

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MY SOUL CLINGS



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Steadfast Love: A Lenten Playlist

March 23, 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

Children of God, what has God done for you?

God saves, provides, and holds us in God's steadfast love.

Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, what has God done for you?

God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.

When you have been like the fig tree in Jesus' story that seems unable to produce and that everyone has given up on, what has God done for you?

God tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.

Children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

We come to worship and cling to God, for God's steadfast love never fails!

SONG

“WE SING TO YOU, O GOD”

No. 2001, FWS (2001)

We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,
let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.

To you, O God, let songs be raised,
in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

We wandered far from home out in a desert land,
you shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band.

You kept us safe within your arms
and sheltered us against the storm.

You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.

We ride the vaults of light and air
and trust in your unfailing care.

O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.

Your word is true, your way is just,
you are the God in whom we trust.

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.

PSALTER

PSALM 63

P. 788, *UMH* (1989)



My soul is thirst-ing for you, O



Lord, thirst-ing for you my God.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 13:1-9

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“CLING TO THE MIGHTY ONE”

Words by Henry Bennett (1813-1868)

Music: William F. Sherwin, 1877 (UMH 599, “Break Thou the Bread of Life”)

Cling to the Mighty One, cling in thy grief;
Cling to the Holy One, He gives relief;
Cling to the Gracious One, cling in thy pain;
Cling to the Faithful One, He will sustain.

Cling to the Living One, cling in thy woe;
Cling to the Loving One, through all below;
Cling to the Pardoning One, He speaketh peace;
Cling to the Healing One, anguish shall cease.

Cling to the Pierced One, cling to His side;
Cling to the Risen One, in Him abide;
Cling to the Coming One, hope shall arise;
Cling to the Reigning One, joy lights thine eyes.

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

No. 95, *UMH* (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

“SOIS LA SEMILLA (YOU ARE THE SEED)”

No. 583, *UMH* (1989)

You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;
you're the star that will shine in the night;
you are the yeast and a small grain of salt,
a beacon to glow in the dark.
You are the dawn that will bring a new day;
you're the wheat that will bear golden grain;
you are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,
my witnesses where'er you go.

Refrain:

*Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose;
"Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."*

You are the flame that will lighten the dark,
sending sparkles of hope, faith, and love;
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world
through valleys and pastures of peace.
You are the friends that I chose for myself,
the word that I want to proclaim.
You are the new kingdom built on a rock
where justice and truth always reign.

Refrain

You are the life that will nurture the plant;
you're the waves in a turbulent sea;
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a city to hide,
nor a mountain can cover its might;
may your good deeds show a world in despair
a path that will lead all to God.

Refrain

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

FOOD PANTRY MONTHLY COLLECTION

This month we are collecting toothpaste and/or any other personal hygiene items.

CLEANING BASKETS FOR NEW RESIDENTS

The EA Shelter in Franklin is anticipated to close in August. Permanent housing is being secured for each of the roughly 45 families currently living there. As these new residents move to permanent housing, the Franklin Interfaith Council has been asked by the shelter administrator to create cleaning baskets for each of these families. The Franklin UMC is collecting 20 oz. Dishwashing Liquid and 32 oz all-purpose cleaning spray (non-bleach). All donations should be dropped off in the sanctuary by no later than **Sunday March 30**. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Jacob or Cynthia Croteau.

BOOK CLUB

April we'll read *How to Age Disgracefully* by Pooly Clare . The next meeting will be on **Monday April 7 at 6:30 pm**. The group will meet in a hybrid format, at Dawn P's home or online (<https://meet.goto.com/richp/churchbookclub>), phone (224-501-3412, access code 789-141-869).

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT & DONATIONS

The Franklin UMC will host its 4th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on **Sunday, April 20**. Children ages 0-10 are invited to hunt eggs in designated areas separated by age-group. Participants are asked to bring their own basket or bag. Participants will be released to find eggs at 11:15a. Light refreshments and coffee will be served inside the church. If you would like to donate candy and/or small prizes for this event, stuff eggs, or help with refreshments, please contact Dawn Harlow or Pastor Jacob.

COMMUNITY CONCERT: MICHAEL RIVELIS

Saturday, April 26, at 7pm.

Michael moved to the Boston Metro area after graduating from Northeastern in 1984. For over 15 years, he's been performing Folk Rock and Classic Rock hits from the '60s to the '90s, including songs by Bob Dylan, John Prine, The Beatles, Bruce Springsteen, and more. . Michael has played at numerous benefits, pubs, and bars, and has hosted open mics throughout the Metro West area.