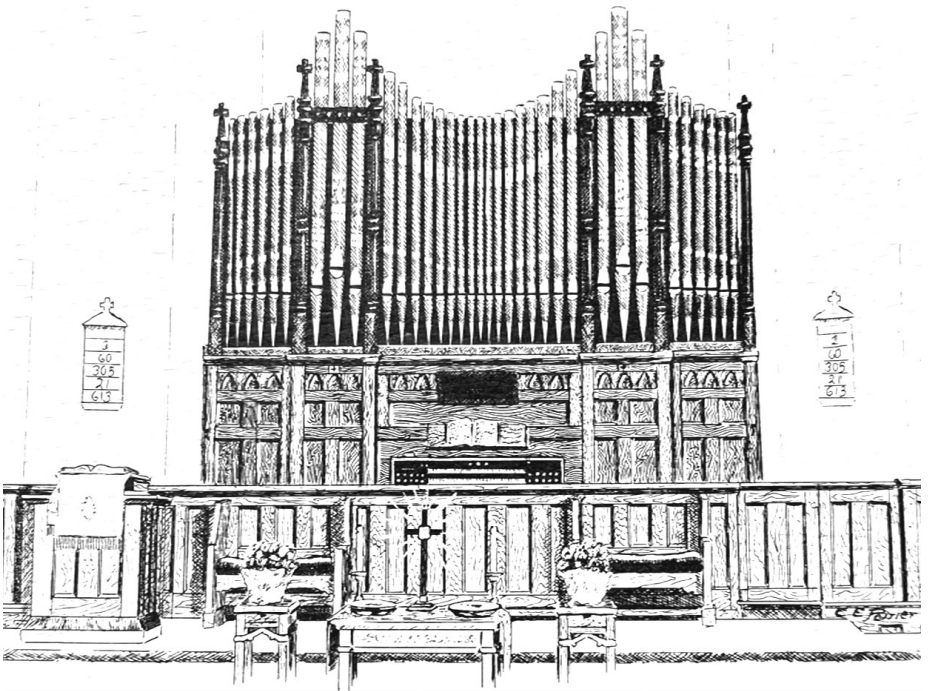


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Playing God
Pursuing Holiness

Sunday October 6, 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

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you are called;

**We cannot do this alone, we dare not try this alone,
so we gather as God's people.**

Lead a life worthy of your calling, a life filled with service
and meekness.

**We come to build up Christ's Body, in humility and
gentles, with patience and love.**

Lead a life which reflects your calling, that life of peace
grounded in the Spirit.

**We rejoice in our oneness in Christ; we would share
the grace offered to us.**

Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been
called.

**We gather as God's family at the Table prepared for
us, waiting to be fed by the Bread of Life.**

SONG

“AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE”

No. 2268, *FWS* (2001)

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

SCRIPTURE READING

EPHESIANS 4:17-24: 5:1-2
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY”

No. 395, *UMH* (1989)

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always, and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,
and run not before him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

INVITATION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us confess our sins to God and, also, to each other.

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord.

Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, for the sake of the One who has called us to it, and for all who will gather around it. Send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

... and by the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

SONG

“FILL MY CUP, LORD”

No. 3093, W & S (2011)

Like the woman at the well, I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy.
And then I heard my Savior speaking—
“Draw from My well that never shall run dry.”

*Refrain: Fill my cup, Lord; I lift it up, Lord;
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul.
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.*

There are millions in this world who are craving
the pleasure earthly things afford.
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord. *Refrain*

So, my neighbor, if the things this world gave you
Leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed Lord will come and save you
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray: *Refrain*

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.

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 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 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

Franklin United Methodist Church
PO Box 313
82 W. Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1092
office@franklinumc.org

Rev. Dr. Jacob W. Juncker, Pastor
jacob@franklinumc.org

Deidre Bassignani, Administrator
deidre@franklinumc.org

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

HOLIDAY BASKETS

This year, we are collecting hot chocolate mix—box of 8 envelopes. The goal is 125 boxes. These go to the Franklin Food Pantry for their annual holiday food baskets. Donations are due to the church by Monday, October 14.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Church loves to see children and hear their voices. Wouldn't it be great to have a Children's Choir? Whether your children have had an opportunity to sing or not, let's have some fun and learn some songs.

Contact Vickie Low, 508-740-3750, Velow@comcast.net, or Cynthia Croteau, 508-942-3989, cgcroteau13@gmail.com, for details or to sign up. Let's raise our voices.

BOOK CLUB

This month we will be reading "The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store: A Novel" by James McBride. The next meeting will be on **October 8 at 7pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format at Nancy's home or online (<https://meet.goto.com/richp/churchbookclub>), or phone (224-501-3412, access code 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 Rome in Franklin on October 16 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.

TRUNK OR TREAT / HALLO-WEINER ROAST SAT OCTOBER 26, 4-6PM

Come dressed in your Halloween costume, trick or treat around the parking lot, and enjoy a free hotdog. All are welcome. This event is completely free!