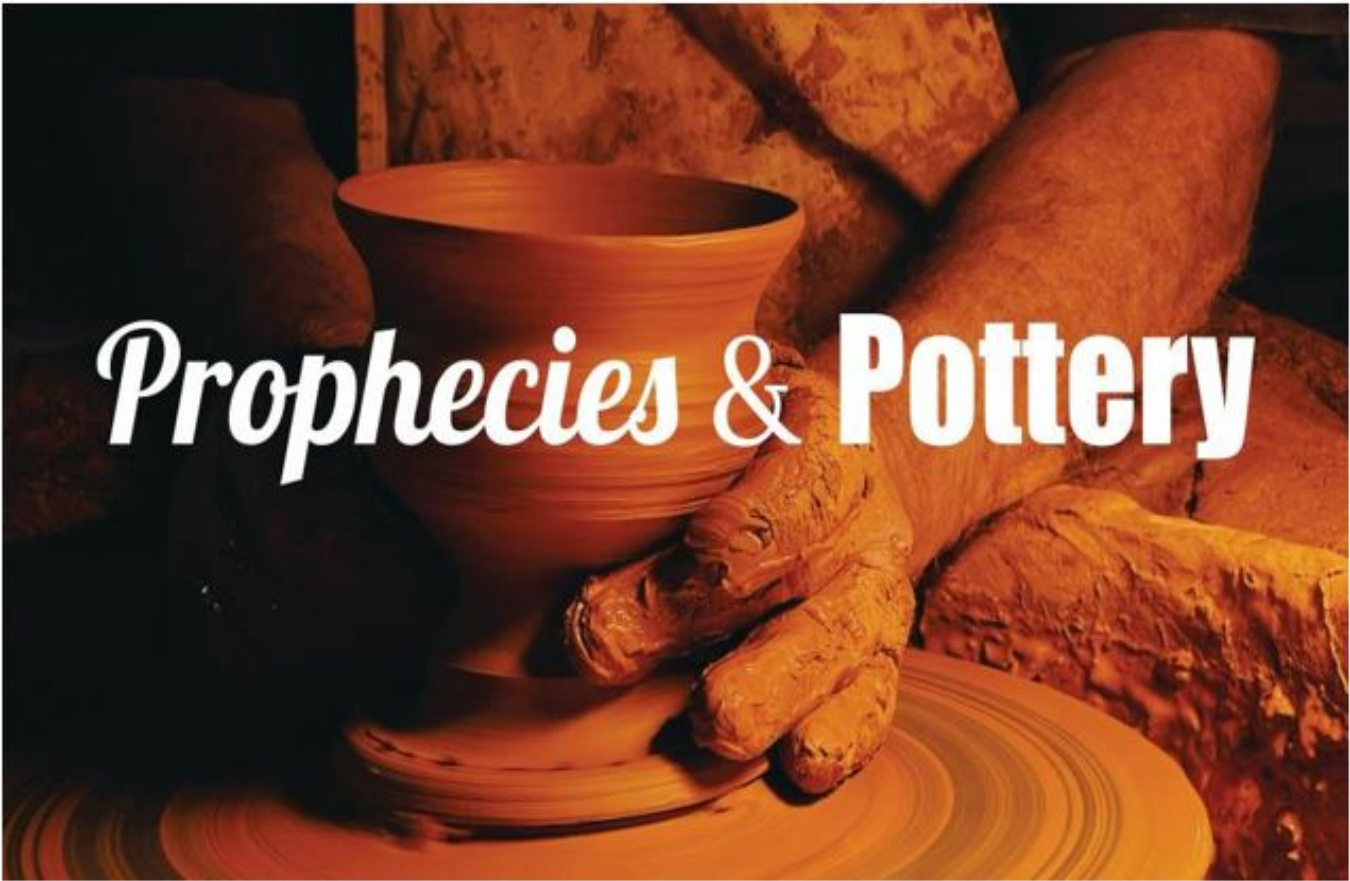




FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Prophecies & **Pottery**

September 6, 2026 10:00 AM – Traditional Service
Worship Series: Prophecies and Pottery
Message: Potter's Wheel: Reworked Not Thrown Away

Traditional Order of Worship
September 6, 2026
Worship Series: Prophecies and Pottery

Prelude

Take Time to Be Holy

June Shuffett

Welcome/Announcements

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

***Call to Worship**

Pastor: Come, let us go to the Potter's house and hear the word of the Lord.

People: We come as clay in the Potter's hands.

Pastor: When the vessel was spoiled, the potter did not throw it away.

People: The potter reshaped it into something new.

Pastor: God is still shaping, remaking, and renewing us.

**People: We praise the One who forms us, forgives us,
and never gives up on us.**

*Hymn

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

UMH #66

*Opening Prayer

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Gracious Potter God,

**You formed us from the dust of the earth
and breathed into us the breath of life.**

**When we lose our way, when our choices leave us misshapen,
and when we cannot see what we were created to become,
You do not cast us aside.**

**With patient hands, You continue the work of shaping our lives.
Soften what has become hard within us.**

Center what has become distracted.

Heal what has become broken.

**Transform us by Your love,
that we may become vessels of Your grace, hope, mercy, and peace.
Through Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

Children's Moment

Susan Ruge-Hudson

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.

Prayers of People

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Offering

The Potter and the Clay

Chancel Choir

*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 18:1-11

Bruce Bartolain

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 'Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.' So, I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about

the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Message

Potter's Wheel: Reworked Not Thrown Away

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

You are the Potter, and we are the clay.

Yet we confess that we often resist Your shaping.

**We cling to old habits, hold on to old wounds,
and choose our own path instead of trusting Your way.**

**We have spoken words that wound, made choices that harm,
and ignored opportunities to love You and our neighbors more faithfully.**

**At times, we have believed that our mistakes define us,
that our failures cannot be redeemed,
and that what is broken cannot be restored.**

Forgive us, O God.

Soften our hardened hearts. Reshape our thoughts and desires.

Create within us new spirits that reflect Your love and mercy.

**Remind us that we are never beyond Your grace
and never beyond Your ability to make all things new.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: The Potter does not abandon the clay.

The God who formed us continues to renew us.

Through Jesus Christ, we are restored and given new life.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH #13

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .

And so, we Your people on earth

and with all the company of heaven

praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are You . . . And so, in remembrance

of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

Have Thine Own Way Lord

UMH #382

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God,

Have Thine Own Way Lord

we give You thanks for this holy mystery

in which You have given Yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world

in the strength of Your Spirit,

to give ourselves to others

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

*Hymn

Take My Life, and Let It Be

UMH #399

*Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

Our God Reigns

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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Jordan Biscardo

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Zach Chambers

Karen Ingle

Patricia O'Donnell

Rebecca Owasu-Ansah

Robert Miller

Robert Shuffett

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Music Ministry: Amy McCarthy

Praise & Worship Leader: Sarah Chambers

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