

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold  
Bulletin**

**Sunday, January 8, 2023  
Baptism of the Lord**

Announcements:		Verl McKinney
Prelude:	"What Child Is This" Alli Budka, Trumpet	Arr. Stephen Bulla
Welcome:		Rev. Yoseb Jeon

**\*Call to Worship:**

Leader: We are marked as God's beloved ones.

**People: What have we done to deserve God's love?**

Leader: God's love is God's free gift to us, always and forever.

**People: Even when we are difficult and turn away from God,**

Leader: God's love never vanishes from us.

**People: Thanks be to God who is ever faithful to us, AMEN.**

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

**Spirit of righteousness, God of power and might, help us be a light to the nations and a reflection of your glorious salvation. Work in our lives and in our ministries, that the world might know the power of your love and grace. As you alighted upon Jesus at his baptism, descend upon us this day, that we may be a people of hope and possibility. Wash us clean and renew our spirits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn:	"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (v. 1, 2, 3)	UMH #57
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*Praise Song:	"Spirit of God"	TFWS #2117
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Prayer Hymn:	"Jesus, Name above All Names"	TFWS #2071
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Pastoral Prayer:		Pastor, Wil Wilson
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*[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
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Scripture Reading:	Matthew 3:13-17	Bob Sterling
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Sermon:	"Beloved of God"	Rev. Yoseb Jeon
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**Offering Time**

Offertory:	"Joy to the World" Alli Budka, Trumpet	Arr. James Curnow
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*Doxology:	"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"	UMH #95
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\*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

**Be in the gifts we bring before you, O God, as you are ever in the gift of our baptism. Renew your people through this offering, as you have renewed us with your presence this day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Closing Hymn: "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child" Trad. African American

\*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

\*Postlude

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### **Scripture Passage for Sunday, January 8, 2023**

**Liturgist: Bob Sterling**

**Matthew 3:13-17 (New Revised Standard Version)**

#### **The Baptism of Jesus**

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved,<sup>[a]</sup> with whom I am well pleased.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Opening Hymn:  
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
(v. 1, 2, 3)  
UMH #57**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread thru all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

**Praise Hymn:  
Spirit of God  
TFWS #2117**

Spirit of God, bright Wind,  
Breath that bids life begin,  
Blow as you always do; create us anew.  
Give us the breath to sing,  
Lifted on soaring wing,  
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.  
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

Spirit of God, bright Dove,  
Grant us your peace and love,  
Healing upon your wings for all living things.  
For when we live your peace,  
Captives will find release,  
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.  
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

Spirit of God, bright Hands,  
Even in far off lands  
You hold all the human race in one warm embrace.  
No matter where we go,  
You hold us together so,  
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.  
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

Spirit of God, bright Flame,  
Send us in your holy name,  
The power to heal, to share your love everywhere.  
We cannot fail or fall,  
Or know defeat at all,  
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.  
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

Spirit of God in all,  
We gladly hear your call,  
The life in our hands that sings,  
The power of your wings.  
Born of your grace we rise,  
Love shining in our eyes,  
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.  
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

**Prayer Hymn:  
Jesus, Name above All Names  
TFWS #2071**

Jesus, name above all names,  
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord  
Emmanuel, God is with us,  
Blessed Redeemer, living Word.

**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:  
Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child  
Traditional African American**

Jesus, Jesus,  
Oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus,  
So holy, meek and mild;  
New life, new hope  
the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing,  
“Glory, glory, glory,”  
Let the heavens ring.