

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)



Steadfast Love: A Lenten Playlist

April 20, 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

Beloved, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Our Savior is risen!

Our Savior is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Steadfast Love is risen!

Steadfast Love is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that God has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia!

SONG

“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”

No. 302 (v.1-3), *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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 moneychangers! 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.

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 20:1-18

REFLECTION

Pastor Jacob

SONG

“CHRIST IS ALIVE”

No. 318, *UMH* (1989)

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now and dwell in every place and time.

Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Christ, we come to the empty tomb, we see our own death,
we see our own tomb, we see our own emptiness.
And we remember how we have treated other people-
members of our family, friends, and neighbors.

**Lord, we come to your tomb, we see a hungry world before us,
the pain of starving children, the guilt of war on our hands,
and we know that collectively we share in those injustices.**

Lord, we come to the empty tomb, we search within ourselves, and we
cannot escape what we are, people caught up in the pain of our own

wrongdoing, for some, a deep sense of loneliness and a frustration of what we would be but are not.

Lord, when we come to the empty tomb, we lay before you our pain, our emptiness and look to you for hope.

People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead in an empty tomb? Are you afraid, are you uncertain, and are you uncomfortable here?

Our wounds are deep, we have turned away from that man, we have broken with him and seek his fellowship.

Do not dwell on your wounds any longer for he has risen to heal you, he has risen to forgive you; he has risen to change us all and bind us together now. Christ has risen to forgive us.

Thanks be to God.

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.

... As the grains and grapes, once dispersed in the fields,
are now united on this table in bread and cup,
so may we and all your people be gathered from every time and place into the unity of your eternal household and feast at your table for ever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND 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 always.
And also with you.

POSTLUDE

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Given by:

Inger Anderson in memory of her parents

Clarice Cargil in celebration

Susan Read in memory of Steve

Vickie Low in memory of Wally & Eileen Low

Vickie Low in memory of Linda Low

Linda Zardeskias in celebration of family & friends

Tricia Prewitt in memory of family

Debbie & Allen Smith in celebration of their mothers

Nancy Boates in memory of Paul Boates

Graydon Smith in celebration of engagement

Mary Foley in celebration of church family

Dawn & Keith Harlow in memory of family members that have passed

Dawn & Keith Harlow in celebration of their grandson, Kai Snay

Dawn Harlow in celebration of her loving husband's, Keith, good health

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 Zardeskias, 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

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT TODAY

Today is our 4th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt after the service. Children ages 0-10 are invited to hunt eggs in designated areas separated by age-group. Light refreshments and coffee will be served inside the church.

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

We reached our collection goal of 45 bottles of cleaning spray! Now it's time to assemble the baskets. **Wednesday, April 23rd 10am - 11:30am at First Universalist Society in Franklin.** Please join the Franklin Interfaith Council to assemble and deliver "Welcome Baskets" filled with donated household supplies to the Franklin Family Shelter. The shelter is set to close this summer and each departing family will receive a basket to welcome them into their new residences. This is a wonderful opportunity and we look forward to serving with you! Please show up as close to 10am as possible. Assembly will likely only take 30 minutes and then we will load baskets into our cars and deliver them to the shelter together!

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.

2025 COMMUNITY COOKOUTS SCHEDULED!

The Franklin UMC is excited to announce dates for the 2025 Community Cookouts—**June 28, July 26, August 23, and September 27!** Free burgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be served from 5:30-6:30p in the grassy area behind the church. Vegetarian options will be available. All are invited. In case of rain, these events are cancelled. To learn more, go to franklinumc.org/community/cookouts.

BOOK CLUB

For May we'll read *Beyond That, the Sea* by Laura Spence-Ash . The next meeting will be on Monday May 12 at 6:30 pm. The group will meet in a hybrid format, at Linda's home or online (<https://meet.goto.com/richp/churchbookclub>), phone (224-501-3412, access code 789-141-869).

COMMUNITY CLOSET

Looking for a closet refresh - or shopping for those with a need ? The generosity of our community and the staffing by volunteers helps us provide pre-loved and new clothing to all. The closet is now open every Tuesday 11a-1p. You can sign up to volunteer at franklinumc.org/volunteer.