

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold  
Bulletin**

**Sunday, September 24, 2023  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Announcements: Verl McKinney

Introit

Welcome: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

\*Call to Worship: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Leader: Come near to the Lord.

**People: Lord, be with us this day.**

Leader: Lift your sorrows and joys to the Lord.

**People: Lord, hear the cries of our hearts.**

Leader: Come, rest in the love and mercy of God.

**People: Bless us, O Lord, that we may be blessings for others in your name. AMEN.**

\*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

**Lord, who lifts up, reside in our hearts today. Help us to listen closely for your word to us. Remind us that you are always with us, throughout all of our lives. Give us confidence in your presence, so that we may go into your world ready to witness to your love through our works and our deeds, for we pray these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.**

\* Opening Hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" UMH #127

\* Praise Song: "Morning Has Broken" UMH #145

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 Hymn: "Lord I Need You" Nockels, Carson, Reeves, Stanfill, Maher

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1-16 Bob Sterling

Friendship Moment

*[For those joining us online, please take a moment to sign the online attendance form:*

[www.freeholdmethodisst.org](http://www.freeholdmethodisst.org)]

Message: "Ruled By Grace" Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time: **Giving Page:** [www.freeholdmethodist.org/give](http://www.freeholdmethodist.org/give)

Offertory: "In This Very Room" Ron Harris  
F.U.M.C. Choir

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

\*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

**Lord, your blessings abound in our lives and we lift our voices in gratitude for these lovely gifts from you. Take these gifts and cause them to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us. AMEN.**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Closing Hymn: "Your Grace Is Enough" Matt Maher

\*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

\*Postlude: "Your Grace Is Enough" Matt Maher  
(Reprise)

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## Scripture Passage

Liturgist: Bob Sterling

### Matthew 20:1-16 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

#### The Laborers in the Vineyard

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup> They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last."<sup>[b]</sup>

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Opening Hymn:**  
**"Guide Me, O Thou Great  
Jehovah"**  
**UMH #127**

(Verse 1)

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

(Verse 2)

Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

(Verse 3)

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

**Praise Hymn:**  
**"Morning Has Broken"**  
**UMH #145**

Morning has broken like the first morning;  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dew fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

(Continued...)

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
Born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation,  
Praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**Prayer Hymn:**  
**"Lord, I Need You"**

**Nockels, Carson, Reeves, Stanfill, Maher**

Lord, I come, I confess.  
Bowing here I find my rest.  
And without You, I fall apart.  
You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,  
Every hour I need You;  
My one defense, my righteousness,  
Oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.  
Where grace is found, is where You are.  
And where You are Lord, I am free;  
Holiness, is Christ in me.  
Where You are Lord, I am free;  
Holiness, is Christ in me.

So, teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,  
Every hour I need You;  
My one defense, my righteousness,  
Oh God, how I need You.  
My one defense, my righteousness,  
Oh God, how I need You.

**Doxology:**  
**“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**  
**UMH #95**

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:**  
**Your Grace Is Enough**  
**M. Maher**

(Verse 1)

Great is Your faithfulness, O God.  
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.  
You lead us by still waters into mercy.  
And nothing can keep us apart.

(Pre-Chorus)

(So) remember Your people,  
Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise, O God.

(Chorus 1)

Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough for me.  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough for me.

(Verse 2)

Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob.  
You use the weak to lead the strong.  
You lead us in the song of Your salvation,  
And all Your people sing along.

(Pre-Chorus)

(So) remember Your people,  
Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise, O God.

(Continued...)

(Chorus 1)

Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough for me.  
Yeah, your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough for me.

(Pre-Chorus)

Remember Your people,  
Remember Your children,  
Remember Your promise, O God.

(Chorus 2)

Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough,  
Your grace is enough for me.  
Yeah, Your grace is enough.  
Heaven reaches out to us.  
Your grace is enough for me.  
God, I sing, Your grace is enough.  
I'm covered in Your love.  
Your grace is enough for me,  
For me.

(End)

It's enough for me.

**Welcome to worship. We are glad you are here.**

**FUMC Choir** is welcoming you to come be a part of an offering of an original piece by Mitch titled: **“God’s Trombones”**. The choir will rehearse for 30 minutes after fellowship time. Please come and join us.

The **Parsonage Open House** is scheduled for **October 1st (Sunday)**, immediately following the worship service. We extend a warm and heartfelt invitation to each and every one of you. We'll be serving light meals. Your presence will truly enrich our gathering.

Join the **United Theatre Company** for a **“Hair Raising Halloween”** murder mystery dinner on Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Enjoy a Halloween party with a strange group of dead and undead characters who have joined together to keep each other company through eternity. Team up with your tablemates as you help solve the murder. Tickets are \$30 per person and include a beverage, salad, bread, spaghetti and meatballs, dessert, coffee, hot tea, and a show. Reserve your tickets through our website: [Unitedtheatreinc.org](http://Unitedtheatreinc.org)

**Silent Film Spooktacular – Sunday, October 29th at 7:00 p.m.** Join us for an old-fashioned silent movie “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” (1931) enhanced by live music played by Brit Montoro. Tickets: \$5.00 (Children 10 and under are free)

**Save the Date: "Christmas at the Playhouse"**

Monday, December 11th at 11:00 a.m. at **Hunterdon Hills Playhouse** The price of \$82.00 per person includes show, table-served entree, unlimited desserts, coffee, hot tea, tax and gratuity. The show is written by our own Mitch Samu!

Melanie Bowen has reserved 30 tickets, but 19 are already sold. Please be in touch with Melanie to reserve your spot. 908-770-6596 or [mbowennj@gmail.com](mailto:mbowennj@gmail.com)

We will be delivering non-perishable food donations to **Open Door** next Sunday. Please place your donations on the Open Door table in Missions Hall.

**The Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program of Freehold (EHAP)**, will be holding their biggest fundraiser ever on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. E.H.A.P. must double the size of the Advocacy Center to meet the needs of those who are homeless or facing housing instability in western Monmouth County. Details about the event location can be found on the poster in Fellowship Hall.

Today is the final day we are collecting monetary donations for **FLOOD BUCKETS**. Please mark “Flood Bucket Donation” on your envelope, and add “Flood Bucket Donation” to the memo line of your check.

*September Birthdays*

- (2) Diana L. Tephford
- (3) Rachel Englert
- (4) Charlie Mongano
- (6) Dora Moore
- (10) Susan Mulholland
- (13) Rich Budalich
- (15) Jaslin Davison
- (18) Bob Sterling
- (25) Dawn A. Tephford
- (30) Katelyn Cronin