



FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6037 Franconia Rd. Alexandria, VA 22310 | 703-971-5151 | www.franconiaumc.org



Prophecies & **Pottery**

August 23, 2026 10:00 AM – Traditional Service

Worship Series: Prophecies and Pottery

Message: *Containers*: Called to Be a Mouthpiece

Traditional Order of Worship
August 23, 2026
Worship Series: Prophecies and Pottery

Prelude

As the Deer

June Shuffett

Welcome/Announcements

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

***Call to Worship**

Pastor: Like clay in the Potter's hands, we are shaped by God's love and purpose.

People: **God is still forming us, molding us, and making us new.**

Pastor: When we feel uncertain or inadequate,
God says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

People: **We trust the One who calls us and goes before us.**

Pastor: God places words of hope, justice, and compassion on the hearts of God's people.

People: **We come ready to listen, ready to learn,
and ready to speak God's love.**

Pastor: Let us worship the God who forms us, calls us, and sends us.

People: **With grateful hearts, we worship God!**

*Hymn

Grace of God and God of Glory

UMH #577

***Opening Prayer**

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray

People: **Loving and Creative God,
You are the Potter, and we are the clay.
You formed us with care, know us completely,
and call each of us by name.
As we gather in worship today,
shape our hearts for Your purposes.
When we doubt ourselves,
remind us that You are not finished with us yet.
When we are afraid to speak, give us courage.
When we are uncertain where to go, guide our steps.
Fill us with Your Spirit,
that our words may bring hope, our actions may reflect Your love,
and our lives may bear witness to Your grace.
We thank You for this community of faith
and for Your presence among us today.
Mold us, use us, and send us into the world as vessels of Your peace.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Loving God,
we offer our backpacks as a sign of our thanks
for all You will do with us and for us
this school year! Bless us and these backpacks
as we learn and grow. Let them be a reminder
that You are as close to us as the backpacks on our backs. AMEN**

Praying for our Teachers and School Staff

Let us pray:
Gracious God,
We lift up these teachers, staff members, and administrators
as they begin a new school year.
Sustain them in their work, equip them with the resources and support they need,
and fill them with wisdom, patience, and joy.
Through the power of Your Spirit,
inspire and strengthen them each day
as they guide, teach, and care for others.
Protect them, grant them good health,
and renew their energy throughout the year.
Help us to encourage and support their calling,
surrounding them with gratitude, love, and care.
We pray for our schools and classrooms,
that they may be places of safety,
belonging, discovery, and growth for every child and young person.
We pray all this in the name of Jesus Christ,
whom we seek to follow day by day. Amen.

Prayer Song

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

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.

Offering

Blessed Be the Lord

Duet: Amy McCarthy & Robert Shufett

*Doxology

UMH #95

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow!
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts!
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 1 4-10

Karen Coltrin

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
 and before you were born I consecrated you;
 I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'
 Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a
 boy.' But the Lord said to me,
 'Do not say, "I am only a boy";
 for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
 and you shall speak whatever I command you.
 Do not be afraid of them,
 for I am with you to deliver you,
 says the Lord.'
 Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,
 'Now I have put my words in your mouth.'

See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.'

*Hymn	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>	UMH #369
Message	<i>Containers: Called to Be <u>A</u> Mouthpiece</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.

*Hymn	<i>Forth in Thy Name O Lord</i>	UMH #438
*Benediction		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Postlude	<i>More Precious than Silver</i>	June Shuffett



*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:

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Duet:

Amy McCarthy

Robert Shuffet

Staff:

Reverend: Melissa Porter-Miller

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Children's Ministry: Kim Cimino

Music Ministry: Amy McCarthy

Praise & Worship Leader: Sarah Chambers

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