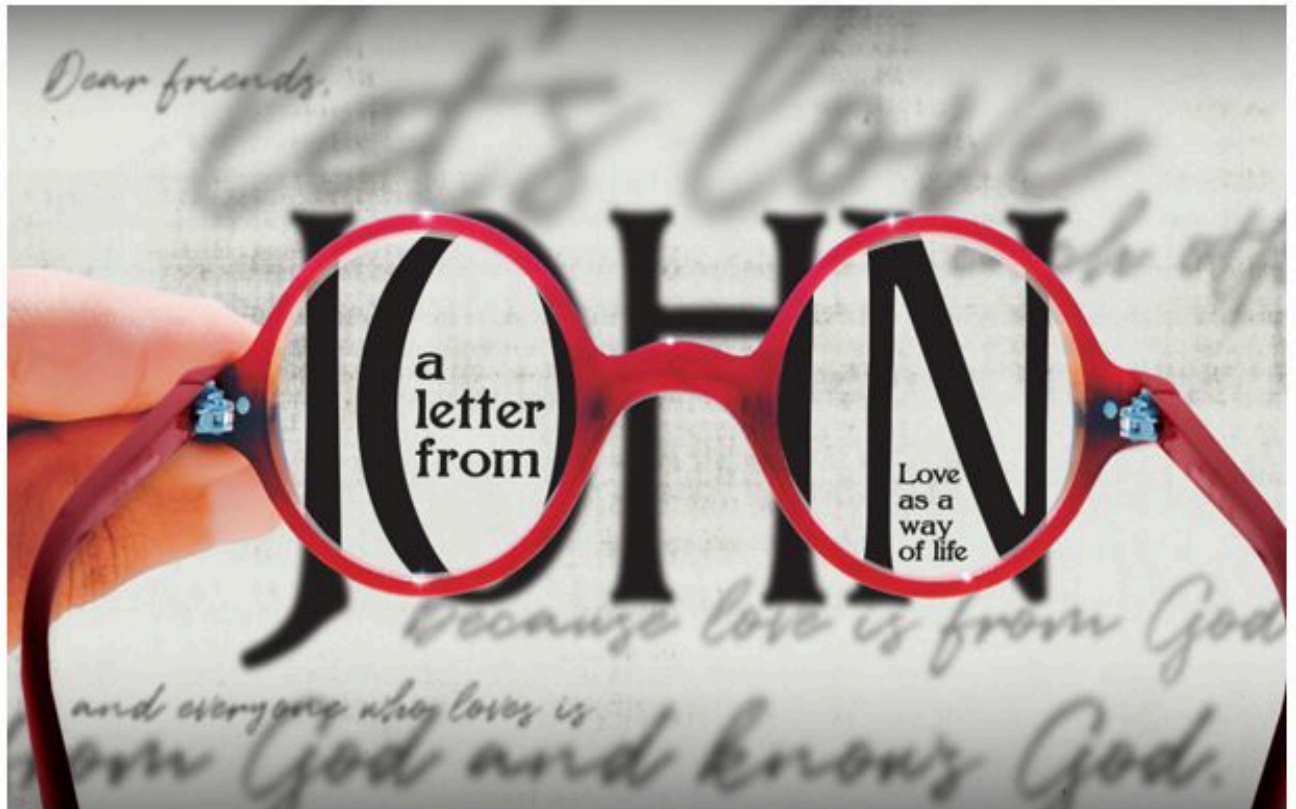




FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



October 18, 2026 11:00 AM – Contemporary Service
Worship Series: A Letter from John: Love as a Way of Life
Message: Life, Light and Love

October 18, 2026

October 18, 2026

Message: *Life, Light, and Love*

*You Are the Light
You Make Me Brave*

Praise Band

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Journey Through Grief Together Series

Heather Upp

Koinonia

Judy Davis,

*Centering Song

Turn Your Eyes

Praise Band

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

People: God of life,

You call us out of darkness and into Your light.

Turn our hearts away from fear and toward love.

Open our eyes to Your truth,

and help us follow Christ more faithfully each day.

May our worship draw us deeper into the life

that is found in You alone. AMEN.

Kim Cimino

Ben Desta

Samuel Kim

Christopher Roe

Rafel Upp

Receive the Word of God.

Learn its stories and study its words.

Its stories belong to us all,

and these words speak to us all.

They tell us who we are.
They tell us that we belong to one another,
for we are the people of God.

Children's response:

We receive these Bibles with our hands, our hearts, and our minds.
We will read and study the Bible together.

Congregation response to children:

We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.
We pray God will guide you, your family, and us
as you use this Holy Bible in your home,
in Kingdom Kids, and in our worship.
We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.

All Together:

The Word of God is a lamp to our feet,
and a light to our path.
Thanks be to God.

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.

Offering Song

Open Space

Praise Band

New Testament Reading

1 John 1:1-2, 5-7,
2:10-11, 15-17; 3:1; 4:16

Pat Hobbs

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Whoever loves a brother or sister abides in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates a brother or sister is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world, for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches— comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God abide forever.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are.

So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Message

Life, Light, and Love

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.

*Closing Song

Salt and Light

Praise Band

*Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

*Salt and Light (reprise)*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
Jess Posey
Grace Stahl
Liam Upp

Praise Band:

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

Staff:

Reverend: Melissa Porter-Miller
Church Office: Rose Munson
Children's Ministry: Kim Cimino
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: Susann Ferrell

pastormelissa@franconiaumc.org
churchoffice@franconiaumc.org
childrensministry@franconiaumc.org
music@franconiaumc.org
praise@franconiaumc.org
youth@franconiaumc.org
organist@franconiaumc.org
handbells@franconiaumc.org
AGCpreschool@franconiaumc.org