



**FRANCONIA**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6037 Franconia Rd. Alexandria, VA 22310

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[www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org)



**February 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM**

**Worship Series: Messages from the Wilderness**

**Message: 13 Years a Slave and Prisoner**

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**Worship Series: Messages from the Wilderness**  
**Message: 13 Years a Slave and Prisoner**  
**\*Stand in body or in spirit**

**Gathering** *Battle Belongs* Praise Band  
*Your Love Defends Me*

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Centering Moment**

**\*Centering Song** *Confidence* Praise Band

**\*Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: Almighty God,**

**when we are unsure of the path ahead  
and burdened by the weight of our struggles,  
You promise to sustain us through every trial.  
May Your love and grace nourish our weary souls  
and lift us when we are downcast.  
When we journey through the wildernesses of life,  
grant us faith to see Your purpose and Your presence  
that is sustaining us and guiding us. AMEN.**

**Children's Moment**

Linda Biscardo

**Prayers of People**

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

<b>Offering Song</b>	<i>Evidence</i>	Praise Band
<b>Prayer of Thanksgiving</b>		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
<b>Old Testament Reading</b>	Genesis 37: 23-28	Karen <u>Coltrin</u>
<b>Message</b>	<i>13 Years a Slave and Prisoner</i>	Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Breakthrough Prayer**

**God, guide Franconia United Methodist Church to become a community of Christ's love, where Your grace abounds and all people know that they are loved, respected for their diversity, grow in faith, and reflect Jesus by actively sharing their God-given gifts. AMEN.**

<b>*Closing Song</b>	<i>Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies)</i>	Praise Band
<b>*Benediction</b>		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Whom Shall I Fear (Reprise)</i>	Praise Band

*Franconia United Methodist Church believes that everyone is a child of God.  
We welcome all people to worship, join in membership, serve in lay leadership,  
and actively participate in the life of the church.*

*We welcome and affirm all persons without regard to gender, gender identity, race,  
sexual orientation, faith tradition, age, marital status, family structure,  
economic background, political affiliation, physical or mental ability or life experience.  
We commit to extend Christ's hospitality, creating a place of safety and sanctuary for all people.  
We recognize there are differences among us and although we may not think or look alike,  
we commit to respect and love one another as we are all the family of God.  
We further commit ourselves to loving acts of invitation, hospitality, and community,  
providing ministry to, for, and with all persons without exception,  
fostering a sense of belonging where people are respected and valued as beloved children of God.*

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Praise Band:

Dave Bryan  
Sarah Chambers  
Yolanda Girouard  
Andrew Hamilton  
Peggy Owusu-Ansah  
Jessica Posey  
Dan Upp

Staff:

Reverend: Melissa Porter-Miller  
Church Office: Jade Miller  
Children's Ministry: Linda Biscardo  
Music Ministry: Amy McCarthy  
Praise & Worship Leader: Sarah Chambers  
Youth & Young Adult Ministries: Sarah Chambers  
Organist: June Shuffett  
Handbells: Linda Biscardo  
All God's Children Preschool: Jessica Copes  
Nursery: Marie Bonhomme and Susann Ferrell

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