



**FRANCONIA**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6037 Franconia Rd. Alexandria, VA 22310

703-971-5151

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



**February 16, 2025 at 11:00 AM**

**Worship Series: Messages from the Wilderness**

**Message: The Wilderness of Our Own Making**

**February 16, 2025 at 11:00 AM**  
**Worship Series: Messages from the Wilderness**  
**Message: The Wilderness of Our Own Making**  
**\*Stand in body or in spirit**

**Gathering**

*You Never Let Go*

Praise Band

*Find You on My Knees*

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

**Centering Moment**

**\*Centering Song**

*Confidence*

Praise Band

**\*Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: Almighty God,**

**When we stray from Your path and find ourselves  
lost in the wilderness of our own making,  
Remind us of Your unwavering presence.**

**May Your mercy envelop us and guide us back to righteousness.**

**Help us to face the consequences of our choices  
with courage and humility,**

**and seek Your forgiveness with sincere hearts.**

**Teach us to trust in Your wisdom, to follow Your guidance,  
and to find solace in Your everlasting grace. Amen.**

**Children's Moment**

Linda Biscardo

**Prayers of People**

Sarah Chambers

### **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>Your Heart</i>	Praise Band
<b>Prayer of Thanksgiving</b>		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
<b>Old Testament Reading</b>	2 Samuel 11: 1-3	Joana Arthur
<b>Message</b>	<i>The Wilderness of Our Own Making</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>Your Love Never Fails</i>	Praise Band
<b>*Benediction</b>		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Your Love Never Fails (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.*

Media Tech Team:

Bobby Anderson  
Joana Arthur  
Zach Chambers  
Caroline Coltrin  
Matthew Dodds  
Andrew Hamilton  
Leah Hamilton  
Jess Posey  
Jessica Posey  
Grace Stahl  
Liam Upp

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

[pastormelissa@franconiaumc.org](mailto:pastormelissa@franconiaumc.org)  
[churchoffice@franconiaumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@franconiaumc.org)  
[childrensministry@franconiaumc.org](mailto:childrensministry@franconiaumc.org)  
[music@franconiaumc.org](mailto:music@franconiaumc.org)  
[praise@franconiaumc.org](mailto:praise@franconiaumc.org)  
[youth@franconiaumc.org](mailto:youth@franconiaumc.org)  
[organist@franconiaumc.org](mailto:organist@franconiaumc.org)  
[handbells@franconiaumc.org](mailto:handbells@franconiaumc.org)  
[AGCpreschool@franconiaumc.org](mailto:AGCpreschool@franconiaumc.org)