

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, August 14, 2022
10th Sunday after Pentecost**

Announcements: Verl McKinney

Introit: Mark A. Miller
"There's a Spirit of Love in This Place"
(Mitch Samu & Joyful Noise)

Welcome: Rev. Christina Zito

*Call to Worship:

Leader: In Christ, we are one body, one spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

People: But we are still individuals, called to different roles in the body of Christ.

Leader: God calls us to grow together with gentleness, humility, and patience.

People: God calls us to accept one another with love and to live in unity.

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

Eternal God, in whom we live, move, and have our being, inspire us today as we seek to expand our faith and understanding. Help us to achieve inner and outward harmony that we might truly live in the oneness you intend. Teach us kindness, honesty, and humility in our relationships so we may fully express the truth of divine love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN.

*Praise Hymn: Russell Fragar
"Holy Spirit, Rain Down"

*Hymn: UMH #577
"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Prayer Hymn: UMH #504
"The Old Rugged Cross"
(v. 1, 4)

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Christina Zito
[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.]

The Lord's Prayer: (In Unison) UMH #895

Scripture Reading: Lyn Johnson
Ephesians 4:1-16

Message: Rev. Christina Zito
"Unity in the Body of Christ"

Offering: The **Special Offering** for the month of August will benefit The Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program.

Offertory: Anna Page
"Come Home"
F.U.M.C. Choir

*Doxology: Mitch Samu
"Thank You, God"

*Offertory Prayer: (In Unison)

God, we thank you for creating us different but united. Accept our gifts today as a sign of our common goal to build up the body of Christ and to spread your love to all who need it. Through these gifts, continue to equip your saints for the hard work of ministry. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn:

“Draw the Circle Wide”

Light & Miller

*Benediction:

Rev. Christina Zito

*Postlude

Scripture Passage for Sunday, August 14, 2022

Liturgist: Lyn Johnson

Ephesians 4:1-16 (Common English Bible)

Unity of the body of Christ

4 Therefore, as a prisoner for the Lord, I encourage you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God. ² Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love, ³ and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties you together. ⁴ You are one body and one spirit, just as God also called you in one hope. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ and one God and Father of all, who is over all, through all, and in all.

⁷ God has given his grace to each one of us measured out by the gift that is given by Christ. ⁸ That's why scripture says, *When he climbed up to the heights, he captured prisoners, and he gave gifts to people.* ^[a]

⁹ What does the phrase “he climbed up” mean if it doesn't mean that he had first gone down into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ The one who went down is the same one who climbed up above all the heavens so that he might fill everything.

¹¹ He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. ¹² His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ ¹³ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son. God's goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ As a result, we aren't supposed to be infants any longer who can be tossed and blown around by every wind that comes from teaching with deceitful scheming and the tricks people play to deliberately mislead others. ¹⁵ Instead, by speaking the truth with love, let's grow in every way into Christ, ¹⁶ who is the head. The whole body grows from him, as it is joined and held together by all the supporting ligaments. The body makes itself grow in that it builds itself up with love as each one does its part.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Opening Praise Hymn:
Holy Spirit Rain Down
Russell Fragar**

(Chorus)

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down.
O, Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again.
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down;
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts
As we stand on Your Word;
Holy Spirit, rain down.

(Repeat Chorus)

(Verse)

No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
No mind can know what God has in store.
So open up heaven, open it wide
Over Your church and over our lives.

(Repeat Chorus)

(Ending)

Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts
As we stand on Your Word;
Holy Spirit, rain down.

**Hymn:
God of Grace and God of Glory
UMH #577**

God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story;
Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil 'round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
Free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee whom we adore,
Serving Thee whom we adore.

**Prayer Hymn:
The Old Rugged Cross (v. 1, 4)
UMH #504**

(Verse 1)

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross
Where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

(Chorus)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

(Verse 4)

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day
To my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share

(Chorus)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

**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!

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

**Closing Hymn:
Draw the Circle Wide
Light & Miller**

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

No one stands alone,
We'll stand side by side.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

No one stands alone.
We'll stand side by side.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song:
No one stands alone.

Standing side by side,
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

