

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, April 14, 2024
3rd Sunday of Easter**

Announcements: Sharon Shutzer

Prelude

Welcome: Sharon Shutzer

*Call to Worship: Sharon Shutzer

Leader: Fear hung over the disciples as a dark cloud.
People: Huddled in the upper room, they spoke in soft whispers, afraid of the sound of their own voices.
Leader: Lightening flashed in their souls.
People: Christ, the Risen Lord, was standing with them, eating with them, talking with them.
Leader: Where doubt had reigned, hope now grew.
People: Where fear and panic had laid claim, faith was again planted.
Leader: Come, let us worship the God of great miracles.
People: Let us lift our voices in praise to God! AMEN.

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)
Lord of Light and Mercy, be with us this day as we again hear the stories of faith and sight. Help us to believe in your abiding presence with us, both in our darkness and in the light which you bring. Give us courage and strength to witness to your resurrection. For we offer this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

*Opening Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH #140

*Praise Song: "Ain't No Grave Hold My Body Down" Rosetta Tharpe

Introduction to Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon
[For those joining us online, please submit your prayer requests in the comments on the virtual attendance sheet, or email the church office. Your prayer requests will be lifted up in next Sunday's service.]

Prayer Song: "When the Night Is Falling" Dennis Jernigan

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

Scripture Readings: Luke 24:36b-48 Cindy Curtis-Budka

Friendship Moment and Passing of the Peace
*[For those joining us online, please take a moment to sign the online attendance form:
www.freeholdmethodist.org]*

Message: "You Are Witnesses of the Risen Christ" Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time: The Special Offering for the month of April will benefit **Rise Against Hunger**.

Giving Page: www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Thomas A. Dorsey
Mitch Samu, Piano

*Doxology: "Thank You, God" Mitch Samu

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

Generous God of love and grace, bless these gifts with your abundant love and your life-giving grace. Bless us as we bear witness to your love and grace in all that we say, all that we give, and all that we do. Amen.

*Closing Song: "I Am the Resurrection" Ray Repp

*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude: "I Am the Resurrection" Ray Repp
(Reprise)

Scripture Passage
April 14, 2024

Liturgist: Cindy Curtis-Budka

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

³⁶Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."^[b] ³⁷They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.^[c] ⁴¹Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish,^[d] ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah^[e] is^[f] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses^[g] of these things.

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Opening Hymn:
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
UMH #140**

Great is thy faithfulness,
O God, my father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been,
Thou forever wilt be.

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!**

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness,
Mercy, and love.

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!**

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine,
With ten thousand beside!

(Continued...)

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!**

**Praise Song:
"Ain't No Grave Hold My Body Down"
Rosetta Tharpe**

It was early one morning
Just about the break of day.
Angels came from Glory
Rolled that stone away.
When the women came along, child
And found that their savior was gone.
Ain't no grave can hold my body down.

Ain't no grave can hold my body down,
Ain't no grave can hold my body down,
When that first trumpet sounds – Yes!
I'm gonna get up out of the ground.
Ain't no grave can hold my body down!

Well look yonder, Gabriel.
Stand on the land and sea.
Don't want you to blow that trumpet
'til you get orders from me.
And the night is almost gone, yes,
And the day is coming on.
Ain't no grave can hold my body down.

Ain't no grave hold my body down,
Ain't no grave hold my body down.
When that first trumpet sounds – Yes!
I'm gonna get up out of the ground.
Ain't no grave hold my body down!

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Ain't no grave can hold my body down,
Ain't no grave can hold my body down,
When that first trumpet sounds – Yes!
I'm gonna get up out of the ground.
Ain't no grave can hold my body down!

**Prayer Song:
When the Night Is Falling
Dennis Jernigan**

(Verse 1)
When the night is falling
And the day is done
I can hear You calling, "Come"
I will come, while You sing over me.

(Verse 2)
When the night surrounds me -
All my dreams undone -
I can hear You calling, "Come"
I will come, while You sing over me.

(Pre-Chorus)
When the night would hide my way,
I will listen until I hear You say,

(Chorus 1)
"How I love you child! I love you!
How I love you child! I love you!
How I love you!"
"How I love you child! I love you!
How I love you child! I love you!
How I love you!"

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!

(Verse 3)
When this life is over,
And the race is run,
I will hear You calling, "Come"
I will come, while You sing over me.

**Doxology:
"Thank You, God"
Mitch Samu**

Thank you God, Thank you God,
Thank you God,
For giving me this life I get to live.

Thank you God, Love you God,
Praise you God,
Forever I will give all I can give.

Amen!

**Closing Hymn:
"I am the Resurrection and the Life"
Ray Repp**

**I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will live a new life.**

I have come to bring the truth.
I have come to bring you life.
If you believe, then you shall live.

**I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will live a new life.**

In My word all people will come to know
It is love which makes the spirit grow.
If you believe, then you shall live.

**I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will live a new life.**

Keep in mind the things that I have said.
Remember Me in the breaking of the bread.
If you believe, then you shall live.

**I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life,
He who believes in me will live,
Will live a new life.**

Announcements

April 14, 2024

Welcome to worship at the First United Methodist Church of Freehold. Whether you are joining us online or are here in person, we are glad you are with us.

Altar Flowers donated by Anne Mayer and Dan Tagatac in celebration of Dan's birthday.

The **Administrative Council** will meet on **Monday, April 15th** via ZOOM. All church members are invited to attend. The ZOOM link can be found in the Newsletter, or, contact the church office.

Everyone is invited to participate in our **Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event** on Sunday, May 5th beginning at 2:00 p.m.

The **Elizabeth Circle 2024 Retreat** "Spiritual Preparation for the Storms of Life" will run from Sunday, September 29 – Tuesday, October 1st at The Carriage House, Ocean Grove. \$375/person (\$100 deposit is required to hold your space). Register with Melanie Bowen. All women of the church are invited to attend. SPACE IS LIMITED AND A WAITLIST WILL BE MAINTAINED.

Mark your calendars for **Vacation Bible School** – June 25-28. All ages are welcome to attend.

Community News:

Come out for an evening of music and refreshments at United Theatre's "**Open Mic Night**" – **Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall**. Whether you want to show off your talent, or just relax and enjoy the entertainment, it's sure to be a good time. Tickets are \$5. Concessions will be sold at the event. Find us on Facebook and Instagram at **United Theatre Inc.** or contact us at: unitedtheatreinc@gmail.com to sign up.

Grocery Cards (Shop Rite, Acme, and Stop & Shop) will be sold after service.

This Week at a Glance (April 15 – April 21)

Monday: **7:00 p.m. – Admin. Council Meeting (ZOOM)**
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. – Walking Group (ZOOM)
7:00 p.m. - Reading between the Vines (Coffee Room)
Wednesday: **10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (Coffee Room)**
7:30 p.m. – Seventh Day Adventist Church (Lounge)
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – Walking Group (ZOOM)
Friday: ***
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church
(Sanctuary & Wesley Hall)
Sunday: **8:30 a.m. – Seekers Class**
8:45 a.m. - Children Sunday School (Classrooms)
9:00 a.m. – Joyful Noise Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m. – Worship (Sanctuary)
11:15 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
(Nursery care for our youngest members is available during worship service.)

*** No events scheduled.