

First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin

Sunday, January 30th, 2022
4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Announcements: Sharon Shutzer

Prelude

Welcome: Pastor Lan Wilson

*Call to Worship:

Leader: We come, so sure of the way of faith, and the ways of faith...

People: So sure of the way, we do not expect surprises.

Leader: God of the road, you step into our path and startle us!

People: So sure of the way, we are stopped in our tracks...

Leader: Surprise us, nudge us, redirect our steps.

People: So sure of the way, Lord, awaken us to new possibilities.

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

God of grace and glory, we come before you this morning with thanksgiving and praises on our lips. Today we are in need of an alignment that only you can give. Open our hearts and minds to receive all that you have to offer, so we may be a difference in this world. Transform our souls to grow more into your image that others may see you in us. Accept our brokenness and make us whole again. Reset, restore and direct us. These things we pray in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" UMH #400

*Song: "Tradin' My Sorrows" Darrell Evans

Prayer Hymn: "In His Time" TFWS #2203

Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Lan Wilson

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

Scripture Reading: Acts 9:1-15 Melanie Bowen

Sermon: "Reset: Direction" Pastor, Lan Wilson

*Offering: The Special Offering for January will benefit **Human Relations Day**. Gifts to Human Relations Day will help strengthen community outreach and empower at-risk youth. The Human Relations Day offering makes a difference for God's children everywhere.*

Offertory: "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" Newton, Tomlin & Giglio

*Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95

*Offertory Prayer Pastor, Lan Wilson

Faithful God, as we move forward in this new year, help us listen to your call and obey. We thank you for these gifts received today and ask you to bless and unite us in our mission to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn:

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

UMH #402

*Benediction:

Pastor, Lan Wilson

*Postlude

Scripture Passage for Sunday, January 30, 2022

Liturgist: Melanie Bowen

Acts 9:1-15 New revised Standard Version

The Conversion of Saul

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision^[a] a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn:
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Song:
Tradin' My Sorrows

I'm tradin' my sorrows,
I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness,
I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord. Amen.

I am pressed but not crushed,
Persecuted, not abandoned;
Struck down but not destroyed.
I am blessed beyond the curse,
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength.
Though the sorrow may last for the night,
His joy comes with the morning.

I'm tradin' my sorrows,
I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness,
I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord. Amen.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord. Amen.

I am pressed but not crushed,
Persecuted, not abandoned;
Struck down but not destroyed.
I am blessed beyond the curse,
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength.
Though the sorrow may last for the night,
His joy comes with the morning.

I'm tradin' my sorrows,
I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness,
I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm layin' them down
For the joy of the Lord.

**Prayer Hymn:
In His Time**

In His time, in His time;
He makes all things beautiful
In His time.
Lord, please show me every day
As You're teaching me Your way,
That You do just what You say
In Your time.

In Your time, in Your time;
You make all things beautiful
In Your time.
Lord, my life to You I bring;
May each song I have to sing
Be to You a lovely thing
In Your time.

**Offertory:
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear;
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me;
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below,
Will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

**Doxology
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God,
From whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him,
All creatures here below;
Praise Him
Above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Closing Hymn:
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian
In my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian
In my heart. (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
Lord, I want to be a Christian
In my heart. (In my heart)

Lord, I want to be more loving
In my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving
In my heart. (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
Lord, I want to be more loving
In my heart. (In my heart)

Lord, I want to be more holy
In my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy
In my heart. (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
Lord, I want to be more holy
In my heart. (In my heart)

Lord, I want to be like Jesus
In my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus
In my heart. (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
In my heart, (In my heart)
Lord, I want to be like Jesus
In my heart. (In my heart)