

August 30, 2026

10:45 A.M.

Order for Our Worship of God

(*those who are able are invited to stand)

PRELUDE “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child” arr. Wilhelmi

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sometimes we ask, “Who am I?” We look at the labels others have given us.

People: But God reminds us, “I will be with you.”

Leader: The world may label us by our background, our success, our failures, our age, or our status.

People: But in Christ Jesus, we are all children of God through faith.

Leader: We may be different in many ways, but Christ calls us one family.

People: There is no label that is greater than our identity in Christ.

Leader: So let us leave behind the labels that divide us and receive the name God gives us.

People: We are God’s beloved children, one in Christ.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who calls us, walks with us, and reminds us who we truly are.

All: We come to worship God, who sees beyond every label and welcomes us as one family in Christ. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we come before you today thankful that you know us completely and love us deeply. So often, we allow the world to put labels on us. We may be called successful or unsuccessful, strong or weak, young or old, worthy or unworthy. Sometimes we even label ourselves by our past mistakes or failures. But you called Moses when he felt unqualified and reminded him, “I will be with you.” You remind us that our true identity is not found in the labels that others give us, but in your love. Through Christ, you have called us your children. You have brought us together as one family, beyond differences of background, race, status, or circumstance. Help us see ourselves and one another through your eyes. Tear down the labels that divide us and open our hearts to welcome everyone. Be with us in this worship, O God. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN “Christ for the World We Sing” (vs. 1, 2, 4) No. 568

SHARING 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 3:11–12; Galatians 3:26–29

SPECIAL MUSIC “I Am Thine, O Lord” arr. Labenske

SERMON “Labels” Lee Haase

*HYMN OF REFLECTION “We Are the Church” (vs. 1, 2, 4) No. 558

PRAYER TIME

THE GIVING OF OUR OFFERING

Offering Song “Reach Out and Touch” arr. Bock

*Presentation “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” No. 95

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we thank you for reminding us that our identity is not found in the labels the world gives us, but in being your beloved children. Everything we have comes from you—our time, our abilities, our relationships, and our resources. As we bring these offerings today, help us remember those who are often labeled, overlooked, or forgotten by society. Use our gifts to build a community where people are welcomed, valued, and treated with dignity. May our giving tear down walls instead of building them. May it bring hope to those who feel forgotten, healing to those who are hurting, and welcome to those who feel they do not belong. Bless these gifts and use them for your kingdom and your mission. In the name of Jesus Christ, who makes us one, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN “We Are God’s People” TFWS No. 2220

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE “Rise, O Children of Salvation” arr. Neander

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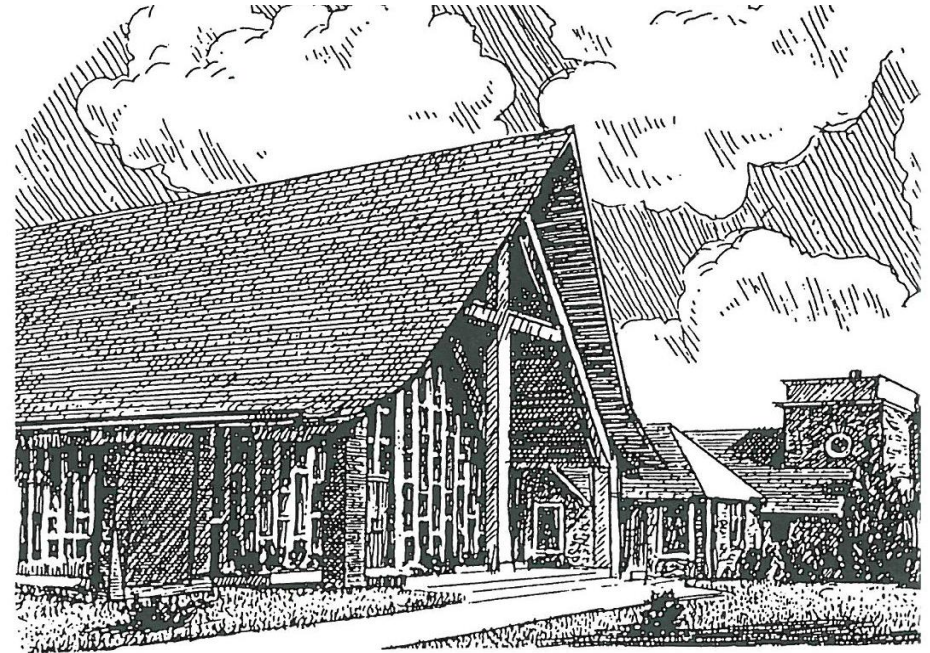
WE WELCOME ALL to this service of worship including newcomers and visitors among us.

WE WELCOME ALSO Lee Haase, Certified Lay Minister at Denville Community Church, as our guest speaker this morning.

PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE ~ Participating in our service this morning are Lee Haase, Guest Speaker; 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!

FLOWERS on the altar this morning are given by Elaine Watson to celebrate the beauty and blessings of the summer season.

OLD STONE MUSIC AND COFFEE HOUSE ~ Timepeace is coming back!! It's going to be a night of great music we all know and love on Friday, September 11. As always, doors open at 7:30pm with music from 8–10pm. A \$15 cover charge includes entry and unlimited coffee, tea, a cold drink and some yummy baked goodies.



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
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!*

PASTOR: *Rev. JongIn Lee*

LAY LEADER: *Doug Gipple*

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

CHURCH SECRETARY: *Donna E. Mulder* / **SEXTON:** *Bonnie Mann*

FRANKLIN LAKES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Church Website QR Code



Online Giving (Vanco) QR Code

