

THE BULLETIN

FRANKLIN UMC

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026 || 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A

franklinumc.org

lections

Readings for this week

ACTS 1:6-14

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35

1 PETER 4:12-14, 5:6-11

JOHN 17:1-11

reflections

What does it mean when Jesus says the disciples will be “my witnesses”? Witnesses to what?

Who are you witnessing to? Who is the church witnessing to?

Jesus tells the disciples to have an expansive witness, start close to Jerusalem and work out from there. In what ways do you help the church expand its witness to the “ends of the earth”?

worship

Sunday at 10am in-person in-the-sanctuary and via Google Meet, also livestreaming/archived on YouTube

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today is Ascension Sunday: a day to celebrate Christ’s return to God.

We look up in wonder as he is lifted from us into heaven!

But this is not a time to gaze upward. There is work to be done.

Jesus has entrusted the ministry of God’s love to us.

Let’s get to work!

Let’s make our heart ready for the task ahead with prayer and praise!

Amen.

Amen!

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

No. 569, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

PRAYERS

THE 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.

READ

REFLECT

“Christ for the World We Sing”

No. 568, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

PRAYER

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

No. 664, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

GO IN PEACE

NEWS & EVENTS

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

COMMUNITY CONCERT featuring FHS Seniors

Wednesday, May 20th at 6pm

Join us for an evening of music, talent, and community pride as we celebrate the Franklin High School class of 2026.

LUNCH BUNCH

We will meet on May 20th at The Wayside Inn, 72 Wayside Inn Road in Sudbury. All are welcome. Please notify Nancy B by phone or email by 10 am if attending.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club is reading Little Women by Louisa May Alcott. The next meeting is Monday June 8th at 6:30 pm. The group will meet in a hybrid format at Linda's. For the address and link, view the group's page in Realm Connect.

FOOD PANTRY

This month we will still be collecting bagged chips, cookies and crackers, 8-12 oz packs. All items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry at the end of the month. Thank you!

REALM CONNECT

The Franklin UMC uses a church management and communication database called Realm. Realm Connect is your personalized portal into the life of the church—a place where you can connect with other people and groups, keep up with what's going on, and manage your personal information so that together we can grow as a more connected community. Realm Connect is accessible by computer and a downloadable app. If you need a login to Realm Connect and/or instructions on how to use it, email the office@franklinumc.org.

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Franklin UMC*

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