

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold  
Bulletin**

**Sunday, December 5, 2021  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent  
PEACE**

**Communion Sunday**

**We will be celebrating communion this morning. Please have bread and juice/wine available to participate.**

Announcements: Dan Tagatac  
Prelude: “Come, O Redeemer Come” Fernando Ortega  
Welcome: Pastor Wil Wilson

**\*Call to Worship:**

Leader: Welcome to this place of love and grace.

**People: Holy Spirit, show us how to participate in God’s plan.**

Leader: Knowing the will of God is not enough; doing it is what matters.

**People: Loving God, move us from living out of obligation to listening to your dream for us.**

Leader: Like Joseph, we say, “yes” to playing our part in God’s story.

**All: We become dreamers to go beyond what the world expects of us and step into God’s bold future.**

**\*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)**

**God, your ways are not our ways. You are not limited by what is possible, for with you, all things are possible. Thank you that you are greater than anything we may face in our day. Thank you that your presence goes with us, no matter what we’re up against. We ask for your grace to help us walk in confidence and boldness today. We boldly declare that we will not let fear or intimidation stop us from being obedient. We pray this in Jesus’ name, Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “People, Look East” UMH #202

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
The Candle of PEACE**

Hymn: “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” UMH #204

**\*Song:** “The King of Glory Comes” TFWS #2091

Prayer Hymn: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” UMH #230

Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Wil Wilson

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 Jane Heulton

Sermon: “God with Joseph, the Dutiful” Pastor, Wil Wilson

Offering: *The Special Offering for December will benefit **Local Charities: E.H.A.P, Habitat for Humanity and Open Door***

Offertory:	“Greensleeves” Featuring, Lynne Beach, violin	Traditional English Folk Song
*Doxology:	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	UMH #95
Offertory Prayer		Pastor, Wil Wilson
<b>God of Faith, You know we don’t understand exactly where you are calling us. We are afraid we will take the wrong path. Give us the courage with which you blessed Joseph. May this offering be a sign of our faith in you. Help us to boldly step out in faith, because we know you will always go with us. Amen.</b>		
*Passing of the Peace		
Celebration of Communion ( <i>with sung responses</i> ):		UMH pages 12-14
Communion Hymn:	“I Know That I Know”	Mitch Samu
*Closing Hymn:	“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord”	Stephen Schwartz
*Benediction:		Pastor, Wil Wilson

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## Scripture Passage for Sunday, December 5, 2021

Liturgist: Jane Healton

### The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah<sup>[a]</sup> took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;<sup>[b]</sup> and he named him Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Opening Hymn:  
"People, Look East"**

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Rose is on the way.

Stars, keep watch. When the night is dim,  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Rose is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
Him who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord is on the way.

**Advent Candle Lighting Hymn:  
"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
His name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us,  
His name is called, Emmanuel.

**Hymn:  
"The King of Glory Comes"**

*The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.*

Who is the King of glory; how shall we call him?  
He is Emmanuel, the promised of ages.

*The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.*

In all of Galilee, in city or village,  
He goes among his people curing the illness.

*The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.*

Sing then of David's son, our Savior and brother;  
In all of Galilee was never another.

*The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.  
Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.*

**Prayer Hymn:  
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep,  
The angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars together,  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given;  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!

**Closing Hymn:  
"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"  
(Godspell)**

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord

Let me hear you sing!

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord