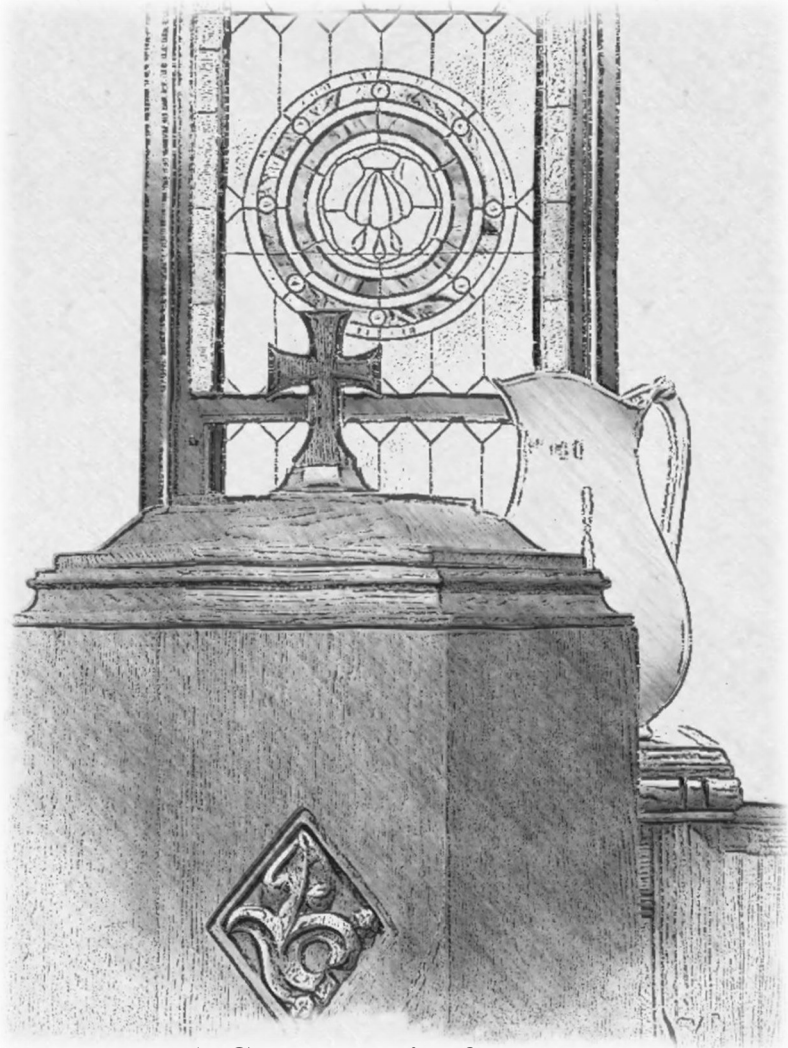


FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



A Call to Faithfulness
Reaffirming Our Baptism
Sunday January 12, 2025

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

When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

I will be with you.

When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

I will be with you.

Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

I will be with you.

So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! Amen.

SONG

“PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY”

No. 139, *UMH* (1989)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.

God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.

Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895, *UMH* (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

ISAIAH 43:1-7

RESPONSE

“GLORY BE TO THE FATHER”

No. 70, *UMH* (1989)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“COME, LET US USE THE GRACE DIVINE”

No. 606, *UMH* (1989)

Come, let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord,
in a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord;
Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power, his name to glorify;
and promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die.

The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind;
we will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind.
We never will throw off the fear of God who hears our vow;
and if thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now.

Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive,
present with thy celestial host the peaceful answer give;
to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away,
and register our names on high and keep us to that day!

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

INTRODUCTION

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

And so I ask you, will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?

We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin!

Will you let the Spirit use you as prophets to the powers that be?

We accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves!

Will you proclaim the good news and live as disciples of Jesus Christ, his body on earth?

We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races!

Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Will you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

We affirm and teach the faith of the whole church as we put our trust in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, his only Son, and in the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

The Spirit of the Lord is with us.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the life you birthed in us by baptism into Jesus Christ. will never die. Your justice never fails. Your mercy is everlasting.

Your healing river flows. Your Spirit blows where you will. We cannot stop you, God!

But sometimes we try. We try to block the flow,
we redirect the winds of the Spirit, or we walk so far away from the
life-giving Stream that we do not hear its sound,
and we forget its power. We parch ourselves.

We are dry and thirsty, O God. Come, refresh us!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon these waters.

Come upon these waters.

Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy.

Let these waters remind us of your righteousness and justice.

Let these waters renew in us the resurrection power of Jesus.

Let these waters make us long for your coming reign.

Most Holy God, Abba, Father!

Glory to you!

Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!

Glory to you!

Eternal God, One in Three and Three in One!

All glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

All who are baptized and have renewed their vows are invited to come to the font to use the water as a sign of refreshing. As each uses the water, another says to them: ***“Remember that you are baptized, and rejoice!”***

OFFERING

All are invited to make their offerings—pray, volunteer, give financially—to support the work of Christ through the church. Offering forms and financial gifts can be placed in the offering plates in the sanctuary. Offerings can also be made online by going to franklinumc.org/pray, franklinumc.org/volunteer, and franklinumc.org/give.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SONG “LORD, WHOSE LOVE THROUGH HUMBLE SERVICE”

No. 581, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy’s perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

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

MLK SERVICE DAY

Franklin Federated Church is hosting a Martin Luther King Service Day on **January 18th from 1:00 to 3:00**. If you would like to participate, please contact: Deb Stiffler at Dstffl1223@aol.com

The event will be supporting the Franklin Food Pantry with assembling 25 Birthday Bags, Meals on Wheels in Franklin with 75 Valentine's Bags and Foster Care Essentials with Disposable Diapers, Wipes and Children's Underwear. All are invited to participate!

FRANKLIN SENIOR RIDE ASSISTANCE

Attention Franklin Seniors: Need a Ride?

- Medical Appointments
- Available to Franklin Residents
- Local Errands (Walmart, Market Basket, etc.)
- Must be scheduled 48 hours in advance
- Events at The Senior Center & More

For more information, call Emily at 508-520-4945

BOOK CLUB

January we'll read *The Bird Hotel* by Joyce Maynard . The next meeting will be on **January 14 at 7pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format at TBD 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 45 Restaurant, Milford St, Medway on January 15 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.

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Franklin Meals on Wheels office is looking for onsite volunteers, weekday mornings at the church. Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals to in-need, homebound seniors in Franklin, Bellingham, Blackstone, and Medway. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Jeanne (Monday through Friday, 10a-1p) by phone at [508-520-1422](tel:508-520-1422).