

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, January 29, 2023
4th Sunday after the Epiphany**

Announcements: Verl McKinney

Prelude

Welcome: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: People of God, who do you come to worship?

People: We come to worship the one true God.

Leader: How will you worship?

People: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

Leader: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

People: Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.

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

Come, Holy Wisdom, and show us your ways. In our confusing world, many voices demand our attention. Teach us to look with our eyes. Help us walk humbly beside you – doing what is right, speaking your truth. You alone are our guide and guardian on paths of peace and reconciliation. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "Be Thou My Vision" UMH #451

***Praise Hymn:** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" TFWS #2171

Prayer Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" UMH #348
(v. 1, 4)

Pastoral 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.]

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

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25,
Matthew 5:1-12 Pamela Wentworth

Sermon: "The Foolish Message of the Cross" Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time

Offertory: "Open the Eyes of My Heart" P. Baloché

***Doxology:** "Thank You God" Mitch Samu

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

Generous God, you give us all we need. You ask only for faithful living in return. We bring these gifts to you today, that they may support your work of justice. Through this offering, we commit ourselves to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn: "What Does the Lord Require of You"

M. Miller

*Benediction:

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude

Scripture Passage for Sunday, January 22, 2023

Liturgist: Pamela Wentworth

1 Corinthians 18-25 (New Revised Standard Version)

Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

5 When Jesus^[a] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely^[b] on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

**Opening Hymn:
Be Thou My Vision
UMH #451**

(Verse 1)

Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
Save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought,
By day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

(Verse 2)

Be Thou my wisdom,
Be Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
And Thou with me, Lord;
Thou and thou only,
First in my heart,
Great God of heaven,
My treasure thou art.

(Verse 3)

Great God of heaven,
My victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart,
Whatever befall,
Still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.

**Praise Hymn:
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
TFWS #2171**

(Verse 1)

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

(Verse 2)

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

(Verse 3)

O, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

(Verse 4)

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It's in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Prayer Hymn:
Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling
(v. 1, 4)
UMH #348

(Verse 1)

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See, on the portals He's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

(Chorus)

Come home, come home;
You who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!

(Verse 4)

O for the wonderful love He has promised,
Promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me.

(Chorus)

Come home, come home;
You who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!

Offertory:
Open the Eyes of My Heart
P. Baloche

(Chorus 2X)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You.

(Verse)

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love -
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

(Chorus 2X)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You.

(Verse 2X)

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love -
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

(Bridge 3X)

Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see You.

**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!

**Closing Hymn:
What Does the Lord Require of You
Mark Miller**

With what shall I come before the Lord
And bow myself before God on high?
God has told you, has told you,
O mortal, what is good – is good.

What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?
I want to know, I want to know.

(2X)

Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.
Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.

What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?
I want to know, I want to know.

Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.
Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.

*Walk humbly with your God.
Walk humbly with your God.
(Repeat)*

*Justice and kindness
Humbly with your God.
(Repeat)*

Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.
Justice, kindness,
Walk humbly with your God.

(4X)

January 29, 2023
4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Announcements:

Welcome to worship at the First United Methodist Church of Freehold. Whether you are worshipping with us in person or virtually, we are glad you are with us.

Do you crochet, knit or sew? Please consider joining FUMC's new **STITCHER'S CIRCLE**. Share your talent to support our local ministries. We'll be creating stitched items to help patients, residents, and families in our local hospital and nursing homes. Sign up on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall, or contact AnnMarie Meredith.

How many of you are accumulating a stack of **reusable grocery bags** at home? You can cut down your stack by donating them to **Open Door** and they will use them for their food distribution! Starting February 1st, you can drop off your clean, reusable bags in our Missions Hall next to where we collect Open Door food donations.

Have you heard about the **NJ Division of Taxation ANCHOR Program**? This program provides property tax relief to New Jersey residents who owned or rented their principal residence (main home) on October 1, 2019, and met the income limits. A link to more detailed information can be accessed through the Newsletter, or go to:
<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/anchor>

Remember to pick up your new **2023 Church Directory** from the table in Fellowship Hall. All directories are labeled with names on them.

Join us for **Bible Study** on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the coffee room.

The **2023 FLOWER CHART** has arrived! All dates are open for Altar Flower donations.

Grocery Cards (Shop Rite, Acme, and Stop & Shop) will be sold after service. Please join us in Fellowship Hall following service for fellowship time and refreshments.