

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, May 8, 2022
4th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day**

Announcements: Sharon Shutzer

Prelude

Welcome: Pastor, Wil Wilson

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Christ is our shepherd.

People: We are Christ's sheep.

Leader: The shepherd is calling us to join God's flock.

People: We will follow our shepherd.

Leader: Rejoice, little one, for no one can snatch us from the shepherd's hand.

People: In God's flock, we rest secure.

Leader: Come! Let us worship.

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

Loving Shepherd, in the midst of sorrow and loss, you wipe away every tear from our eyes. May the wonders of your love reach down to us this day. As Peter raised Tabitha from the dead, raise us also to new life. Help us cling no longer to the darkness threatening to overcome our world, that we may reside in the glory of the Lamb. Wake us from the slumber that numbs our spirit, even as you nourish us in the strength of your Spirit. May the world see the shepherd living in us, and may we come to dwell in your pastures, which remain ever green. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "Thine Be the Glory" UMH #308

***Praise Song:** "Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door" African American Spiritual

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

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 9:36-43 Bob Sterling

Sermon: "We Are Witnesses: Get Up!" Pastor, Wil Wilson

Offering: *The Special Offering for May will benefit NexGen Ministries.*

Offertory: "Mama, A Rainbow" Jim Nabors
Andre Williams, soloist

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

UMH #95

*Offertory Prayer: (In Unison)

Loving Shepherd, we thank you for your tender care. Everything we have comes from the goodness of your love. Receive the gifts we return to you now, that sheep in other flocks may come to know you and discover that you are the one who lays down your life for the flock. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Closing Hymn: "Marching to Zion"

UMH #733

*Benediction:

Pastor, Wil Wilson

*Postlude

Scripture Passage for Sunday, May 8, 2022

Liturgist: Bob Sterling

Acts 9:36-43 (New Revised Standard Version)

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas.^[a] She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Opening Hymn:
Thine Be the Glory
UMH #308**

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where Thy body lay.

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets thee,
Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets thee,
Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For our Lord now liveth;
Death hath lost its sting.

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt Thee,
Glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without Thee;
Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors,
Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To Thy home above.

Thine be the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

**Praise Hymn:
Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door
African American Spiritual**

Somebody's knockin' at your door;
Somebody's knockin' at your door;
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Knocks like Jesus.
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Knocks like Jesus.
Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Can't you hear him?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Can't you hear him?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Jesus calls you.
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Jesus calls you.
Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Can't you trust him?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

Can't you trust him?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.

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

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm 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 light 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
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:
Marching to Zion
UMH #733**

Come, we that love the Lord,
And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord,
Join in a song with sweet accord
And thus surround the throne,
And thus surround the throne.

(Chorus)
We're marching (on) to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion,
(Zion Zion)
The beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God;
But children of the heavenly King,
But children of the heavenly King
May speak their joys abroad,
May speak their joys abroad.

(Repeat Chorus)

The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets,
Or walk the golden streets.

(Repeat Chorus)

Then let our songs abound,
And every tear be dry;
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
To fairer worlds on high,
To fairer worlds on high.

(Repeat Chorus)