

THE BULLETIN

FRANKLIN UMC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026 || THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

franklinumc.org

lections

EXODUS 1:8-2:10

PSALM 124

ROMANS 12:1-8

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

MATTHEW 16:13-20

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

reflections

How is the body of Christ charging and dismantling the gates of Hades (Hell, the underworld) today?

worship

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

What do people say about Jesus?

Some say he was. Some say he was not.

What do others say?

Some say he was just a teacher, others a moral example, still others a comforting presence.

Who do you say Jesus is?

Jesus is the Messiah. He is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the One who gathers us together in community, into a body that the gates of hell shall not withstand.

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

No. 154, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (2001)

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

"Forward Through the Ages"

No. 555, *United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

GIVE

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

"We Are the Body of Christ"

No. 2227, *The Faith We Sing* (2001)

GO IN PEACE

Want to revisit a reflection, prayer, or other moment from a worship service? You can find archived services and snippets from services on [YouTube.com/@FranklinMAumc](https://www.youtube.com/@FranklinMAumc). Follow us there and stay connected, catch up, or share worship with someone who might need it.

NEWS & EVENTS

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FOOD PANTRY

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!

AUGUST COMMUNITY COOKOUT

Mark your calendar for Saturday, August 29 and come enjoy a fun-filled evening at the **Franklin UMC**! From **5:30–6:30 PM**, we'll be serving up **free burgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks** in the grassy area at the church. Vegetarian options will be available, and all are welcome—bring your friends, family, and a lawn chair!

This is a great chance to connect with neighbors, relax, and celebrate community. In case of rain, the event will be canceled, so keep an eye on the forecast.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club is reading *Future Boy* by Michael J Fox. The next meeting is Monday September 14th 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

