

THE BULLETIN

FRANKLIN UMC

SUNDAY, July 26, 2026 || NINTH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST, YEAR A

franklinumc.org

lections

GENESIS 29:15-28

PSALM 128

ROMANS 8:26-39

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

reflections

What are we to say about these things (see v. 31)? Do you believe these promises? Are you skeptical? Do all things work together for good? Can nothing separate you from God's love? What do you say?

worship

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, this is the core of our faith: nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

God's never-ending love surrounds us and calls us, assuring us that through God's love, all things will work together for God's good purposes.

Thanks be to God!

God's never-breaking love empowers us in the face of temptation, distress, division, and scarcity to hold onto our faith and work together for the flourishing of all God's good creation.

Thanks be to God!

Come, let us worship God who is Love, trusting that through joy and sorrow, happiness and despair, contentment and pain, Love will carry us through.

Thanks be to God who forms, connects, and guides us through Love. Amen.

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

No. 384, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

READ

REFLECT

"To God Be the Glory"

No. 98, *United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

GIVE

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

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

No. 480, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

GO IN PEACE

NEWS & EVENTS

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FOOD PANTRY

For July we will be collecting assorted cookies and crackers, 8-12 oz sizes preferred. All items will be brought over to the Franklin Food Pantry at the end of the month. Thank you!

LUNCH BUNCH

We will meet on Wednesday August 19th at Liz's Tavern in Bellingham. All are welcome. Please notify Nancy B by phone or email by 10 am if attending.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club is reading *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. The next meeting is Monday August 10th at 6:30 pm. The group will meet in a hybrid format. For the address and link, view the group's page in Realm Connect.

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.

PASTOR'S STUDY

The Pastor's Bible Study meets Wednesday evenings via Google Meet to discuss the scripture readings and themes coming up in worship. All are welcome and invited to attend. The Google Meet link can be found on the Church Calendar, in Realm Connect, or by emailing the office@franklinumc.org.

Make your contribution to the
Franklin UMC

Give Now

