
and so shall God's work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace.
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire;
yet joined in one the flame burns on
to give warmth and light and to inspire.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 20:20-28

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

REFLECTION

REMEMBERING THE FOUNDING MEMBERS

Abigail Fisher | Hannah Morse | Susan Peary | Sarah E. Cook
John Metcalf | Lizzie Metcalf | Charles S. Bassett | Alfred F. Everett
Maria Everett | Hattie A. Daniels | Annie H. Lombard
Wesley W. Haslam | Hattie Haslam

REMEMBERING ALL THE DEPARTED SAINTS

SONG

“I SING A SONG OF THE SAINTS OF GOD

No. 712, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green;
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and
his love made them strong;
and they followed the right for Jesus' sake
the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast;
and there's not any reason, no not the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still.
The world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, on the street, in the store,
in church, by the sea, in the house next door;
they are saints of God, whether rich or poor,
and I mean to be one too.

MAKING OUR DEDICATION

In accordance with the laws and *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, the Franklin United Methodist Church was duly constituted and organized for the glory of God, the proclamation of the gospel, and the service of humanity.

For 170 years, Methodists have gathered in Franklin, at first meeting in the Town Hall, and eventually consecrating this facility, 150 years ago, to the service of God.

The church exists but for the grace of God and the dedication of generations past.

And it will continue to exist so long as God's people commit to the work of the church. Each of us is called to carry on that work. Each of us bears responsibility to future generations that they might come to know God's love found in Jesus Christ.

We dedicate ourselves to gathering with other Christians, the glory of God, the proclamation of the gospel, and the service of humanity. For Christ's sake and the sake of future generations, may we all be ever so faithful as our forebears.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CONFESSION & PARDON

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your unfailing mercies. We are not worthy that you should receive us, but give your word and we shall be healed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that is proof of God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

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, *The United Methodist Hymnal*)

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.

SENDING

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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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