

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, June 11, 2023
2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

Announcements: Linda Gatti

Prelude

Welcome: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Call to Worship: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Leader: Let praise to God resound in the heavens!

People: Let praise to God fill the earth!

Leader: Let all God's angels offer praise and rejoicing!

People: Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!

Leader: Open your hearts and spirits today.

People: Let us praise the Lord today and always! AMEN.

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

Faithful and loving God, your grace makes our faith possible. May we live and go about our lives as people who place our trust in you even when we don't feel your presence. May we love and care for others as people who turn to you for help. Where there is doubt or distrust, renew our faith. Where there is fear or insecurity, grant us courage. Where there is sorrow and loss, bring us peace. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us" UMH #100
(v. 1, 2, 3)

*Praise Song: "Come As You Are" Glover, Crowder, & Maher

Introduction to Prayer

[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: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" UMH #474

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

Scripture Reading: Esther 9:20-28 Anita Ritchie

Friendship Moment

*[For those joining us online, please take a moment to sign the online attendance form:
www.freeholdmethodist.org]*

Message: "The Hidden God" Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time: **Giving Page:** www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory: "O Sing of Peace" Ruth Schram
F.U.M.C. Choir

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

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

O hidden God, just as we can see light because of darkness, we see Your deep love that tightly embraces us even in Your silence. We believe that many things allowed in our lives are Your faithful gifts, working diligently behind the scenes. We are giving these gifts back to you with grateful hearts. May the offering we bring before you this day be a sign of our commitment to bless the world in your name. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" UMH #519
(v. 1, 3)

*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude

Scripture Passage

Liturgist: Anita Ritchie

Esther 9:20-28 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

²⁰ Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹ enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²² as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday, that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor. ²³ So the Jews adopted as a custom what they had begun to do, as Mordecai had written to them.

²⁴ For Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them and had cast Pur—that is, "the lot"—to crush and to destroy them, ²⁵ but when Esther^[a] came before the king, he gave orders in writing that the wicked plot that he had devised against the Jews should come upon his own head and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. ²⁶ Therefore these days are called Purim, from the word Pur. Thus because of all that was written in this letter and of what they had faced in this matter and of what had happened to them, ²⁷ the Jews established and accepted as a custom for themselves and their descendants and all who joined them, that without fail they would continue to observe these two days every year, as it was written and at the time appointed. ²⁸ These days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, in every family, province, and city, and these days of Purim should never fall into disuse among the Jews, nor should the commemoration of these days cease among their descendants.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Opening Hymn:
God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us (v. 1, 2, 3)
UMH #100

God, whose love is reigning o'er us,
Source of all, the ending true;
Hear the universal chorus
Raised in joyful praise to you:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Worship ancient, worship new.

Word of God from nature bringing,
Spring-time green and autumn gold,
Mountain streams like children singing,
Ocean waves like thunder bold:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
As creation's tale is told.

Holy God of ancient glory,
Choosing man and woman too;
Abram's faith and Sarah's story
Formed a people bound to you.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
To your covenant keep us true.

Praise Hymn:
Come As You Are
Glover, Crowder, & Maher

(Verse 1)
Come out of sadness from wherever you've been,
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin.
Come find your mercy, O sinner, come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

(Chorus)
(So) Lay down your burdens,
Lay down your shame.
All who are broken, lift up your face.
O wanderer, come home,
You're not too far.
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,
Come as you are.

(Verse 2)
There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed.
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.
There's rest for the weary,
Rest that endures,
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure.

(Repeat Chorus)

(Bridge)
Come as you are,
Fall in His arms,
Come as you are.

(Verse 3)
There's joy for the morning, O sinner, be still.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

(Repeat Chorus)

(Ending)
Come as you are,
Come as you are,
Come as you are.

**Prayer Hymn:
Precious Lord, Take My Hand
UMH #474**

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn,
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Doxology

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

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:
Lift Every Voice and Sing (v. 1, 3)
UMH #519**

(Verse 1)
Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
That the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope
That the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

(Verse 3)
God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine
Of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

June 11, 2023
Announcements:

Welcome to worship at the First United Methodist Church of Freehold, we are glad you are with us.

Please remember to sign in on the **Online Registration Form**.

Schedule some time with Pastor Yoseb. Our pastor would like to spend some one-on-one time with our church members. If you are home and would like a visit from our pastor, please let us know. Contact the pastor, or call the church office to schedule.

Mark your calendars for **Vacation Bible School!** The program, "HERO HOTLINE: Called Together to Serve God!" will run for 3 days, June 27, 28, and 29 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and is open to children and adults. Registration forms will be available soon. Fee: \$15

Free Community Concert: Featuring Dr. Gordon Turk, Organist and Soprano, Monica Ziglar. Sunday, June 11th at 4:00 p.m. at the West Grove United Methodist Church (102 Walnut Street, Neptune, NJ). Reception to follow. A Free-Will Offering will be received to benefit the West Grove Ministries.

Grocery Cards (Shop Rite, Acme, and Stop & Shop) are sold after service in the coffee room.