

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, April 24, 2022
2nd Sunday of Easter**

Announcements: Dan Tagatac

Prelude

Welcome: Pastor, Wil Wilson

*Call to Worship:

Leader: Praise the Lord.

People: Praise God in the sanctuary. Worship God in the mighty firmament.

Leader: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

People: Praise God with trumpet and horn. Worship God with lute and harp.

Leader: Let the people of God sing their praise.

People: Praise God with tambourine and dance. Worship God with strings and pipes.

Leader: Let the faithful join the strain.

People: Praise God with clashing cymbals. Praise God with beating drums.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

Eternal God, who was and is and is to come, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end of all things. Come to us now in visions and dreams, that our eyes may see more than they see, and our hearts may love more than they love. Make yourself known to us in this time of worship, for in you, we live and move and have our being. Bring your kingdom here on earth, that all may know your glory and find the courage to face each day. We ask this in the name of the one who conquered the grave to bring us eternal life. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Up from the Grave He Arose" UMH #322

*Praise Song: "Ain't No Grave" Rosetta Tharpe

Prayer Hymn: "Alleluia" TFWS #2043

Pastoral Prayer: Pastor, Wil Wilson

[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: Acts 5:27-32 Lyn Johnson

Sermon: "We Are Witnesses" Pastor, Wil Wilson

Offering: *The Special Offering for April will benefit Local Charities: Open Door, Habitat for Humanity, and the Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program (E.H.A.P.).*

Offertory: "Lord of the Dance" Sydney Carter

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

*Offertory Prayer: (In Unison)

Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, you are the source of every blessing. We behold your glory in the skies and touch your mystery all around us. In the beauty of our awakening, our doubts give way to a deep and abiding joy. In gratitude for your many mercies, we offer you these gifts and offerings, that they may be signs of our commitment to live as your faithful disciples. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn: "Victory in Jesus" UMH #370

*Benediction: Pastor, Wil Wilson

*Postlude

Scripture Passage for Sunday, April 24, 2022

Liturgist: Lyn Johnson

Acts 5:27-32 (New Revised Standard Version)

27 When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28 saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,[a] yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." 29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.[b] 30 The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. 31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Opening Hymn:
Up from the Grave He Arose
UMH #322**

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior,
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior;
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot keep his prey, Jesus my Savior;
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

**Praise Hymn:
Ain't No Grave
Sister, 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 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!

Well, look yonder, Gabriel.
Stand on the land and sea.
Don't want you to blow that trumpet
Till you get orders from me.

And the night is almost gone, yes.
And the day is coming on,

Ain't no grave 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!

**Prayer Hymn:
Alleluia
TFWS #2043**

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Doxology:

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #895

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:

Victory in Jesus

UMH #370

I heard an old, old story,
How a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me;
I heard about His groaning,
Of His precious blood's atoning,
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.

O victory in Jesus,
My Savior forever!
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him,
And all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing,
Of His cleansing power revealing,
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory.

(Continued)...

O victory in Jesus,
My Savior forever!
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him,
And all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory,
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea;
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story,
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory.

O victory in Jesus,
My Savior forever!
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him,
And all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood.