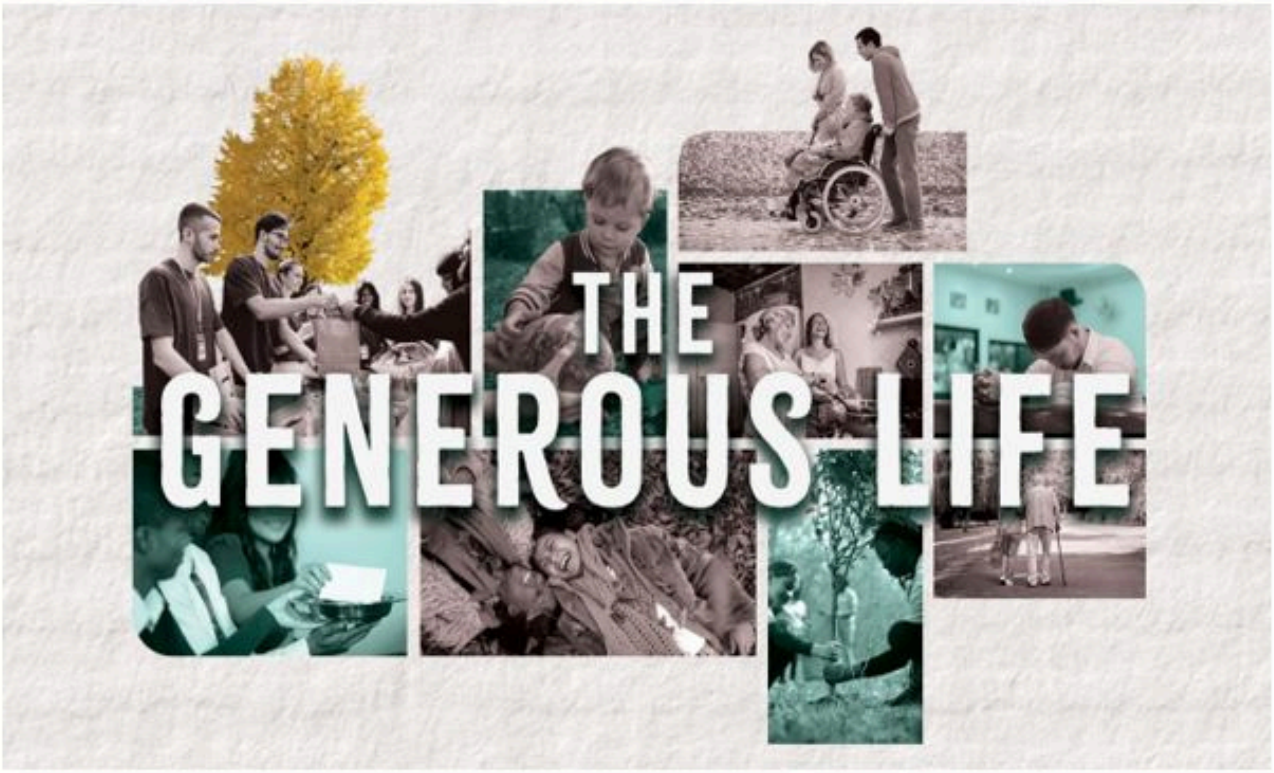
FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



November 1, 2026 9:00 AM – Traditional Service
Worship Series: The Generous Life
Message: The Generosity of God

Traditional Order of Worship
November 1, 2026
Worship Series: The Generous Life
Message: *The Generosity of God*

Prelude *The Love of God* June Shuffett

Welcome/Announcements Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

*Call to Worship

Pastor: Come, people of God.
We gather to give thanks for the boundless generosity of God.
People: God has given us life, breath, grace, and love beyond measure.
Pastor: We gather remembering the saints who have gone before us,
those who carried the light of faith and shared God's gifts with others.
People: We give thanks for those whose prayers, witness,
and love helped kindle faith within us.
Pastor: God so loved the world that God gave.
People: The generosity of God has been passed from generation to generation,
from faithful hearts to faithful hearts.
Pastor: Today, God calls us to rekindle the gift that is within us.
People: With all the saints, we worship the God whose generosity never fails.

*Hymn *For All the Saints* *UMH* #711

*Litany of Remembrance

Pastor: God of the ages,
we praise You for all Your servants
who have faithfully served You,
witnessed bravely, and died in faith,
who are still shining lights in the world.

People: We praise You, O God.

Pastor: For those we have known and loved,
who by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope,
have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus,

People: We praise You, O God.

Pastor: And for those who were members of Franconia United Methodist Church
who have finished their course in faith in the past twelve months:

Candle light and bell tolls after reading of each name

And now, we lift up the names of the following family and friends who have passed away this year.

Bell continues to toll after the reading of each name

We invite you now to lift up other family and friends who have passed away this past year that have not yet been named.
(pause)

Bell tolls after each person

Children's Moment — Kim Cimino

Prayers of People — Sarah Chambers

Pastor: Let us pray:

People: Keep us grateful for their witness,
and, like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ.
Then at the last, bring us with them
to share in the inheritance of the saints in light;
through Jesus Christ the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. AMEN.

Children's Moment — Kim Cimino

Prayers of People — Sarah Chambers

Offering — *ux Aeterna* — 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

Gospel Reading Mark 4:21-25 (MSG); John 3:16 Sandy Ross

Mark 4:21-25 (MSG)
Jesus went on: "Does anyone bring a lamp home and put it under a bucket or beneath the bed? Don't you put it up on a table or on the mantel? We're not keeping secrets, we're telling them; we're not hiding things, we're bringing them out into the open.

"Are you listening to this? Really listening?

"Listen carefully to what I am saying—and be wary of the shrewd advice that tells you how to get ahead in the world on your own. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity. Stinginess impoverishes."

John 3:16 (NRSV)
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

New Testament Reading 2 Timothy 1:3-7 Sandy Ross
I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason, I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Sermon Starter Video—The Generous Life
Message *The Generosity of God* *Rev.* Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion Sarah Chambers
(Just a title slide for invitation)

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and generous God,
You have given us more than we can count:
life and breath, daily bread and abiding grace, the gift of Your Son,

and the witness of those who have gone before us in faith.
Yet we confess that we do not always live as people
who trust in Your abundance.
We cling tightly to what we have, fearful there will not be enough.
We hide our gifts rather than share them.
We let the light of Christ grow dim within us.
We forget the generosity that has been shown to us
and fail to extend that same generosity to others.
Forgive us when gratitude gives way to anxiety,
when compassion gives way to indifference, and when faith gives way to fear.
Rekindle within us the gifts you have planted there.
Renew the faith handed down through generations of saints.
Fan into flame Your Spirit within us,
that we might shine with the light of Christ
and become channels of your grace in the world.
In the name of Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us all, we pray. AMEN.

Assurance and Pardon
Leader: God's generosity is greater than our failures.
God's grace is deeper than our shortcomings.
God's love is stronger than our fears.
For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son,
not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.
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 Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
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 might 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 *One Bread, One Body* UMH #620

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God, we give You thanks
for this holy mystery in which You have given yourself to us.
In this meal, You have fed us from the abundance of Your grace.

At this table, we have been reminded that Your love knows no limits,
Your mercy never runs dry,
and Your gifts are poured out freely upon Your people.
From generation to generation, Your saints have shared the gift of faith, carried the light of Christ, and proclaimed Your love.
Rekindle that same gift within us,
that we may continue their witness
and share Your generosity with the world. AMEN.

*Hymn	*Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart*	TFWS 2036
*Benediction		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Postlude	*How Great Thou Art*	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.

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Zach Chambers
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Patricia O'Donnell
Rebecca Owusu-Ansah
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