

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The Letters of John
A Welcome Example

Sunday February 11, 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 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**.

Prayer requests can be made by filling out the offering form enclosed with the print bulletins, or by going to **franklinumc.org/pray**. Confidential requests will be sent to the pastor. Non-confidential requests will be distributed to the Prayer Team.

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/give**.

To learn about ways you can volunteer, and sign up, go to **franklinumc.org/volunteer**. You can also sign up to volunteer by filling out the offering form enclosed with the print bulletins. All persons who sign up to volunteer will receive an email confirmation of your volunteer registration.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to a time of wonder
and music that calls us home.

Welcome to hear God's words that inspire and challenge
and to reminders that we are offered holy hospitality:

Hospitality that teaches us how to open our lives to others
**leading us to fully live open minds, open hearts,
open doors.**

SONG

“HELP US ACCEPT EACH OTHER”

No. 560, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989)

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

COLLECT

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

3 JOHN

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“COME TO US”

No. 55, *The Upper Room Worshipbook*

Come to me, Come to us, you who are burdened,
Come to the word, and come to the meal,
Come without question or pressure or price:
Come be embraced by the body of Christ.

Come to me, Come to us, pilgrim or stranger,
Looking for change, or challenge, or light.
We all are people who's calling is care,
Bearers of mercy, nourished in prayer.

Come to me, Come to us, broken or building,
Come with your children, your choices, your chains.
All are invited to friendship or rest,
To share in our struggle, our call, and our quest.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

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

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

PRAYER

SONG

“O GOD, YOU GIVE WELCOME”

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TUNE: ST DENIO (“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise,” UMH 103)

O God, you give welcome; you care and provide.
You cherish each person with love reaching wide.
We're made in your image and so hear your call
To humbly reach out with a welcome to all.

Yet near us are families with no place to stay
And children who won't have a good meal today.
Your will is for justice where everyone thrives;
May we build communities, strengthening lives.

Bless children who wish for a permanent place
And youth who are longing to have their own space.
Bless parents who feel that they're struggling alone;
May we share their journey to find a new home.

Bless houses of worship we use a new way,
As classrooms are turned into places to stay.
Bless kitchens where suppers are gladly prepared
And each sacred space where your welcome is shared.

SENDING

THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you.
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!

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

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us on Fat Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday), February 13, for a Fat Tuesday feast of pancakes and sausage. We'll be flipping pancakes from 5:30-6:30p. Come when you can. All are invited.

This event is FREE and open to the public. Donations are welcomed, but not expected.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 14th at 7pm

FEBRUARY COLLECTION

This month's Food Pantry item is **cookies & crackers, 8-12 oz.** Donations can be brought on Sunday's. At the end of the month all items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry.

BOOK CLUB

For February, the Book Club will be reading "The Magnificent Life of Marjorie Post" by Allison Pataki. The next meeting will be on **February 13, at 7pm at the church after the Fat Tuesday Pancake Breakfast.** The group will meet in a hybrid format, online (<https://meet.goto.com/richp/churchbookclub>), or by phone (224-501-3412, access code is 789-141-869).

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering where people talk and fellowship over a meal at area restaurants. The next gathering will be at **Medway Café, Main Street, Medway on February 21 at 12 PM.** All are welcome. Please notify Nancy Boates by phone 508-654-2833 or email NancyBoates49@hotmail.com by 10 am if you plan to attend.

2024 PLEDGES

One of the ways we show our commitment and dedication to the work of Christ and the church is through our financial contributions. While our dedication cannot be measured by the amount we give, our dedication is reflected in our commitment to give. As such, we are asking everyone to consider making a commitment (a pledge) as a sign of their dedication to the church. Pledges can be made going to <https://franklinumc.org/dedicated/> and following the link. Paper pledge cards can be found at the entrance to the worship space and can be turned into the church office or offering plate.