

# FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## Using What We've Been Given

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW || NOVEMBER 19, 2023

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

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# WELCOME TO FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

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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](http://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](http://franklinumc.org/giving)**.

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## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

God has gathered us to this place,  
**where we hear those stories which show us  
what the kingdom of God is like.**

God summons us to this place,  
**where we can learn how to serve our God  
without reservation, or hesitation.**

God will send us from this place,  
**to tell others of God's hopes and dreams, so  
they, too, can choose to follow God.**

## SONG "HERE, O LORD, YOUR SERVANTS GATHER"

*No. 552, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989)*

Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand;  
looking toward our Savior's cross, joined in love we stand.

As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray:  
Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.

Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's demands.  
E'en in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:  
Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.

Nature's secrets open wide, changes never cease.  
Where, oh where, can weary souls find the source of peace?  
Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:  
Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.

Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love;  
help us as we work and pray, send us from above  
truth and courage, faith and power, needed in our strife:  
Jesus, Master, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

p.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.**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

#### **MATTHEW 25:14-30**

*The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*

#### **SONG**

#### **“MAKE ME A SERVANT”**

No. 2176, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

Make me a servant, humble and meek,  
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.  
And may the prayer of my heart always be:  
Make me a servant,  
make me a servant,  
make me a servant today.

#### **REFLECTION**

Pastor Jacob

**SONG**

**“I’M GONNA LIVE SO GOD CAN USE ME”**

No. 2153, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

I’m gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

**OFFERING**

**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 OF THANKSGIVING**

## SONG

## “TOGETHER WE SERVE”

No. 2175, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God’s world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending your love to the last and the least.

We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.

## SENDING

### THE PEACE)

The peace of the Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All are encouraged to share signs of peace and greetings  
through the congregation as they exit the worship space.*

## POSTLUDE

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

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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.

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## **franklinumc.org**

Franklin United Methodist Church  
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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

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## CHURCH/CHARGE CONFERENCE

The annual church/charge conference for the Franklin United Methodist Church will be on **Sunday, December 3, following worship**. Our District Superintendent Rev. Nizzi Santos will be joining us for worship and conducting the meeting. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting, all professing members are encouraged to vote on the matters brought before the conference.

## EMERGENCY SHELTER HUMANITARIAN AID

The State of Massachusetts has opened an emergency shelter in Franklin for those persons who have entered the state and are in need of shelter. There are multiple layers of need that must be met, if you'd like to know about the evolving needs and opportunities to donate and volunteer, please email [info@franklininterfaith.org](mailto:info@franklininterfaith.org).

## GET & STAY CONNECTED TO THE CHURCH

The Franklin United Methodist Church uses Realm, an online database software, to better communicate with and connect people into the life of the church. It is simple and easy to use! Every person in the church gets a unique profile. Your profile enables you to RSVP to events (including volunteer opportunities), track your giving, update your contact information, change your family details, and replace that outdated directory photo. And, most importantly, it allows the church to communicate better with you. To create and log into the database, go to [onrealm.org/FranklinUMC](http://onrealm.org/FranklinUMC).

## STAY UP-TO-DATE & SHARE THE WORD

The easiest ways to stay up-to-date on all that is going on is to subscribe to the church website and follow our social media accounts. Go to [franklinumc.org](http://franklinumc.org), scroll to the bottom of the page, enter your email address, and hit subscribe. All new posts to the website will be sent directly to your email. You can also find regular updates on [Facebook.com/FranklinMaUMC](https://Facebook.com/FranklinMaUMC) and [Instagram.com/FranklinUMC](https://Instagram.com/FranklinUMC). You can find all past services archived under the "Live" section of our YouTube channel ([YouTube.com/@FranklinMaUMC](https://YouTube.com/@FranklinMaUMC)). Follow, like, share, and comment on the content to help make others aware of all that we do and are together for Christ's sake.