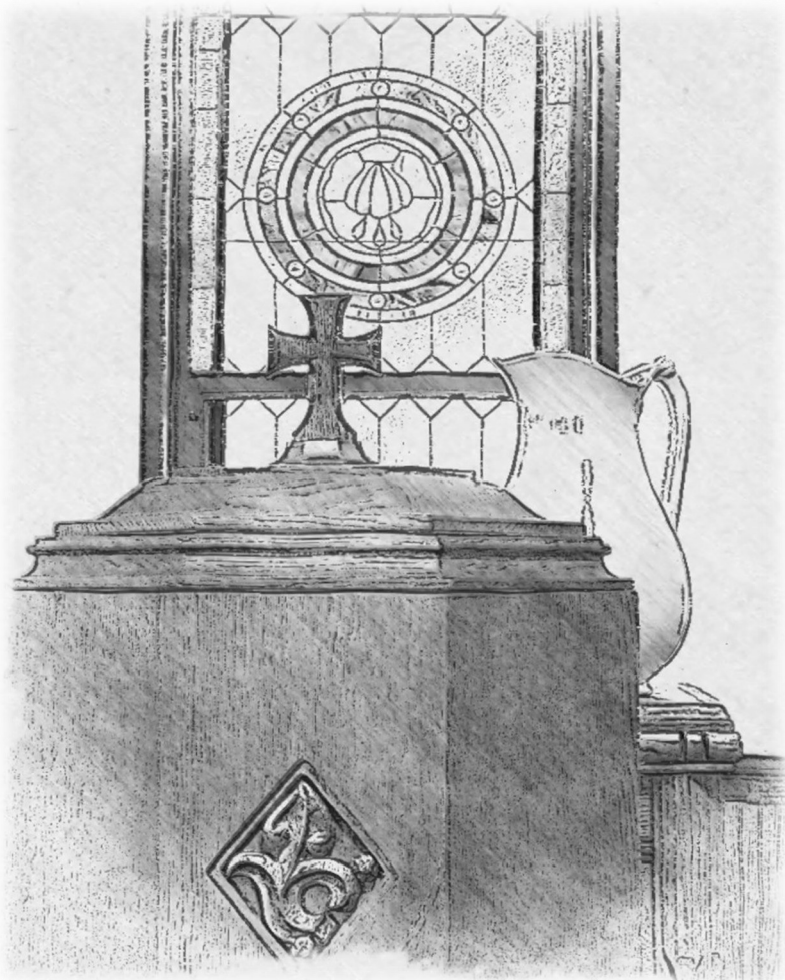


# FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## A Call to Faithfulness in the Community of All Creation

Sunday January 19, 2025

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

franklinumc.org  
office@franklinumc.org

# 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**.

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.

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## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

We look at this world, focusing on the pain and confusion, the fears and hatred which seem to abound.

**For what can we hope?**

We wait breathlessly for the goodness of creation to be made manifest in all the world, for this is the promise of God.

**God is always with us—guiding, rescuing, healing, restoring us.**

Get ready, dear friends, the promises of God are true.

**Lord, quiet our spirits and open our hearts. Bring us hope and peace. Amen.**

## SONG

## “COME AND FIND THE QUIET CENTER”

No. 2128, FWS (2001)

Come and find the quiet center  
in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
Clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,  
cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
knows our being, touches base,  
making space within our thinking,  
lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare!

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### SILENT PRAYER

### COLLECT

### 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

### GENESIS 1:26-31

### SONG "GOD MADE THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH"

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TUNE: THE SOLID ROCK (UMH 368, "My Hope Is Built")

God made the heavens and the earth.  
God's Spirit moved; they came to be.  
For when God spoke, there was the light,  
And solid ground, and rolling sea.

*Refrain:*

*Lord, all your world's a precious gift.  
You give dominion! Help us share  
In your creation's loving care.*

God saw the earth was very good.  
God spoke, and life came bursting forth:  
The bright green grass, the shaded wood,  
And wondrous creatures 'round the earth. *Refrain*

And soon it was, God spoke again:  
In God's good image we were made,  
To fill the earth, and tenderly  
To tend the land, and love, and pray. *Refrain*

When I look up and see the stars,  
Creation shouts your praise anew.  
I humbly ask, "Lord, who am I?"  
Yet, we are called to work with you. *Refrain*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**ROMANS 8:18-25**

**REFLECTION**

Pastor Jacob

**SONG "WOUNDED WORLD THAT CRIES FOR HEALING"**

No. 2177, FWS (2001)

Wounded world that cries for healing -  
here we hold each other's pain,  
wounded systems,  
bruised and bleeding bear the load,  
the scars of strain;  
dollars ration out compassion,  
hard decisions rule the day,  
Jesus of the healing Spirit,  
free us to another way!

Through our nation's spent frustration,  
through the corridors of stress  
may there move a kindlier wisdom  
all my feel,  
and all may bless;  
tax and tithe are for a purpose  
shared to shield the poor and weak;  
past the symptoms of our sickness  
let the voice of justice speak.

Honor those whose loving spirit  
nurses hope, restores and heals,  
towel and basin used in service  
like the Christ who comes and kneels;  
in the tending,  
in the mending  
may we see the right and fair,  
in our common quest for wholeness  
heal each other by our care.

## OFFERING

## DOXOLOGY

**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      “GOD, YOU MADE YOUR GOOD CREATION”

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette TUNE: BEACH SPRING  
(UMH 581, “Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service”)

God, you made your good creation and you hold it in your care —  
From each starry constellation to each forest under-layer.  
Tiny creatures, mountain splendor, rivers, lakes and ocean floors —  
You are loving, kind and tender in your care for what is yours.

Yet, O God, the earth is crying, times are changing, storms are strong.  
Now the coral reefs are dying, floods are raging, droughts are long.  
Though the circumstances differ, when the earth is in distress,  
See! The poor are first to suffer from our greed and selfishness.

God, you love this world we live in, so you sent your only Son.  
"Here on earth as in your heaven," God, we pray, "Your will be done."  
By your Spirit, may we listen to the earth and to the poor;  
May we care for all you've given till creation is restored.

## SENDING

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## 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  
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

## 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

February we'll read *The Bird Hotel* by Joyce Maynard . The next meeting will be on **February 11 at 7pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format at Linda's house 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 Chateau, Franklin, on February 19 at 12 PM**. All are welcome. Please notify Nancy Boates by phone 508-654-2833 or email [NancyBoates49@hotmail.com](mailto:NancyBoates49@hotmail.com) by 10 am if you plan to attend.

## COMMUNITY CLOSET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Please note: volunteers must be able to navigate stairs as the Community Closet is in the old balcony of the church. You can sign up to volunteer at [franklinumc.org/volunteer](http://franklinumc.org/volunteer) or your Offering sheet.*

**The first and third Tuesdays are OPEN SHOPPING DAYS.**

**The second and fourth Tuesday is a day to SORT ONLY.**

If you would like to sign up a group to volunteer, outside the listed times, please contact Pastor Jacob at [jacob@franklinumc.org](mailto:jacob@franklinumc.org).

## 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).