March 9, 2025

Order for Our Worship of God

(\*those who are able are invited to stand)

Welcome

Prelude "Freedom" Michael W. Smith

Call to Worship

Lord, our breath grows shallow, and we are weary.

We cry out to the one true God!

When our lips are parched, your help is always near.

We give thanks for the life-giving presence of our Lord!

We turn to you in exultation, knowing that through you, all will be well.

You set us free from these earthly chains, giving us love where once there was fear.

Guide our paths, O God, as we walk this way of righteousness to you. Amen.

**Opening Prayer** 

God, we thank you for bringing us through times of hardship and struggle in our past. We ask and trust that you will meet us again today exactly where we are. May we open ourselves to the healing you have for us this day. We are listening for your word, ready to let it shape our lives in holy relationship with you. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (vs. 1, 3, 4) No. 64

Passing the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 15:22-27

Children's Time

Choral Anthem "Sweet Rivers of Mercy" arr. Curry

Sermon "Getting Free and Staying Free" Rev. JongIn Lee

\*Hymn of Reflection

"Trust and Obey" (vs. 1, 3, 4)

No. 467

Prayer Time

10:00 A.M.

The Giving of Our Offering

Offering Song "Down to the River to Pray" arr. McDonald \*Presentation "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 95 \*Prayer of Dedication

God, when we hunger, you feed us. When we thirst, you give us something to drink. And when we are held captive, you free us. Receive our gifts in thankfulness and as a sign of our commitment to do for others what you have done for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn

"The Voice of God Is Calling" (vs. 1, 3, 4) No. 436

\*Blessing

Postlude "Go Down Moses" (with "Wade in the Water") arr. Shackley

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**WE WELCOME ALL** to this service of worship including newcomers and visitors among us.

**PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE** ~ Participating this morning are Rev. JongIn Lee, Pastor; Dr. Russell Wagoner, Director of Music/Organist; and Pat Meyers, Liturgist. We appreciate them sharing their gifts with us as we gather to worship and praise God today!

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** ~ Our Lenten Bible Study will be held on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and will meet from March 12 through April 16. The study will follow the book *Give Up Something Bad for Lent* by James Moore, which can be ordered on Amazon. All are welcome to attend.

**BLESSED BARGAINS THRIFT SHOP** ~ Sign-up sheet for volunteers is posted in the sorting room. Please stop by and sign up to help. There is always something that that needs to be done as new items are arriving regularly! Please share posts and stop by with friends to support our beautiful shop!! Any questions, please contact Barbara, Joan, or Diane.

**BOOK CLUB NEWS** ~ The March Book Club selection is *Canary Girls* by Jennifer Chiaverini. This illuminating novel is the story of the "munitionettes," women who built bombs in Britain's arsenals during World War I, risking their lives for the war effort. Book Club will meet on **Thursday, March 20**, 10:30 a.m. and all who would like to discuss this historical fiction novel are invited to attend.

**PASTOR:** Rev. JongIn Lee

**LAY LEADER:** Dave Murray

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST:** Dr. Russell Wagoner

CHURCH SECRETARY: Donna E. Mulder

**SEXTON:** Bonnie Mann

## FRANKLIN LAKES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FRANKLIN LAKES

Organized 1855

Rev. JongIn Lee, Pastor

## AN INVITATION

To all who would know God and do God's will;

To all who would live and work to make

Jesus' love alive in the world;

To all who seek comfort and would find rest;

To old and young, rich and poor, saint and sinner,

This church opens wide its doors

And—in the name of Jesus the Christ—

Bids you welcome to this house of the Lord!