

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, November 16, 2025
23rd Sunday after Pentecost/Pledge Sunday**

Announcements: Dan Tagatac

Introit: "Even You Are Welcome" Mitch Samu

Welcome: Dan Tagatac

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Come, people of God, gather in this place of belonging.

People: We come, embraced by God's love and called to love one another.

Leader: This is a day of new vision, a time to remember who we are and who God is shaping us to be.

People: We open our hearts to God's Spirit, ready to live with boundless welcome, bold love, and faithful service.

Leader: Let us worship the One who calls us beloved and sends us to be a blessing.

People: We belong here, and we belong to God. Let us worship with joy.

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

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for calling us together as your people. You remind us that we belong to you and to one another. Renew in us a spirit of boundless welcome, bold love, and faithful service. Let our worship reflect your heart and strengthen our commitment to live out your vision in all we do. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who welcomes, loves, and serves us all. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" UMH #126
(v. 1, 2, 4)

***Praise Song:** "Spirit of God" TFWS #2117

Children's Moment: Pastor Doby Amos

Introduction to 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.]

Prayer Song: "Sanctuary" TFWS #2164

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

Scripture Reading: Pamela Wentworth

1 John 3:16-18 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Friendship Moment and Passing of the Peace

[For those joining us online, please take a moment to sign the online attendance form:

www.freeholdmethodist.org]

Message:

Counterculture Week 4: "Love in Action"

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Vision and Mission Declaration Reading:

Vision:

Pastor: What is our Vision?

People: You belong here.

Pastor: We embrace all with boundless welcome and bold love, and support one another in faithful service, through the love of Jesus.

People: We belong here in God's love, in this community, in this calling.

Mission:

Pastor: What is our Mission?

People: To live out boundless welcome, bold love, and faithful service.

Boundless Welcome:

Anita Ritchie

We open our hearts, our minds, and our doors to all people in a safe community where everyone is valued and embraced as Jesus taught us, regardless of our differences. Our welcome extends beyond words into actions, removes barriers, and fosters deep belonging for all.

People: We welcome as Christ welcomed us with open hearts and open doors.

Bold Love:

Andrea Garcia

We choose to love courageously with compassion, forgiveness, and care. We seek to reflect the bold love of Jesus in our relationships with each other, our community, and the world.

People: We love boldly, because Christ first loved us.

Faithful Service:

Jonathan Bowen

We live out our faith through acts of service. With joy and humility, we commit our hearts, our time, our gifts, and our resources to the good of others to meet their needs, lift them up, and embody God's love in tangible ways.

People: We serve faithfully, that others may see Christ through us.

Affirmation:

Pastor: This is who we are. This is who we are becoming, a church of boundless welcome, bold love, and faithful service.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Offering Time: The Special Offering for November will benefit **United Methodist Student Day**. Gifts to United Methodist Student Day provide loan and scholarship funds for United Methodist college, university and graduate students. **Giving Page:** www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory:

"The Coast"

Mitch Samu

*Doxology:

"Thank You God"

Mitch Samu

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

Generous and faithful God, every good gift comes from your hands. You have entrusted us with a vision to be a community of belonging, love, and service. As we bring our offerings today, we give not only of our resources, but also our hearts. May these gifts strengthen our church's ministry, extend hospitality to those

who seek a place to belong, and reflect your love to our neighbors near and far. Use what we bring, Lord, to carry out your mission through the love of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Closing Hymn:

“Over My Head”

TFWS #2148

*Benediction:

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude

Introit:

**“Even You Are Welcome”
Mitch Samu**

Even you are welcome,
Even I am welcome,
Even they are welcome,
To touch the face of God.
Everybody’s welcome,
Even we are welcome,
All of us together
Can hold the hand of God.
(2x)

If you’re not here
There’s something that is missing.
Without you here we all are incomplete.
Because if you are not invited
Then count me out as well;
The God I know has room for us all.

Even you are welcome,
Even I am welcome,
Even they are welcome,
To touch the face of God.
Everybody’s welcome,
Even we are welcome,
All of us together
Can hold the hand of God.
(2x)

All of us together
Can hold the hand of God.

Opening Hymn:

**“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”
(V. 1, 2, 4)**

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled
And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away,
But through all grief distressing,
An ever-present help and stay,
Our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother’s tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy name
Give God all praise and glory;
All who own His power proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
For Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

Praise Song:
"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!
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!
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!
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!
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!
Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come!

Prayer Hymn:
"Sanctuary"
TFWS #2164

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for 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:
"Over My Head"
TFWS #2148

(Chorus)
Over my head, I hear music in the air;
Over my head, I hear music in the air;
Over my head, I hear music in the air;
There must be a God somewhere.

Oh, when the world is silent, *I hear music in the air;*
Oh, when the world is silent, *I hear music in the air;*
Oh, when the world is silent, *I hear music in the air;*
There must be a God somewhere.

(Repeat Chorus)

And when I'm feeling lonely, *I hear music in the air;*
And when I'm feeling lonely, *I hear music in the air;*
And when I'm feeling lonely, *I hear music in the air;*
There must be a God somewhere.

(Repeat Chorus)

Now when I think on Jesus, *I hear music in the air;*
Now when I think on Jesus, *I hear music in the air;*
Now when I think on Jesus, *I hear music in the air;*
There must be a God somewhere.

(Repeat Chorus)

Altar Flowers are donated by Allein Sampieri, in celebration of Gene's birthday (11/17).

Our church will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a FRIENDSGIVING DINNER on Thursday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. We know this is not giving you a lot of advanced notice, but this is what we need: We need the number attending, and for you to sign up to bring a side dish to share. The turkey will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall with the number of people in your party, and the side dish you are bringing.

A message from OPEN DOOR: We are collecting food for Thanksgiving baskets for Open Door. Please remember to bring in your food and turkeys on Nov. 23rd. Thanks for remembering Open Door when you shop.

Hat and Mitten Collection for Open Door: Christmas is coming and we are helping Open Door make it special for children in our community. Please choose a tag from the tree in the sanctuary. Each tag represents a gift of mittens or gloves and a hat for a child. Bring in the mittens and hat, *with the tag attached*, and return to the tree by **Nov. 30**. Warm your heart as you warm a child. **Allein will be selling hats and mittens at her craft table.**

We will be packing **lunch bags for E.H.A.P.** following today's service. This will not take long, and any time you can give is appreciated.

Volunteers are needed for the month of December to supply **refreshments for Fellowship Time**. If you would like to supply refreshments, please remember to sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall.

The total collected from our **Loose Change Jar** is **\$250!** Thank you...your loose change is really adding up!

The choir WILL have rehearsal after service today for "Seasons of Joy".

November Birthdays

(2) Ed Bowen	(12) Rob Beauregard	(20) Amber Taylor
(3) Nora Wentworth	(15) Allie Budka	(24) Tad Wentworth
(5) Carrie Heulton	(16) Connie Martz	(25) Kathy Mulholland
(7) Gilbert Heulton	(17) Eugene Sampieri	(30) Amy Wilson
(7) Kylie Ann Tesseyman		

This Week at a Glance (November 17 – November 23)

Monday:	7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Classroom)
Tuesday:	8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
	7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Wesley Hall)
	7:30 p.m. - Reading Between the Vines (Coffee Room)
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (Coffee Room)
	7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Wesley Hall)
	7:00 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Classroom)
Thursday:	8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
	6:00 p.m. - "Friendsgiving Dinner" (Wesley Hall)
Friday:	***
Saturday:	9:00 a.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary & Wesley Hall till 4:00 p.m.)
Sunday:	8:30 a.m. - Seekers Class (Seekers Classroom)
	8:45 a.m. - Sunday School (Classrooms)
	9:00 a.m. - Joyful Noise Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	9:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

(Nursery care for our youngest members is available during worship service.)

*** No Events Scheduled

Open Door Holiday Giving

Thanksgiving Food Collection

Open Door will be distributing Thanksgiving baskets to over 500 families this year. They are asking for the following donations:

Mashed potatoes
Stuffing mix
Corn muffin mix
Cake mix
Cake frosting
Sugar and flour (5 lb. or smaller)
Crackers & cookies
Pasta sauce
Pasta
Coffee, tea and hot chocolate
Juice, 64 oz. bottles
Aluminum roasting pans & foil
Frozen turkeys, turkey breasts or hams



Bring in the frozen turkeys on Nov. 23 only. You can bring the other food any time up to Nov. 23.

Thank you.