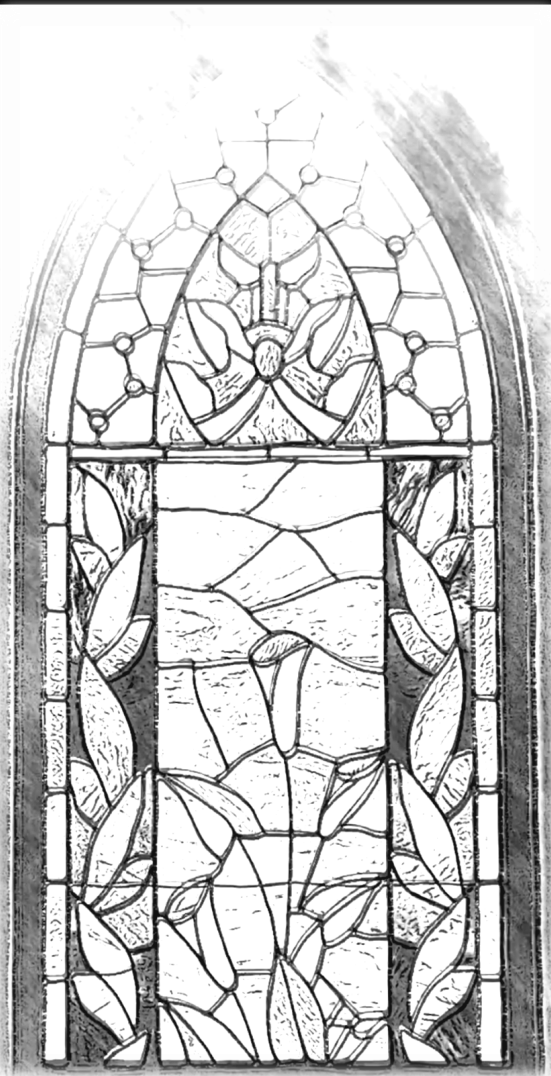


FRANKLIN UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



Easter Sunday

What Are You Afraid Of?

Sunday March 31, 2024

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

Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes
a message of hope. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves. And it is true.
Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

We hear a voice call our name, and we know
our risen Lord is with us now and always.

Christ is risen, indeed.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia!

SONG

“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”

No. 302, UMH (1989)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

COLLECT

SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 16:1-8

The New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

SONG

“WE SANG OUR GLAD HOSANNAS”

No. 2111, FWS (2001)

We sang our glad hosannas and waved our branches high,
but some were silent, frowning, as Jesus rode on by.
They sought a royal Savior, but did not understand
a king could rule by loving instead of by command.

We heard an angry Jesus in Temple courts declare,
“Be gone, you money changers! This is a house of prayer.”
Though many came for healing, and stayed to hear his word,
still others, hostile, plotted and thus his death assured.

We served him at the table with wine, unleavened bread.
“The one who will betray me now eats with me,” he said.
His friends would not believe him, but one by one that night,
as soldiers came to take him, they scurried out of sight.

We saw a suffering Jesus alone, without a friend,
and heard the voices shouting abuse until the end.
We wept as we stood watching Love’s light grow dim and die,
and cried, “Why did this happen? God, tell us, tell us why!”

We buried him, not knowing that on the third day morn
a risen Christ would greet us and hope would be reborn.
Though evil had extinguished the life that burned so bright,
the love of God would triumph like dawn that ends the night

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“EASTER PEOPLE, RAISE YOUR VOICES”

No. 304, UMH (1989)

Easter people raise your voices. Sounds of heaven in earth should ring
Christ has brought us Heaven's choices. Heavenly music let it ring
Alleluia. Alleluia. Easter people let us sing.

Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below
For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe
Alleluia. Alleluia. On to victory now we go.

Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song
When in trouble move the faster to our God who rights the wrong
Alleluia. Alleluia. See the power of heavenly throngs.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

...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.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

...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.

...By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly
banquet.

**Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and
glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

No. 3068, *Worship & Song* (2011)

**Our Father, which 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD & 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.

SENDING

THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you.
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

EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us after the service for a Easter Hunt out back on the lawn!

NEW SERIES // LOST IN WONDER: FAITH'S BEGINNING

Join us Sundays, April 7-May 12, as we explore the theme of faith through the lens of Charles Wesley's hymns. Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, is widely considered the most prolific Christian hymnwriter. Some of the questions we'll consider are: Can we prove faith? What is eternal life? Where do we start? How do we read the Bible? Join us this Easter season for worship on Sundays, in-person at the church and via Google Meet, at 10am (or streaming whenever on YouTube) as we consider where faith begins.

BOOK CLUB

This month the Book Club will be reading "Still Life" by Louise Perry . The next meeting will be on **April 9 at 7pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format, Cynthia will be hosting at 123 Dean Ave #3310 in Franklin for those who would like to meet in person, 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 enjoy fellowship over a meal at area restaurants. The next gathering will be at **The Railery, Franklin Village on April 17 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.

APRIL COLLECTION

This month's Food Pantry collection is non-perishable **gluten free items** . Donations can be brought on Sunday's. At the end of the month all items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry.